

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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RETURNING TO WORK.

DULL days and raw chilly evenings are bringing back our friends and neighbours from the country and the seaside, and London is beginning to assume once more its normal aspect of busy industry. The respite has been too brief to many, for mind and body alike require needful rest; a tonic which shall sweep away the cobwebs left by hard and continuous exertion; an oil which shall ease the cogwheels and bolts of a machinery that will go all the more swiftly and effectually after its "closing for renovation and repairs;" and an impulse gained to its motive power by the life-giving influences of health-invigorating exercise. As in other spheres of life, so it is with Masonic action; and, much as many would decry a cessation of work for ever so brief a recess, we are of opinion that an "interregnum," so far from militating against the interests of a Lodge, or proving a drag upon its movements, is to all intents and purposes a fillip which must end ultimately in adding sinew and strength to the means by which good work is to be achieved. It is a wise impulse, therefore, which prompts most of our Lodges, especially in the metropolis, to cease from labour during the summer months; for, although this season has certainly been marked by an absence of anything like the continuously brilliant weather that might have been expected, yet there are abundant reasons why the regular working of Lodges should be suspended for a time, when all who can spare the time and money are out of town, in the enjoyment of fresh scenes and "pastures new," and the companionship of friends as happy as themselves, all "on pleasure bent." He would be a bold man indeed who would assert that a Masonic gathering is all that could be desired when the evenings are bright, and the sunshine invites him away to outdoor pleasures that are so attractive, and must be taken advantage of ere the opportunity is lost. There is a certain degree of secrecy in Masonry which requires the exclusion of all exterior light; and the ventilation of many of the homes of our professional avocation is often defective, so that for a number of brethren to meet in the oppressive atmosphere of a Lodge frequently becomes irksome. The inevitable consequence is that the attendances at those Lodges which persistently pursue an unbroken session becomes sparse, and the proceedings uninteresting; and there can be no doubt these circumstances tend to form a habit of non-attendance on the part of members, from which Lodges must of necessity suffer. This should not be the case, but unfortunately it is so. If one attends a church, and experiences the sense of comparative indifference and sees the empty benches, the mind is imbued with a feeling of heaviness, which if strained, might develop into profound laxity, and ultimately into apathy. And so it is in a Masonic Lodge. If by the tenacious and obstinate whim of the rulers there is no rest allowed to the members, they become recalcitrant, in spite of their good intentions and motives; and the consequence is, that the work flags, and the interest of the "faithful few" who make a point of upholding the Master in all he does, is necessarily blunted. We must, therefore, commend the plan adopted by most London Lodges—and many in the country, too, so far as that goes—of making it an understood thing that during the heated term of summer there shall be no labour to be performed, but that, like all other classes and interests, we

shall have a holiday, by which to recruit both the physical and the mental faculties, and thus fortify ourselves for the work to which we must ere long return. If this is an understood maxim, that all the business shall be suspended during a month or two at this season of the year, all will gladly hail the respite, and none can be disappointed. As boys at boarding-school whose parents or guardians will not be "bothered" with them during the vacation ply themselves half-heartedly to the lessons they are compelled to learn, whilst their buoyant and happy-hearted fellows are away on the wings of holiday-keeping, so our brethren who are not happy any longer than they are hard at work, have their Lodges of Instruction, at which they can figure in the most prominent positions congenial to their thoughts, and make progress which may do them good suit and service in after days. It remains to be seen how these plodders progress in after years; but to our mind there is nothing like a span of leisure now and then to invigorate the faculties and brace the man to any amount of hard work which may be required of him. Thus it is that our zealous brethren who have been basking in the sunshine of the moors, indulging in a sturdy tramp across the stubbles where has been heard "the frequent gun," skimming over dancing waves on sea and river, or toiling up the mountain side, come home with the keenest and most pleasant anticipations of a resumption of labour, strengthened to it by the consciousness that nothing has been required of them during the vacation, and that they will start afresh in a line with all the rest of their brethren.

We are just now at the commencement of another session, and already the welcome summonses are reaching us of Lodges meeting for the first time after the recess. Already the gavel has sounded in one or two of them, and we have assisted at gatherings wherein brethren have re-assembled, with visages bronzed by a sunnier clime than we have enjoyed in London, and listened to their accounts of pleasant "accidents" by road, river, and rail. Presently our Lodges will be in full vigour of work, and the anticipation, "happy may we meet again," will have been realised to the full. There will be the officers posting themselves to the work of campaign, a spirit of healthy emulation inspiring them to renewed assiduity in the interests of the Craft, and the discussion of important questions blended with the amenities of fraternal life such as are only found within the precincts of our Masonic Lodges. We commend to them much that has been said and written at various times, and especially during the recess, as to the judicious application of funds, the secret of the prosperity of Freemasonry, and the various subjects to which attention has been directed in these columns. It must be remembered that Masons are, in every sense of the term, gentlemen, and form a society which has within it no actual kind of opposition, even in the sense in which it applies in a Parliamentary signification, although in many phases it approaches it in the consideration of certain matters. For instance, a Lodge which is swayed entirely by one section is not unfrequently found to drift into discord and difficulties, and the parties who have had it all their own way for a lengthened period receive a check, when changes occur in the rulers of a Lodge. There is in many Lodges a rivalry, not always of a hostile nature, between the "old blood and the new," and it will be well if the former do not forget that they themselves were young at one time, and had their own views and ideas as to progress. We are continually hear-

ing our Past Masters and others advocating the infusion of this "new blood," and it is but fair that they should bear in mind that as intelligence is imported into any society it is bound to rise, Saul like and shoulder high, above some of the rest, and assert its power. They must not therefore be surprised that when new members grasp the enthusiasm and love which are engendered by a close study of our mysteries, they should desire to push into the leading ranks, even to the discomfiture of some who had hitherto been shining lights and unapproachable by those by whom they were surrounded. We know of Past Masters who, because they have performed the installation ceremony for ten or twenty years in succession, feel personally injured by the very suggestion to take the responsibility off their hands, if but for a single occasion. It is on the principle "Once an alderman, always an alderman." But this is a principle which has long since exploded, so far as Masonry is concerned; and the wish expressed now-a-days at almost every Lodge that lays claim to excellence of work is, that each Master on his retirement shall have gained sufficient confidence and culture to instal his successor. Such a practice should become universal, and would, if striven after in all cases, be productive of an infinity of good. We sincerely trust that the remarks that have fallen from our correspondents, and on which we have commented during the last few weeks, may be taken to heart in connection with the work which is about to be undertaken in the various Lodges, both in London and the provinces. We are aware that all the sentiments which have been uttered are but the outcome of those previously advanced, over and over again, and we do not care always to be harping on the same string. But now that the opening of the session is fairly upon us, it may not be inopportune to direct the attention of Masters and Officers once more to the various suggestions which have been thrown out relative to those points to be observed for the benefit of the Craft and the advantage of their respective Lodges, and trust they may derive at least some advantage from the remarks that have appeared in our columns. A consideration of the questions lately raised upon the various points connected with our system, the correction of irregularities, and the means to be adopted by which to safeguard and protect the interests of the Order, may well supply food for meditative thought and friendly debate amongst the happy gatherings of Masons in which we hope ere long to be in full participation.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

WE are very pleased to observe that the fund which is being raised under the patronage of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, having in view the establishment of a Royal College of Music, is being brought prominently under the notice of the Craft. It is well known in the City and elsewhere that through the exertions of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales an elaborate scheme has been founded for the cultivation of the refined tastes in music, and that it has received the heartiest support of all who desire to promote the higher education of the masses, and to place within the reach of all the opportunities of hearing, or taking part in, the practice of the music of the great masters. As a result of a communication from Sir Philip Cunliffe Owen, Past Master of the Marquis of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 1159, a circular letter has been addressed to all the Lodges and Chapters on the roll of United Grand Lodge and the Supreme Grand Chapter, stating that His Royal Highness the Grand Master allows him to suggest that each Lodge and Chapter should be asked to contribute in their corporate capacity, and that individual Masons should be also asked to contribute a guinea each to the object which their Grand Master has so much at heart. Colonel Shedwell Clerke, in his letter says, as the matter is not a Masonic one, the suggestion cannot well be submitted to the Craft in a formal or official manner; but as it seems only right and proper that the brethren in general should become acquainted in some form with his Royal Highness's sentiments and wishes on the subject, he forwards a copy of Sir P. Cunliffe Owen's letter, and adds that he will be happy to take charge of any subscriptions which Lodges, Chapters, or individual Masons may feel inclined to contribute towards the Royal College

of Music. There can be little doubt that the significance of the movement, apart from the spirit of loyalty which moves the hearts of Masons towards their Most Worshipful Grand Master, will prompt them liberally to respond to the invitation, when the Lodges are once more in full working operation. The movement has received the heartiest and most spontaneous support from all the City companies and guilds, the traders, merchants, and the public generally, and is one which we shall gladly see the Craft upholding with all the influence and liberality it is known to possess.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

FROM THE VOICE OF MASONRY.

ON entering upon the study of our art, the Masonic student will find it indispensably necessary to read the current Masonic literature of the day," says a model secretary of one of our southern jurisdictions in one of his annual reports.

While reading the report from which the above extract is taken, this question presented itself: How many Masons are there who enter upon the examination of our art as a study? For Masonry is an art when taken in its true character and bearings. Yes, it is an art peculiar to itself, not only embracing the various forms of literature, but the arts and sciences, which are symbolised by "Geometry, which is the basis of our art."

Unfortunately for the Institution of Freemasonry, there are Masons who, although they are within the portals of our Temple, yet are not of us, only as far as numbers are concerned. We may well call them pleasure-day Masons, who, enjoying as they do all the pleasures of the Craft, and reaping all of its benefits, are unwilling to perform any of its labours, or endure any of those privations which befall us.

While in attendance at our Grand Lodge at its last Communication, a brother sitting at my side listlessly turning over the pages of the printed transactions of that body at its previous Communication, turned to me and remarked, "What does all this amount to?" In reply I took the book from his hand, opened it at the foreign correspondence report, and requested him to read a little in that part, and see if he could find anything interesting. He did so, and became so interested that he did not hear his name read at the roll-call of Lodge, and lost his vote. After the session I found him again, and asked if he found anything interesting in that book, and if it amounted to anything? His reply was to the point, to say the least, and was: "What a fool I have been! I had no idea there was anything in it except dry correspondence, interesting only to parties concerned. You won't catch me making any such foolish statements again," and when I saw him the next day trying to beg from our Grand Secretary a few copies of our Grand Lodge Proceedings of previous years, I made up my mind that I never should. Now that brother is not the only one who has had, or still has, the erroneous idea that Grand Lodge proceedings are worthless, or that Masonic literature is senseless stuff; either from the fact of never having read it, or being incapable of appreciating it.

The brother referred to is a splendid ritual worker. There is not a position in the Lodge which he cannot fill with skill, and as a ritualist he is as near perfection as it is possible for any man to be, yet in the one thing needful, a knowledge of Masonic literature, he is an ignoramus; but, if appearances are not deceitful, in one year from now that cannot be said of him.

The reports on foreign correspondence of those Grand Lodges which issue them, and fortunately the most of them do, are gotten up with a great deal of care, and involve a vast amount of hard work. In fact they are the cream of all the transactions of all other Grand Bodies condensed. The arguments and ideas presented embrace all there is of any importance, and in fact some things that are not. If one wishes to soar into the heavens of rhetorical effect—gush—some call it, he finds it somewhere in them. If he wants sound logic, substantial facts, wit, sarcasm, explanations on any of the mooted questions of the day, and diversity of opinions on various subjects pertaining to the welfare of Masonry, they give it to him. In fact, it is but seldom that one finds such a variety of reading in any one book, as is found within the covers of a report on foreign correspondence, yet, how many of them are read? Perhaps, not one in ten. Now, who is to blame? Certainly not the authors, for they do their level best, nor the Grand Bodies themselves, for they issue them for the purpose of having them read. Then, it must be in the brethren themselves; and why is it so? Because those who have never taken the pains to read them think they are void of interest, but let me assure that class, if they will read only one of them they will be anxious enough for others, provided that they are inclined to sound reading, not trash.

Now, there are some brethren who call themselves Masons, who make want of time an excuse for Masonic ignorance. I suppose street Arabs have the same excuse for their ignorance. That class, though, find plenty of time to read every silly, love-sick story that comes in their way, where blood and thunder are the predominating feature, but they have no time to devote to the perusal of the literature of an Institution that stands without a peer, except the church of the Deity.

Such a state of affairs is deplorable in the extreme. It is a burning shame, as well as a lasting disgrace, that there are so few of the Masons in America who take interest in Masonic literature. Every little while we hear of some Masonic periodical succumbing to the pressure of want of patronage. New Jersey, for instance, with her 11,772 Masons, failed to give adequate support to even one Masonic journal;

and she is not the only jurisdiction having a large membership that fails to do her duty towards extending Masonic knowledge. The New England States, for instance, with a membership of 78,170, support, if I am not mistaken, only four Masonic periodicals. What a showing that is for the intellectuality of New England Masons! Yet it is no worse for them than for those of the rest of the country, and, to use a Yankee phrase, "guess not quite so bad." It galls, yet it is an undeniable fact.

We have seen many brethren who could prefix "Sir" to their names, who were as ignorant as new born babes as to the real origin of Masonry, aside from the traditions and allegorical illustrations of the degrees through which they had passed, and who expressed the utmost surprise, and, I may say, indignation, when told that "Masonry is a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols;" also, that there are many excellent periodicals published, devoted to the interests of Masonry. Their views of Masonry seemed to be concentrated in the one idea of work, *work, work, WORK*. I almost tire of the sound of the name, as if the whole aim, intent and purpose of Masonry were in conferring degrees, increasing membership, and attending feasts, parades and G. Lodge Communications. I tell you, my brethren, the bare ritualistic work of Masonry is but one of the least of its fundamental parts. Its principles are subjects of endless thought. Its symbols are well worth the serious contemplation of the brightest talent. Its history, from its formation through the dark ages, to its transformation from Operative to Speculative Masonry in 1717, is yet mere guess work, with twelve distinct theories to guess upon. Perhaps the word "guess" may be a strong one to use, but what is not proven must be guess work. Were it not for such authors as Mackey, Morris, Hooper, Hughan, Moore, Fort, and others equally talented, who realise the vast importance of Masonic literature, we might well say that we are in perfect darkness, and have no choice but that of accepting the ritualistic work of Preston, Webb, Cross, and their disciples, as literal facts. Are they literal facts? Can they be proven as such? If so, when, where, and by whom? But, bear in mind that every act of Freemasonry's esoteric and exoteric work presents to the mind truths and principles which are the very acme of perfection, and which are best impressed upon our minds by the numerous traditions of its degrees.

Mackey's Encyclopædia of Freemasonry is a library of itself. Procure it, and you will be well repaid for the money invested in it. Bro. Fort, too, in his "Early History and Antiquities of Freemasonry," throws light upon many subjects, and last, but by no means least, the reports on foreign correspondence of our various Grand Bodies are replete with good things that make an intellectual feast worth thousands in comparison to the flash literature that is so prevalent.

When such brethren as Drummond, Parvin, Wheeler, Singleton and others with equal ability, let fly their trenchant pens, then we who are less informed stand aside and profit by their experience and learning. Were it not for that class of brethren who realise the vast importance of their work, we should remain in ignorance and lose many a dainty morsel of intellectual food. For ourselves, we read all that we can get hold of, and then form our own conclusions. We read Masonic literature because we crave for more light. We comment upon the literary productions of others, because we find that it puts a fresh impetus into our sluggish brain. We try to profit by our readings, and we think we do, whether others think so or not. We find time, too, although we have to scratch to find bread and butter for the mouths dependent upon us. "Where there is a will there is a way;" and having a will we are bound to have the way. We read all the Proceedings of our Grand Bodies that we are able to beg, borrow and —; well, we sometimes forget who we borrow of. We read them because we would not be ignorant of what is going on in other jurisdictions to promote the best interests of our Institution. Although we find many things said and written that we wish were not; many resolutions and bye-laws passed that do not coincide with our views, and which in our opinion do not follow out the ideas of brotherly love and unity, yet they present other men's ideas, and many of them show the Yankee cuteness of their framers to carry out their points.

In reading the reports on foreign correspondence we find many good points for or against important questions that have sprung up. We find too, a vast diversity of opinions, and are enabled to form our own with a greater degree of correctness than we otherwise could. Now, if the brethren would only think as we do, there would not be many copies of the Grand Lodge Proceedings unused and unstudied, but unfortunately for themselves many of them do not. Again, we have many periodicals published in the interests of Masonry, which are "good to have in the house." They not only give us Masonic news before it is stale, but contain many choice bits of Masonic literature, history, facts, and the doings of our brethren in other places. We have many times heard brethren say that they could not afford it, or had not time to read them. "Can't afford it!" Stop a moment and let us see whether you can or not. Now, the expense is from nine to twenty-five cents a month, not quite a cent a day, for a first-class periodical, which will give more sound, substantial reading than two-thirds of the trash that you do take, and that is published at a greater price. "Can't afford it!" What a flimsy argument! To illustrate. A short time since we asked a prominent brother Mason how many Masonic publications he was taking, and met the hackneyed answer, "None; can't afford it." Now for the sequel, and we pointed it out to him afterwards too. Before he passed out of our sight his cigar bill would have paid for a good Masonic monthly for one year. He could afford to "stand treat," but could not afford the same amount of money invested in something that would have been of lasting benefit to him. "Standing treat" gratified his appetite and diminished his pocket book, while good, sound Masonic literature would have been the means of enlightening his befogged brain, and have furnished him with an intellectual treat. One passed off in smoke and nothing was left but the ashes, while the other would have brought to his mind new ideas and facts that he had never before even dreamt of. Now, which kind of treating is the best? Surely there can be but one answer.

We reminded him afterwards that that "can't afford it" nonsense was "played out." He admitted it, and to-day has several Masonic periodicals on his table. We have not the means at hand of knowing just how many publications there are devoted to Masonry; but this much we do know, that any one of them is well worth double the amount of money asked for it.

Now, the brethren who say they cannot afford the price asked for any one of the Masonic publications, in the majority of instances, can, or at least do afford as much, if not more, for flash literature, which is devoid of either fact or principle. Yes, they can afford that, but cannot afford to take a Masonic paper which has in it good, sound, substantial brain food on topics in which every Mason has the most vital interest. That class can afford to stand treat now and then, and to have a jolly good time with the boys, but are too awfully poor to subscribe for a Masonic journal. Fie upon such Masons; they do not know what Masonry is. They never go further than the outside shuck—never penetrate beyond the mere surface.

Nine-tenths of the questions our Grand Masters are called upon to answer come from that class who would, if they could, appear to be learned Masons; yet they are too poor, or too lazy, to read even the constitution and bye-laws of their own jurisdiction.

Then that nonsensical plea comes in "haven't time." Plenty of time to do anything your inclinations desire, but no time to read of Masonry; plenty of time to retail choice bits of gossip, and to have a good time, but no time for the perusal of Masonic subjects; plenty of time to air your profound(?) learning in the Lodge-room, but no time to back up your theories with facts or history; plenty of time to devote to any other recreation that presents itself, but no time to improve the mind and store it with knowledge.

Although much has been said and done within the past twenty years to bring the Craft to a higher state of intellectual culture, there is plenty of room yet for improvement. One way to bring about that improvement is to patronise our Masonic publications to a greater extent than we do, and thus gladden the hearts of publishers by larger subscription lists, and consequently secure even a better class of Masonic publications. We are quite that Masonic editors have not the faculty of living without money, and must have cash as well as others. I trust the readers of the "Voice of Masonry" will not think I am writing in the interest of any particular publication, for I am not. It is for all of them if they wish it.

If any of the "can't afford it," or "haven't time" class should, through some mysterious dispensation, happen to read this, we are quite certain they will be as "mad as March hares." Now, that is just what we want. If we can only get them mad they will give the subject some thought. Then we shall have gained a point, and as one point gained leaves the field open for more, perhaps in the end this continual cant of "can't afford it" and "haven't time" will cease.

A word, now to you, editors. Keep on in your good work. Give us who do crave for more intellectual light that for which we crave. Give us good, sound, substantial Masonic literature. Do not get discouraged because your subscription lists do not increase in the proportion that you wish, but "keep a stiff upper lip." Remember that all Masons are not drones. There are many who receive benefit from your publications and look forward to their coming with pleasure. Advocate those principles of our Institution that stand without peers. Uphold the right, and frown down the wrong, whether it be inside or outside of our mystic circle. All that the Craft want is to be woke up. Wake them up. Keep on in your work until the happy end is accomplished, and then, and not until then, can you rest upon your laurels.

ROYAL ARCH.

Prosperity Chapter, No. No. 65.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Thursday evening, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, when there was only a small attendance. In the absence of the M.E.Z. Comp. Chicken, who is on a visit to America, Comp. Brown P.Z. officiated, with Comp. Daniel as H., and Comp. Hawkins as J. There was very little work before the Chapter, and the Companions adjourned early to an excellent banquet, served in an adjoining room.

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LODGE HISTORIES.

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ANCHOR AND HOPE LODGE, No. 37, BOLTON.

IT is always a source of profit, as well as of pleasure and gratification, to the members of any society when, as a result either of individual or collective industry and research, they are placed in possession of the earliest records concerning its origin, or the salient points of interest which have marked the career of the institution from the period of its birth. The antiquarian and the archaeologist find their chief delight in raking out from among dusty and hidden archives some gem of folk-lore, some long-forgotten occurrence, some allusion to, or doings of, those who took the initiatory stages in the body, and whose names are revered by surviving members, as the personages they represent are seen only through the dim vista of remote years. They say a country is happy that has no history, but it is different with the institutions which so many of us hold dear, and whose traditions, as they are revived, scrap by scrap, are treasured amongst their most cherished heirlooms. It is for this reason that we are always pleased to receive the histories of our Masonic Lodges, for they form the most reliable data we can possess for the comparison of dates, for identifying individualities, and shedding new light upon thoughts and opinions expressed in modern times upon the antiquity of the Craft, and the changes that have marked its progress down to our own time. We have therefore perused with a considerable degree of pleasure the history, which has been furnished us, of the Anchor and Hope Lodge, of Bolton, now standing No. 37 on the United Grand Lodge of England, which has been compiled by Bro. George Parker Brockbank, Secretary of the Lodge, and P. Prov. S.G. Deacon East Lancashire, and Bro. James Newton P.M. in 37, and also a Past Prov. S.G. Deacon of East Lancashire. This is not the first time that Bro. Brockbank has entered into the arena of Masonic research, and we have much to thank him and his coadjutors for in placing within our reach another valuable addition to Craft literature. This history has been written in commemoration of the Sesqui Centennial of the Lodge, which will be attained on the 23rd of next month, and it will be read with peculiar interest, not merely by the brethren of the Lodge itself, but by many others also who desire to add to their stock of Masonic knowledge by a study of those links which bind the present with the past, and who find relaxation in comparing the manners and customs of "ye olden time" with those of more modern date. A glance at the little volume under consideration reveals a vast amount of careful and painstaking research, seeing that the old records have become so scanty, through a variety of accidental causes, that it must have involved considerable labour and sagacity on the part of the compilers to have framed the materials at their command into so reliable and comprehensive a whole. The records from the year 1836 to the present time are all complete; but prior to that date the doings of the brethren of the Anchor and Hope are enshrouded in comparative mystery. We are informed that according to an inventory taken in 1843, there were then existing, in addition to the records prior to 1836, possessed by the Lodge, books of records from 1786 to 1792, from 1799 to 1825, from 1825 to 1836; and a cash book from 1786 to 1843. We are told that about 22 years ago, these latter books were negligently or culpably destroyed by fire by a clerk of the then Secretary, possibly under the impression that they were so much waste paper; and the oldest record book of the Lodge (the old minute and cash book of 1765 to 1776) was only saved from a like ruthless fate by the timely intervention of Bro. Brockbank, who accidentally entered the room and prevented its destruction. It is obvious that had the whole of these records been preserved, as they should have been, the compilers would have been spared much anxious search among contemporary records, and been able to write a much fuller account of the career of the Lodge since 1765. They seem to have, however, had the benefit of the minutes, &c., of the Royal Arch Chapter of Concord, attached to the Lodge, which are extant from its commencement, in 1785, an account of which was given by Bro. Newton in the fourth volume of the *Masonic Magazine*; and also those of the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 146, from 1786, which were also sketched by Bro. Newton in the Christmas number of the same periodical, in 1878. Moreover, they had the benefit of the records of the St. John's Lodge, No. 221, dating from the year 1797, some very interesting facts concerning which were recently published by Bro. Brockbank. From these a vast amount of valuable and interesting information has been obtained, and many missing links have been supplied, though not to the extent desired, or may possibly be subsequently obtained. In their introduction, the compilers feel bound to make these explanations, and express the modest hope, in thus submitting the result of their united labours, "that any imperfections therein may be attributed to their lack of information," over which they could have no possible control, "rather than to any desire to shirk their self-imposed duty." All who know the zeal and unwearied assiduity of those who appeal for the indulgence of their readers will at once acquit them of any approach to the last-named imputation, and be the first to applaud the vast amount of labour and the judicious care which have evidently been lavished upon this "labour of love." The writers acknowledge, with especial thanks, the invaluable assistance and information on many points afforded by Bro. W. J. Hughan Past Grand Deacon, and Bro. H. G. Buss Assistant Grand Secretary, the former of whom has "kindly read and revised the whole of these pages," while the latter "has been at considerable pains in tracing a complete list of members from 1765," which list is appended to the history just published. They also acknowledge their indebtedness to Bro. Hughan's "Masonic Memorials," and "Masonic Register," and Bro. Gould's "Four Old Lodges," and "The Atholl Lodges," which they designate as *mines of wealth* to diligent Masonic students.

Having thus briefly referred to the difficulties experienced by Bros. Brockbank and Newton, and the help they have received in the

production of their history, we turn to the work itself, and endeavour to give a bird's-eye outline of its very entertaining contents. After referring to the secession of numerous brethren, about 1788, from the parent Grand Lodge of English Masonry, which they averred had adopted new, and departed from the old, landmarks, resulting in the distinctive epithets of "Ancient" and "Modern" Masons, we are brought to the successful union of these two rival bodies in 1813, when His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex was elected Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge. The warrant for the Anchor and Hope Lodge was granted on 23rd October 1735, by Lord Viscount Montacute, Grand Master of the "Moderns" Grand Lodge, a copy of which is given, signed by Thos. Batson D.G.M., Geo. Rook S.G.W., and J. M. Smythe J.G.W. From this document it appears that "our Rt. Worshipful and well-beloved Brother, Mr. Edward Entwisle," is empowered and authorised to convene "our brethren at Bolton-le-Moors," who had signed the petition, and to constitute them into a Regular Lodge in due form. Mr. Entwisle was to take special care to admit none but those who had been regularly made Masons, and the Lodge was to be constituted "with like privileges as all other duly constituted Lodges," and that those admitted "be required to conform themselves to all and every the rules and regulations in the printed Book of Constitutions, and observe such other rules and regulations as shall from time to time be transmitted to them, by us or Thomas Batson Deputy Grand Master, or the Grand Master or his Deputy for the time being. And shall forward to his Deputy a list of the members of their Lodge, together with a copy of the regulations to be observed, to the end they may be entered in the Grand Lodge, and upon the due execution of this our said Dispensation the said Mr. Edward Entwisle is hereby required to transmit to us or our said Deputy a certificate under his hand at the time and place of such constitution, in order that it may be entered in the Book of the Roll of Lodges." At this date there were two other Lodges in Lancashire, at Salford and Leigh, both of which were subsequently erased by Grand Lodge, since which time (probably about 1700) the Anchor and Hope has held the distinguished position of being the premier Lodge in Lancashire, although another Lodge, "Unity," then No. 32, warranted in 1732, met at Werth, near Oldham, and continued there about twenty years, when it became extinct. It is claimed also for the Hope and Anchor that it has at the present time the especial distinction of being the oldest of the Lodges originally warranted in a Province and remaining on the roll from its constitution till now. This is a matter referred to with pardonable pride by the compilers, seeing that the Lodge has remained on the roll from 1742 to the present day, "being thus the Premier Provincial Lodge, having preserved its continuity as such from its constitution in 1733 to 1882, a period of one hundred and fifty years, never having been removed from the town for which it was first of all granted, and never having lapsed or apparently been liable to erasure from any cause whatever throughout that long period." The Mr. Edward Entwisle named in the Warrant appears to have been a mercer at Bolton, and died unmarried in June 1744, his remains being interred in Bolton parish churchyard. In the earliest records found, the Lodge, which was originally numbered 105, was called to meet in a private room in Bolton-le-Moors, in Lancashire, "on the next Wednesday to every full moon," though the locality of this room cannot now with certainty be given. However, on the authority of Mrs. Fielding, into whose hands some of the relics left by Mr. Entwisle fell, it is stated that it was "in Churchgate, opposite to the 'Man and Scythe' Inn, graphically adding that 'the brethren assembled in white gloves, with long cuffs or gauntlets, and white leather aprons, and at the making of a Mason the brethren would strike their aprons with their hands three times, which was to make a loud report, the Tyler parading an adjoining room with a drawn sword to keep guard.'" This description is characteristic of the feminine curiosity in a gathering then quite novel, and to her, as a matter of course, inexplicably interesting, and therefore indelibly fixed upon her attention; and the record is sufficiently significant to fix the early trysting place of the Bolton Masons. Bro. Entwisle, the first W.M. of the Lodge, was also the first Prov. Grand Master of Lancashire (1734), receiving a patent from the Earl of Cranford, the Grand Master, and was succeeded by five other Prov. Grand Masters, whose names and armorial bearings, together with the dates of their appointments, are elaborately painted on an old banner in the possession of the Lodge, "which is treasured by its members as one of its greatest curiosities." From the extract we have quoted, and others forming the context, it may be safely assumed, in spite of the loss of the records prior to 1765, that the Lodge continued to meet in a private room for the first thirty-three years of its existence.

(To be continued.)

There will be a regular meeting of the City of London Lodge, No. 201, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, on Monday evening next, and as there are some rather important questions on the agenda, in addition to working in the three degrees, a goodly attendance of the brethren may be anticipated.

Bro. Fenner, W.M. of the Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693, P.M. Upton Lodge, No. 1227, will rehearse the ceremony of installation, at the Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, on Wednesday next, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury. Lodge will be opened at 8:30.

Bro. W. Wright, Organist of the Citadel Lodge, 1897; Finsbury Park, 1288; United Strength, 228; Sir Hugh Myddelton, 1602; has been appointed Organist and Choir Master to St. John the Baptist Church, Hoxton.

REVIEWS.

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

The Story of the Preservation of Epping Forest. By John T. Bedford. London: W. H. and L. Collingridge, City Press Office, Aldersgate-street, E.C.

IN a neat little brochure Mr. John T. Bedford, who is well known as a prominent member of the Corporation of London, presents to us a lecture delivered by him to the members of one of the City clubs, beyond whose precincts it is well so admirable and interesting a treatise should find readers. Since the date on which this discourse was listened to with pleasurable attention in Fleet-street, where it was uttered, it is well known that Epping Forest has been secured to the public for ever as a place for recreation and enjoyment, the ceremony having been most graciously presided over by our beloved Sovereign, amidst a scene of royal splendour but rarely witnessed in modern times. There is a special interest in this event to us as Freemasons, inasmuch as it was commemorated by the Queen's conferring the distinction of a baronetcy upon Bro. John Whittaker Ellis, the present Lord Mayor of London, and Grand Junior Warden of England. In his chatty and admirable discourse, Mr. Bedford tells the story of the means adopted by the City to secure for its inhabitants the possession of the magnificent Forest as the "people's playground" for ever; and it is hardly necessary for us to recount the praises which have been showered upon the Corporation of London for their patriotic zeal in persevering, against stupendous odds, in claiming this priceless boon for so many millions of all classes of society to whom the opportunities for healthful recreation and pleasure are so few and far between. The writer begins by relating how the resolution of Mr. Cowper Temple in the House of Commons—"That it is the duty of the Government to preserve Epping Forest for the recreation and enjoyment of the people," was opposed by Mr. Robert Lowe (now Viscount Sherbrook), the then Chancellor of the Exchequer (1871), who said that "Epping Forest belonged to the lords of the manors, and was vested in them to do as they liked with," and who afterwards, although the resolution was carried by a majority of nearly one hundred, informed the people of Glasgow that "It was treated by the Government with stupendous indifference!" This seems to have aroused Mr. Bedford's eager attention to the subject, impelled to the task of "mastering all the facts of the case" by Mr. Cowper Temple's allusion, in his speech in support of the people of the metropolis. He then goes on to state how that originally all Essex was a forest, the pleasures of which were mainly reserved to royal hunters after venison, and how, under that prescient King, Edward I., the boundaries of the Forest were perambulated, and its boundaries settled for some centuries. Following the chronological events which occurred from that period up to 1871, the writer reminds us that he proposed in the Court of Common Council the following resolution:—"That a committee be appointed to seek a conference with her Majesty's Ministers to ascertain on what terms and conditions the Corporation can secure to the people, for purposes of public health and recreation, those parts of Epping Forest which have not been enclosed with the assent of the Crown or by legal authority." That motion was seconded by Mr. Pedler, whose name is never mentioned without respect in the important ward of Farringdon Without—at that time Chief Commoner of the Corporation; was warmly supported by Mr. Deputy Fry, to whom we owe the Holborn Viaduct, the grandest City improvement of modern times; and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Bedford then calls to mind the Chancery suits, the details of which are ever green in the memories of the citizens of London, and the "red-handed" injunctions which were obtained to plough up some of the most glorious spots in the Forest; the depredations of the London roughs in cutting down the holly bushes; and the costs imposed upon the Corporation by a "shabby Government" in the prosecution of the suit; and imparts considerable humour into his narrative by relating how that at one time half-a-dozen Common Councillors were "nearly starved to death," whilst engaged in perambulating the Forest in company with the Epping Forest Commissioners. We will not spoil the readers' interest by anticipating the succeeding chapters in which Mr. Bedford describes the troubles through which the Corporation passed, the result of which is now so generally known, and will be remembered so long as Epping Forest lasts. It is sufficient here to state that the battles waged so long and so unweariably ultimately resulted in complete success for the people; and we are told who were the leaders who took prominent part in the various legal battles fought on behalf of the City. Mr. Bedford, with commendable modesty, conceals the part which he himself took in those memorable campaigns, but his deeds are nevertheless none the less known and recognised, for they appear in letters of gold whenever the subject of Epping Forest is mentioned. In rhapsody, however, he exclaims:—"During the many years that have elapsed since the memorable 25th of May 1871, seldom has a fortnight passed, except in the depth of winter, without my visiting Epping Forest. It is fairyland to me—always fresh, always beautiful, always interesting. I gaze upon its many lovely spots with a kind of mental rapture difficult to explain. I constitute myself a willing guide to the wanderers I meet there; and on great occasions, such as Bank Holidays, I have my abiding reward in witnessing the enjoyment of tens of thousands of those who, but for Epping Forest, would scarcely know how beautiful God made the world." This is a very pardonable piece of modest exultation and pleasure, after all the writer has done to help forward the great work which has been accomplished; and the thanks due to him on that account are only intensified by his placing before the world this brief but thoroughly comprehensive record of the means by which the Forest has been secured to the people. The work is got up in the most approved style of the typographic art, as all may expect who are acquainted with the very eminent firm from which it emanates.

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REVISION OF THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read your remarks on the discussion which took place on the above subject at the last meeting of G.L., and, in reply, will quote an extract from the Constitutions of Freemasonry, for which I am indebted to my excellent friend and Brother, John Newton, F.R.A.S., P.M. 174, 1607.

MEMO.

At a Grand Lodge assembled on the 27th December 1813, it was resolved:—"That the Laws and Regulations which existed in the two Societies (York and London) previous to the reunion, should be referred to the Board of General Purposes, with directions for them to form one system for the future government of the United Craft."

The Board having attentively considered all the laws then existing, as well as those of most of the other Grand Lodges in Europe, prepared a code of Laws, which was submitted to the consideration of a Special Grand Lodge on the 1st of February 1815, whereupon it was ordered that copies should be made and left at two convenient places for the perusal of all the members of G.L. for one month. During this month the Board of General Purposes met weekly, to receive and discuss any alterations or amendments which might be suggested. The Laws thus approved were again read and discussed at a Special G.L. on the 31st May, and were then ordered to lie open for another month for the perusal of the brethren. At a Special G.L., held on 23rd August, these Laws were a THIRD time read, discussed, and unanimously approved, and it was resolved that they should be in force for three years from 1st of November 1815, and then be subject for revision. In order to make these Laws as perfect as possible, and to enable the G.L. to avail itself of the best experience, it was further resolved that any Brother who can suggest any useful alterations or amendments be requested to transmit his opinion to the G. Secretaries, and when the Laws are revised such suggestions will receive due consideration.

W. WILLIAMS P.G.M. Dorset.

By the foregoing, you will perceive that so far back as 1813, or nearly seventy years ago, it took the Board of General Purposes from 27th Dec. 1813 to 1st Feb. 1815 to revise the Laws. Another month was allowed for any members of G.L. to suggest alterations; and it was another two months before they were again submitted to a Special G.L., and it was only in August, or yet another three months, before they were unanimously approved, and then another two months before they were to be in force,—even then only for three years,—at the end of which time they were to undergo a final revision. So that from the time when the question was first mooted, in December 1813, till the time when they were finally adopted, was a matter of five years, during which period any member of G.L., of the Craft, or any Brother, had a right to a voice in the framing of the Laws, and yet now objection is taken because a desire is expressed to grant time for allowing Provincial Grand Lodges—to say nothing of private Lodges or individuals—time to consider this long-wanted revision of our Book of Constitutions. In the paragraph in your article p 179, lines 7 to 12, "No member of the Craft has yet, to our knowledge, put forward anything different to what has been decided by the Board, and it can hardly be said that the brethren had not been able to consider the alterations fully as they could 'easily' be seen at Freemasons' Hall, or in the hands of the Prov. G. Secretaries." Now, Sir, brethren cannot easily inspect the new alterations, not from any opposition by the officials, for they are always most courteous and obliging, but because the brethren are for the most part men of business, and they cannot afford to spend the most valuable part of two or three days on the matter, and no cursory glance would suffice for an opinion worth having. Whereas, by discussing the matter in a regular Lodge or a Lodge of Emergency, or, better still, purchasing and taking a copy home for perusal of an evening, any member could easily make himself acquainted with the whole matter, by comparing it with the book now in use, and so, when the Special Grand Lodge was held, he would be in a position to speak, and that with weight and authority. I do not attach much weight to Bro. Fenn's objection, "because the old copies have run out," as that can be remedied at a very small cost, by having 1000 or more struck off, with the present slips and alterations—as in page 104, section 16—inserted in their proper places. This will have to be done I feel certain before the new laws have been definitely decided upon. When I have had the opportunity of ascertaining the status of Freemasonry in 1813, as compared with what it is now, you will most probably hear again from,

Yours fraternally,

C. J. PERCEVAL.

1 Cecil-street, Strand, 9th September 1882.

P.S. If any zealous Mason, whether a member of Grand Lodge or not, has waded through my letter, this is to remind him to make an application to the Grand Secretary's office for a copy of the proposed revised laws, and every W.M. should see that his Lodge is supplied with one.

PPS.—Since writing the above I have made inquiries at the Grand Secretary's office, and find that so far from the edition of 1873 of the

* By an error this word was printed "only" in our last.

Book of Constitutions having run out, there are at least 2000 copies on hand. Still, as the annual sale is about 6000, I suppose Bro. Fenn considered 2000 as a mere nothing, or he was unaware of the fact.

IS MASONRY REALLY FLOURISHING?

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—According to promise I send you a tabular statement which I think will prove satisfactory to your readers, and show that Freemasonry is really flourishing. Before doing so, however, let me express my thanks for the assistance I received from the Secretaries and staff at the offices of the three Institutions. I have carefully gone through the official reports for the last seven years. Had the financial statements of the Boys' and Girls' been ready for this year, the result would have been still better, but as it is, I think the success of Freemasonry is marvellous; indeed, I believe it is a long way better off than any similar society. If we take into consideration the average receipts the three Institutions have received we find the enormous income of nearly £47,000 per annum. The Girls head the list, as under:—

Year	Amount received			Pupils
	£	s	d	
1875	13,360	7	1	152
1876	13,705	2	10	161
1877	17,636	10	1	189
1878	20,202	17	1	200
1879	13,911	0	1	204
1880	19,433	16	11	228
1881	14,388	3	3	231
Total for 7 years	112,637	17	4	Increase of pupils } 79
Average per year	16,091	2	4	

The Boys next:—

Year	Amount received			Pupils
	£	s	d	
1875	13,246	9	0	181
1876	16,990	6	6	186
1877	16,782	0	1	211
1878	15,292	14	5	215
1879	14,480	14	6	217
1880	17,016	14	6	218
1881	14,235	5	7	218
Total for 7 years	107,995	4	7	Increase of pupils } 37
Average per year	15,427	17	9	

Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons:—

Year	Amount received			Annuitants	Annuities	
					Male	Female
	£	s	d		£	£
1875	10,099	0	1	208	36	28
1876	11,907	6	9	240	40	32
1877	14,328	6	8	270	40	32
1878	15,143	8	2	280	40	32
1879	15,290	4	9	290	40	32
1880	20,202	6	2	305	40	32
1881	20,135	16	8	315	40	32
Total for 7 years	107,106	9	3	Increase of Annuitants } 107		
Average per year	15,300	18	5			

The financial year of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution ends in March of each year. I could have shown a very much larger average, as the handsome receipt for this year was £18,336 8s 5d, but as the two other Institutions make their annual statements up to the end of the year, it would not have been a fair estimate, but the above Tables show that not only are the finances in a most healthy state, but that during the seven years the annuitants have increased by 107, the Girls by 79, and the Boys by 37, making a total increase of 223, so that we are now supporting 764 as against 541 in 1875; in addition to the large staff necessary for carrying on the work. I have now materially strengthened the argument in my former letter. Long may this noble work continue, and may its shadow never grow less. If what I have written should prove interesting to your readers, and beneficial to the Order in general, I shall be amply repaid for any trouble I have taken in collating the figures and facts. I had nearly forgotten to call attention to the fact that not only have the number of the annuitants increased, but their annuities also, and the brethren have likewise been enabled to evince their sense of the untiring assiduity and zeal the respective Secretaries and their assistants have displayed in furthering the interests of these Institutions by substantial acknowledgments.

I remain, yours fraternally,

P.M. 1607.

THE PROPOSED PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Although as you pointed out in your leading article last week, on the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, Bro. Budden's proposition in reference to the Grand Lodge's contributions to the Scholastic Institutions fell through, it is well that the subject should not entirely be lost sight of. As you observe, the Committee have already invested a lump sum of £1,000 from the Special Fund which has been contributed towards the Boys' Preparatory School; and in all probability sufficient means will, in course of

time, be forthcoming to erect the building, the advantage and utility of which is universally admitted. We are all aware the scheme has not been entered upon hastily. But the question arises whether, if sufficient funds are raised to build the School where are we to find the additional £3,000 per annum which will be required to manage the Institution?

According to the prospectus, any present Life Governor of the General Fund, or any donor who may qualify up to the 31st December 1883, will receive 2 votes, instead of one, for life, for every five guineas contributed to the Special Fund; and that Lodges, Chapters, &c., similarly qualified may secure two votes, instead of one, for every ten guineas to the same Fund. In that case will not men say they will go in for the Preparatory School instead of the parent Institution, because they will thus double the number of their votes? They might say, "I can give a hundred guineas now to the Boys' School proper, but with the special privileges offered I shall transfer my contribution to the new School." In such a case will not the parent Institution suffer, and the funds which should naturally flow to it be diverted into the channel for the support of the new Preparatory School? If this be done to any extent, would it not drain and weaken the parent Institution, and tend to bring it into a state of collapse?

I do not wish to be an alarmist, but it is desirable that all the circumstances should be fully considered before the matter is carried any further. If I recollect rightly, Grand Lodge made a grant towards the building of the present Boys' School, though I do not for the moment recollect the amount, but considering the state of their funds at the present time, it might be well considered whether they would not be doing good service by contributing largely, even up to the full amount of the £2,000 mentioned by you last week, in promoting the interests of the new scheme, when no doubt the action would be seconded and supported by the Craft generally, with that liberality which always characterises it. It would also strengthen the hands of the executive, and enable them to make an energetic start without any apprehension as to their future position.

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

AN OLD BOY.

17th September 1882.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution met on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall. There were present Bros. Dr. Jabez Hogg P.G.D. (in the chair), Charles John Perceval, C. A. Cottebrune, John Sampson Peirce, Frederick Adlard, James Brett, Robert P. Tate, Edgar Bowyer, A. H. Tattershall, J. M. Case, H. Massey, Thomas Cubitt, G. L. Moore, J. E. Gordon Robbins, and James Terry (Secretary). The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bro. Terry reported that, at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge the grant of £800 a year to this Institution was confirmed, and he had hoped he should have received before the meeting of the Committee a cheque for the first quarter's instalment of the grant. Bro. Terry next reported that five of the annuitants had died. The Committee granted to the representatives of some deceased annuitants the current quarter's annuity, where the annuitants had died a day or so before the quarter's annuity was payable. The Committee also voted half their late husbands' annuities to the widows of two deceased brethren. Authority was given to transfer to the current account £500, part of £2,500 at interest on deposit at the London and Westminster Bank. Two petitions were received and examined, and the petitioners placed on the list for election next May, and it was afterwards resolved to paint the Institution and central hall, at Croydon, at a cost not exceeding £250, next spring. A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

A considerable amount of sympathy will be felt towards Bro. Montem Smith and Mrs. Smith, who within the last few weeks have lost two children, the younger, who was but eleven months old, dying on the 4th instant, and the elder, who was little more than two years of age, on the 6th instant. Bro. and Mrs. Smith have our sincere condolence in their very painful affliction.

Bro. Sims Reeves is still in North Wales, and has recently been on a visit to Canon Tarver, at Chester.

Bro. Major Terry, correspondent of the *Army and Navy Gazette*, in Egypt, had his horse shot under him last week.

Bro. Sir John Whittaker Ellis, Bart., Lord Mayor, and Junior Grand Warden of England, has been invited by the Mayor of Liverpool to a banquet in that town. His lordship, however, owing to his numerous engagements, has been unable to accept the invitation.

LODGE OF LOYALTY, No. 1607.

THE installation meeting was held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch-street, on Saturday, 9th instant, on which occasion there were present Bros. Beedell W.M., T. Jones S.W. and W.M. elect, Carr J.W., F. Brown Treas., J. Newton Sec., Roberts S.D., Giller J.D., Gaylen acting I.G.; J. Terry (Hon.) P.P.G.J.W. Norths and Hunts, C. G. Hill (Hon.) Visitors—Bros. E. Bowyer P.P.G.S.W. Herts, Escott, Puck, Bourne, T. Maidwell, &c., besides several other members. The Lodge was opened in form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then raised Bro. T. V. Jones to the sublime degree, after which he installed his successor, Bro. T. Jones. Certainly the manner in which the ceremonies were performed reflected great credit on the outgoing Master for his ability in the execution of his work, and to the Lodge to which he belongs, for it was as near perfection as possible. During the installation, Bro. Bowyer kindly took the S.W.'s chair, and Maidwell the J.W.'s, while Bro. J. Terry fulfilled the duties of M.C. in his usual efficient manner; he was assisted by Bro. C. H. Webb, one of the P.M.'s of No. 1607. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in usual form, when the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, and partook of the good things of this life which had been provided for them by the well known caterers of the London Tavern. After the cloth was removed, the usual loyal and other toasts were given and duly responded to. These were interspersed with some very excellent singing by Bros. C. Stevens, Tinney, Thompson, &c. It is invidious to make distinction, but the gem of the evening was the ably rendered "Meeting of the Waters," which was rapturously encored, and "Flow, Flow," substituted. Great praise may be given the W.M. for the manner in which he invested his Officers.

Clarendon Lodge, No. 1769.—The annual audit meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday evening last, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, under the presidency of Brother Charles Thompson W.M., who was supported by Bros. H. W. Mayes S.W., Soaper J.W., and other brethren. After the transaction of business, which was purely of a formal and routine character, the brethren partook of an excellent repast.

Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1949.—The usual meeting was held on Tuesday last, the 12th inst., at Bro. Monk's, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, where there was a good attendance of members, including Bros. Richard Poore, W.M., Moss S.W., H. Baldwin J.W., E. A. Francis Preceptor, C. H. Phillips Treas., Johnstone S.D., Knight J.D., H. Stokes I.G.; E. Bye, Meade 1321, H. Goodwin, and others. The Lodge was opened to the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed by the W.M. in a most efficient manner, Bro. Bye as candidate. Bro. Moss was appointed W.M. for the next meeting. Lodge was closed with the usual formalities, and adjourned till Tuesday next, the 19th inst.

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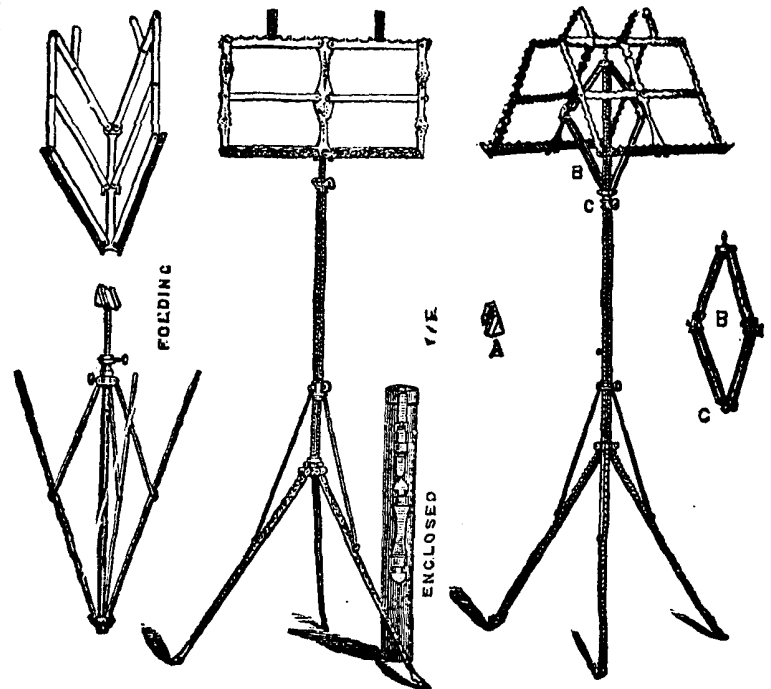
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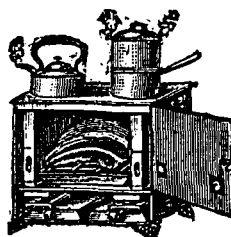
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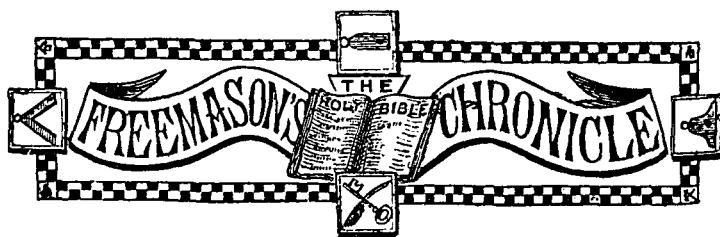
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MASSACHUSETTS AND THE RITE OF MEMPHIS.

AT the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held on 14th June, in the Masonic Temple, Boston, the following resolutions were almost unanimously adopted:

Add to Part Fifth Miscellaneous Regulations—the following:

Sect. 24.—Whereas, this Grand Lodge recognises no degrees in Masonry except those conferred under the regulations of the Grand Lodges of the various States and Territories of the United States, and the Governments throughout the world, and whereas, it admits the following named organisations to be regular and duly constituted Masonic Bodies, namely:

The General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, the Grand Royal Arch Chapters of the several States and Territories of the United States, and the Royal Arch Chapters and other Bodies under their jurisdiction, the General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the United States, the Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters of the several States and Territories of the

United States, and the Councils under their jurisdiction, the Grand Encampment of the United States, the Grand Commanderies of the several States and Territories of the United States, and the Commanderies under their jurisdiction, the Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions of the United States, of which Henry L. Palmer and Albert Pike are M.P. Sov. Grand Commanders, respectively, and the various bodies under their jurisdiction;

Now, therefore, it is hereby declared that any Mason who is hereafter admitted in this jurisdiction, into any other Orders, as Masonic, whether called the Rite of Memphis or by any other name, is acting un-Masonically; and for such conduct shall be liable to be expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, and shall be ineligible to membership or office in this Grand Lodge.

Sect. 25.—Any Mason in this jurisdiction who shall hawk and sell any of the degrees, so-called, hereinbefore forbidden, calling them degrees in Masonry, may be expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

Prior to taking the vote, remarks were made by a number of eminent brethren, and the following letters were read from distinguished Masons of other jurisdictions.

These letters are interesting in themselves, and contain information worthy of permanently being placed on record:—

Letter of Brother E. T. Carson.

I thank you for calling my attention to the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in relation to spurious Masonic systems, grades, &c. Your Grand Master puts the case in most elegant and forcible style, and I hope you may succeed in adopting the proposed rule, though I anticipate that you will encounter stubborn opposition.

Our Grand Lodge adopted a resolution, more than thirty years ago, against the conferring of side degrees in Ohio, and that resolution has kept out of Ohio all those Masonic charlatans who peddle the "Eastern Star," "Heroine of Jericho," "Master Mason's Daughter," &c. &c.

Then our Grand Commandery has substantially such a law as the one proposed, and it has done us a "power of good." It is the duty of the Grand Bodies to protect the less-informed brethren from being preyed upon by those Masonic buzzards, who are continually on the alert to turn an "honest penny" by selling so-called Masonic degrees.

If Massachusetts adopts this rule it will give the idea a start, and a standing that will ultimately result in much good to genuine, honest Masonry.

Truly and fraternally yours,

E. T. Carson.

Letter from J. P. C. Cottrill, Past Grand Master of Wisconsin.

The first difficulty we had in Wisconsin concerning these outside Bodies, claiming to be Masonic and yet out of the pale, was in 1870. Then certain Knights Templar concluded to unite with the Rite of Memphis. It is, of course, a perfectly spurious concern, not Masonic or known to Masonry. I was offered their rituals free several years ago by Harry J. Seymour, of New York, he understanding that I was a 32° Mason. I declined his offer. The action of our Grand Commandery about it is found on page 46, Proceedings of 1870. Further action was had. See Grand Commandery Proceedings, 1872, pages 53 and 56; 1873, page 12. This squelched the Rite of Memphis business.

In 1875 the Eastern Star business broke out here while I was Grand Master. I effectually broke that up. See my Address to the Grand Lodge, in its Proceedings for 1875, page 11. You will observe that I reported that your Grand Lodge, in 1871, took similar action, and my decision was based in part upon that action. I hope you will suppress all these spurious concerns, and that your constitutional amendment may be adopted. A Masonic Grand Lodge has in my opinion, the clear right to prevent, by discipline, if necessary the uniting by Masons with spurious Masonic Bodies, or Bodies calling themselves Masonic without authority, and to declare and determine just what are, and just what are not regularly constituted Masonic Bodies.

Yours fraternally,

J. P. C. Cottrill.

Letter from Bro. R. F. G. Gould, author of "The Four Old Lodges."

Here in England, we, i.e., the Grand Lodge, affect not to know anything about degrees outside the Royal Arch. No Mason can wear any insignia in Lodge or Chapter beyond that of Royal Arch.

Of late years the influence of "high degree" Brethren has increased, owing chiefly no doubt to the Prince of Wales being one of that class, but although our Craft rulers are nearly all (i.e., in the leading positions) members of what is termed the A. and A. Rite, the avoidance of public displays, processions, &c., in this country results in no clashing occurring.

For my own part, though opposed very strongly on principle to any extension of the Masonic system, I must admit that our leading 33° men are most earnest and devoted Masons.

D. Murray Lyon gives some facts respecting the introduction of the "high degrees" into Scotland. See his invaluable "History of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), No. 1."

In Ireland I believe, the Grand Master is always the head of all kinds of degrees.

For my own part I have been ever of opinion that if we can adopt Masonic children, so equally can we adopt Masonic ancestors, and if the thirty-third degree by any process of reasoning can be termed Masonic, so in similar fashion can the Ancient Mysteries.

According to my view the so-called "high degrees" are pernicious.

Still, many people think otherwise, and ours like yours is a free country!

In great haste,

Yours truly and fraternally,

R. F. Gould.

Letter from Brother J. G. Findel, author of the "History of Freemasonry."

Your friendly communications and the amendments to your Grand Lodge Constitutions I have received, and was very much rejoiced. It is a step in the right way. Under the present circumstances I must also approve the moderate, prudent and careful mode in which the Grand Lodge is moving.

Relating to your questions, I can inform you that there is no Grand Lodge in Germany, except the Grand Country Lodge of Germany (Swedish Rite), at Berlin, which has as such any control over higher degrees. The Grand Lodge of the Sun at Bayreuth (Bavaria), that of Concord at Darmstadt, the Eclectic Union of Frankfurt, that of Saxony, of Hamburg and Royal York at Berlin, i.e., six Grand Lodges of Germany, do not acknowledge at all any higher degree or practice any. They are only Symbolic Grand Lodges, and their subordinate Lodges work only in the three blue, or ancient degrees, in which, to our conviction, Masonry is contained and finished. There is no step higher than to be a Master Mason.

The Grand Lodge of the three Globes at Berlin, has, besides the Grand Lodge, a Scottish Directory, with some so-called Scottish degrees. But these higher degrees, separated from Grand Lodge, have not the significance of higher degrees, but serve only as a mode of information and instruction. Many subordinate Lodges of the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes do not cultivate these Scottish degrees.

The essence of the Swedish Rite (Grand Country Lodge of Germany), with nine degrees, you may find described in my "History of Freemasonry." Till now it was the only Rite practised in Sweden, Denmark, and Berlin, but at present there is a movement going on in Norway to put it aside, and to come back to pure ancient Masonry, with its three degrees. The Grand Lodge of the three Globes, which has some instructing Scottish degrees, has, nevertheless, concerning the so-called Grand Constitutions of the Scottish Rite of thirty-three degrees, declared that they are "the grand lie of the Fraternity."

I suppose you have in your Library the English edition of my "History of Freemasonry." There you may find all you want. No higher degree of any name can prove its usefulness, or any legitimate historical source from which it has sprung. All higher degrees are a pious fraud and humbug. Your Grand Lodge will do a great service to the Craft when it stops the movement for higher degrees.

The Grand Lodge of Switzerland, "Alpina," has also none of these degrees, and works only in the three degrees, also the Grand Lodge of Hungary.

Hoping that these notes may be in some way useful to you, I send you, for your Grand Lodge, the best wishes, and I am,

Most fraternally yours,

J. G. Findel.

Letter from Bro. William James Hughan, Past Senior G. Deacon of the Grand Lodge of England.

I see that your Grand Lodge is to consider the question of the "higher degrees," as they are sometimes called, on the 14th prox.; so I send you a brief account of the laws and customs in relation thereto, prevalent in England, Ireland, and Scotland.

1. The Grand Lodge of England, established in 1717, recognised no degrees beyond the "Master Mason" until December 1813, when, for the sake of harmony and union, it agreed to adopt the "Royal Arch," as the concluding part of the third degree (not as a fourth), which was so warmly adopted by the seceders or "Ancients," from their origin, about 1750, and, as you know, united them with the latter Body. Thereafter we have had but the one Grand Lodge in this country, the York Grand Lodge, and its offshoot in London, having previously expired.

The "Articles of Union" provided: "II. It is declared and pronounced that pure Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees, and no more, namely, those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch. But this article is not intended to prevent any Lodge or Chapter from holding a meeting in any of the degrees of the Orders of Chivalry, according to the Constitutions of the said Orders." (Hughan's Masonic Register 1878, p 15).

The first part of this declaration is to be found in the present "Book of Constitutions" (1873), as introductory to the first of the Rules. The second portion it is not easy now exactly to understand, and I must say it is rather feely explained to mean all the degrees termed Masonic, other than the first three and the Royal Arch, which were working in A.D. 1813.

Taking the example set by our chief brethren, or at least very many of them, there are virtually four Masonic organisations quasi recognised by the Grand Lodge, but not actually so, and nothing is allowed to be worn in the Grand Lodge, or any subordinate Lodge which appertains to degrees, other than those allowed by the Grand Lodge, viz., the three degrees, including the Royal Arch. I much lament the puerile rage after useless pseudo-Masonic decorations.

(a) Grand Lodge Mark Master Masons,* of whom the Lord Henniker is the Grand Master, and of its Past Grand Masters may be named the Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.M. of England, the Earl of Lathom Dep. G.M. of England, and several Provincial Grand Masters, the

* The Mark is not adopted by the Royal Arch in England, which is the only country that drops the degree, and so is the only country that has a Mark Grand Lodge.

present Grand Secretary of England being a Past Grand Mark Warden, and just lately H.R.H. Prince Leopold has been enrolled as a Past Grand Mark Master.

Other degrees are included in a "Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees," under the wing of the Mark Grand Lodge, such as the Royal and Select Masters, and other still more modern arrangements.

(b) The Supreme Council of the A. and A. Rite, 33° &c. Of this Body the Grand Master of England (H.R.H. the Prince of Wales) is a Grand Patron, and his two Royal and Masonic Brothers are Honorary Members. The Earl of Carnarvon Pro Grand Master is a Past Grand Commander, the present chief being the Dep. G.M. the Earl of Lathom, and I believe all the members of the Supreme Council are Past or Present Officers of the Grand Lodge.

(c) The United Orders of the Temple and Malta. H.R.H. the Grand Master of England is the Grand Master of this Body for England, Ireland and Canada. The subordinate Bodies, as you are aware, are called "Great Priories," that for England having the Earl of Lathom for its Great Prior, and Grand Secretary the next in rank as Great Sub-Prior. Many Grand Lodge Officers (Colonel S. H. Clerke is one of its Provincial Priors) are connected officially with it, as in a and b.

(d) Grand Imperial Council of the Knights of Rome and Red Cross of Constantine. This Society has Sir Francis Burdett, Prov. G.M. of Middlesex and Past G. Warden of England, as its Grand Sovereign, and the Earl of Lathom Dep. G.M., and other Provincial G. Masters, are among its members and Officers.

2. Scotland.—The Grand Lodge does not recognise any degrees but the three *first* and the *Mark*, though many of its chief members are connected with Bodies similar to the foregoing. Past Grand Master Sir M. R. Shaw-Stewart is First G. Principal of the R.A., and the Grand Master the Earl of Mar is Second G. Principal. Past Grand Master J. Whyte Melville is Grand Commander of the Supreme Council 33°, Governor of the Royal Order, and Grand Master of the Temple; the Earl of Kintore a Provincial Grand Master, being at the head of the Red Cross.

The recognition of the Mark degree is a late affair, but chiefly owing to so many old Craft Lodges working the ceremony.

3. Ireland.—This Grand Lodge differs from the other two, in actually recognising the Royal Arch, the Temple, the Rose Croix (which is a separate Body) and the Supreme Council 33°, and allows of no other organisation save its own.

"28. The Grand Lodge strictly prohibits, as unlawful, all assemblies of Freemasons in Ireland, under any title whatever, purporting to be Masonic, not held by virtue of a warrant or constitution from the Grand Lodge, or from one of the other Masonic Grand Bodies recognised by and acting in Masonic union with it."—*Laws* 1875, page 11.

It also provides that any Brother under its jurisdiction who shall take part in such illegal assemblies "shall be liable to suspension, or such other penalty as Grand Lodge may think fit."

Although it thus admits the legality, so to speak, of the R.A., K.T. and A. and A. Rite, it enacts that "no member of the Grand Lodge, or visitor thereto, shall be permitted to wear any jewel, medal, or device, belonging to any Order or Degree beyond that of Master Mason, in which, however, the jewel of a Past Master is considered to be included" (page 6), just as, I may say, it is in England and Scotland.

Now surely these Bodies are enough, and in fact too much in many respects, as the Supreme Council 33° might fairly be worked to include them all. As to the "Swedenborgian Rite," the "Rite of Memphis," and the ancient and Primitive Rite," and other absurd and pernicious organisations, I wish they were all decently buried.

Yours fraternally,

Wm. J. Hughan.

—From the Keystone.

We understand that Bro. Sir John Whittaker Ellis, Bart., Lord Mayor, and Grand Junior Warden of England, has consented to preside at the festival of Ye Rahere Almoners, to be held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on the 20th October, on which occasion it is expected his lordship will be accompanied by the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, Bros. Sir Reginald Hanson, and Sir W. A. Ogg. A very attractive programme is being arranged, and a large attendance is anticipated.

It is gratifying to note that a testimonial of esteem and regard has been presented to Bro. Inspector Foulger by officers and men of the First, or Moor-lane Division of Police, with whom he has been connected for upwards of forty years. This expression of kindly feeling on the part of his comrades in the force will be heartily reciprocated by many members of the Craft, to which Bro. Foulger has lent so much valuable instruction and assistance. He was the first W.M. of the Cripplegate Lodge, which is known as one of the most successful in the metropolis, and to which Bro. Foulger contributed substantial aid as Preceptor and in other ways. We trust he may be spared many years to retain the love and confidence of the brethren, and all who have appreciated his true worth and sterling character.

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.

—:O:—

SATURDAY, 16th SEPTEMBER.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
1278—Burdett Cottis, Lamb Tavern, opposite Bethnal G. Junct., at 8. (Inst.)
1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
1361—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
1621—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
1767—Kensington, Courtfield Hotel, Earl's Court, S.W.
Sini Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8

MONDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER.

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)
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
901—City of London, Gresham-street, E.C.
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In.)
1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 7. (Inst.)
1623—West Smithfield, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C. at 8 (Inst.)
1825—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
1693—Kingsland, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
1910—Shadwell Clerke, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill
R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
236—York, Masonic Hall, York
331—Phoenix Public Room, Truro
359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge
382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead
466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton
623—St. Cuthberts, Masonic Hall, Wimborne
823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield.
985—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport
1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1198—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury.
1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover.
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R.A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
R.A. 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
R.A. 482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth
R.A. 779—St. Augustine, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
M.M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne

TUESDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
704—Camden, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
857—St. Mark, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
940—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston at 8 (Instruction)
1041—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1369—Royal Arthur, D. of Cambridge, 316 Bridge-rd., Battersea Park, at 8 (In.)
1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge
1446—Mount Edgcombe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1471—Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7 (Instruction)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
1559—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)
R.A. 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
R.A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction)
R.A. 1804—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
M.M. 238—Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
249—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
418—Menturia, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley.
452—Frederick of Unity, Freemason's Hall, 105 High Street, Croydon
651—Brocknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon.
667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
1006—Tregullov, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
1052—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
1089—De Shurland, Fountain Hotel, Sheerness.
1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6. (Instruction.)
1534—Concord, George Hotel, Frestwich.
1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool
1761—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton.
R.A. 419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.

WEDNESDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER.

Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C., at 6.
223—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crownvale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
533—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.
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
865—Dalhousie, Town Hall, Hounslow
1044—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Wandsworth
1283—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
1321—Emblematic, Goat and Star, Swallow Street, W., at 8 (Inst.)

1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Gleggall Road, Cubitt Town
 1445—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, at 7 (Instruction)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1521—Duke of Connaught, R. yal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst.)
 1601—Wanderers, Black Horse, York Street, S.W., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Criterion, Piccadilly
 1633—Brownrigg, Swan Hotel, Kingston on Thames
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 R.A. 1593—Ley Spring, Red Lion, Leytonstone

20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance
 179—Antiquity Royal Hotel, Wigan.
 200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough
 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton
 246—Royal Union, Freemasons Hall, Cheltenham.
 325—St. John's Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 342—Royal Sussex, Freemasons' Hall, 79 Commercial Road, Landport
 423—Sincerity, Angel Inn, Northwich, Cheshire
 451—Sutherland, Town Hall, Burslem
 537—Zetland, 9 Hamilton-street, Birkenhead.
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw
 592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 683—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire
 795—St. John, Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead
 816—Royd, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 969—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury.
 1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Driffeld, Yorks
 1098—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 1129—St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale
 1181—De Grey and Ripon, Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester
 1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
 1246—Holte, Holte Hotel, Aston
 1391—Brighouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse
 1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton
 1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon
 1501—Wycombe, Town Hall, High Wycombe
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull.
 1634—Starkie, Railway Hotel, Ramsbottom
 R.A. 580—Unity, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
 R.A. 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury
 R.A. 1060—Marmion, Masonic Rooms, Tamworth

THURSDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER.

House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Viruvian, 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)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Cock Tavern, St. Martin's-court, Ludgate-hill, at 8.30 (Inst)
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1227—Upton, Swan, Bethnal Green-road, near Shoreditch, at 8 (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park
 1320—Blackheath, Green Man, Blackheath
 1321—Emblematic, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton
 1614—Covent Garden, Constitution, Bedford-street, W.C., at 7.45 (Instruction.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6, (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1728—Temple Bar, Arderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich.
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury Place, at 8: (Inst.)
 M.M.—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, E., at 8.30 (Inst.)

42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
 56—Howard, High-street, Arundel
 98—St. Martin, Town Hall, Burslem
 116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury
 268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street, Ashton-under-Lyne
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden
 337—Candour, New Masonic Rooms, Uppermill, Saddleworth
 343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston
 344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, Lancashire
 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn
 367—Probity and Freedom, Red Lion Inn, Smallbridge
 523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester
 600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
 605—Combermere, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead
 636—D'Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth
 659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth
 663—Wiltshire of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.
 1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford
 1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. German's, Cornwall.
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool
 1327—King Harold, Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town
 1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon
 1432—Fitzalan, Wynstay Arms, Oswestry
 1576—Dee, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire
 1590—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 R.A. 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 K.T.—William de la More, Town Hall, Bootle.

FRIDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER.

House Committee Boys' School, Wood Green, at 4.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc.)
 141—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruc.)
 569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, E.C.
 766—William Preston, Jacob's Well, George-st., Manchester-sq., at 8 (Inst.)
 780—R yal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall, N.
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, (Inst.)

453—Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1712—St. John, Freemasons Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 K.T. 20—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, 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)
 1679—Henry Muggerridge, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
 R.A. 176—Caveac, Albion, Aldersgate Street
 R.A. 1044—Mid-Surrey, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood.
 1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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PRINCE LEOPOLD LODGE, No. 1445.

THE annual installation meeting of this very energetic and popular Lodge was held on the evening of Thursday in last week, at the Mitford Hotel, Sandringham-road, Dalston, when there was a very gratifying attendance of brethren and visitors, under the presidency of Bro. N. D. Partridge, the retiring Worshipful Master. The members had held an emergency meeting on the preceding Monday evening, when, after all the preliminaries had been observed, the report of the Audit Committee was submitted, and was found to be of a most satisfactory character. On Thursday the brethren assembled at four o'clock, when Lodge was opened in accordance with ancient rites, and the minutes of the last regular meeting and Lodge of emergency were confirmed, as also was the report of the Audit Committee above referred to. At the conclusion of some other routine business, Bro. S. Lewis, who had received the reward of his assiduous performance of his duties in the Senior Warden's chair during the preceding twelve months, and who had been unanimously elected as the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, was presented for installation, and having assented to the responsibilities of the position, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Lewis was formally installed into the chair with the usual ceremonial. On the re-admission of the brethren who had temporarily retired, he was saluted in the three degrees in a manner which fully testified to the respect and esteem in which he is held by the brethren. Bro. W. H. Myers, P.M. of the Lodge, of whose ability as Master of Ritual we have had frequent occasion to speak in past years, officiated as Installing Officer, and the manner in which he discharged the functions of his responsible office elicited, as indeed is invariably the case, the genuine encomiums of both brethren and visitors—of whom there was a large muster present. Bro. George Edward Walter P.M., the excellent and indefatigable Secretary of the Lodge, acted as Master of Ceremonies, and the proceedings went off in a way that left nothing to be desired. The addresses were most impressively delivered by Bro. Myers, who seemed to be in his happiest vein, and the manner in which the ceremony was performed afforded the utmost profit and pleasure to all present. The newly-installed Master, after having received the salutations of the brethren, invested his Officers for the ensuing year, the collars being thus bestowed:—Bros. N. D. Partridge I.P.M., W. McDonald S.W., James Robson J.W., W. H. Myers P.M. Treasurer, George Edward Walters P.M. Secretary, J. MacGregor S.D., F. Kimbell J.D., G. S. Young Organist, H. Seymour-Clarke D.C., T. Marsh Tyler. In the course of the proceedings a handsome Past Master's jewel, subscribed for by the whole of the members of the Lodge, was presented to Bro. N. D. Partridge, the retiring W.M., as a token of esteem, and in recognition of the valuable services he had rendered to the Lodge during his term of office. Bro. Lewis in making the presentation, made allusion to those services in most felicitous terms, and expressed his sense of the judicious care and attention which Bro. Partridge had bestowed upon the affairs of the Lodge, and his solicitude for its future welfare and prosperity. Bro. Partridge had studiously endeavoured to do his duty in the position in which he had been placed by the unanimous desire of the brethren, and it would be his (the speaker's) duty and pleasure to emulate the excellent example which had been set him by his predecessor. In fastening the jewel to Bro. Partridge's breast he could only express a hope that he might long be spared in health and strength to wear it, and to enjoy the respect, confidence and esteem of the brethren, which he now enjoyed to so full an extent, having won it by his assiduous attention to duty, and his uniformly urbane and generous conduct towards all with whom he was associated. Bro. Partridge, in a few happily-chosen sentences, acknowledged the high compliment which had been paid him, and observed that although he now passed into the ranks of the Past Masters, his interest in the prosperity of the Prince Leopold Lodge would continue unabated, and he should in the future, as he had done in the past, exert his utmost to sustain its prestige and assist in its truest advancement. He need hardly say, that if in any way he could assist, either by counsel or otherwise, his successor, whom he was glad to see attaining to the highest honour the Lodge could confer upon him, he should only be too happy to do so; and he felt sure his brother Past Masters were all actuated by the same desire. He should value the magnificent jewel with which he had been presented for its intrinsic value, but far more for the generous motives which had prompted it, and he hoped, if he had deserved any of the affection and regard it reflected, during his term of office, he might equally succeed in retaining the good opinion of all by whom he was surrounded, and with whom he hoped long to labour in furthering the

real interests of the Lodge. At the conclusion of the business, the brethren adjourned to a *récherché* banquet, where they were joined by several distinguished visitors, including Bros. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary England, and Bro. W. T. Howe, Past Grand Pursuivant, &c. The customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, the health of the newly installed W.M. being most enthusiastically received, and responded to in suitable terms by Brother Lewis. Interspersed with some excellent vocal and instrumental music, the proceedings were of a thoroughly agreeable and harmonious description.

BURRELL LODGE, No. 1829.

ON the afternoon of the 7th instant, a meeting of the brethren of the above Lodge took place at the Royal George Hotel, Shoreham. Among those present were Bros. T. Packham W.M., J. Harrison S.W., E. Bridges J.W., G. Rose Johnson Chaplain, H. Cheal Secretary, T. Hardy S.D., R. W. Higham J.D., T. Holloway I.G., K. Smith Organist, W. T. Giles and W. Swales Stewards, J. Harman Tyler, A. J. Carpenter, H. Packham, G. Courtney, J. Parnell, W. Gill, W. Bodle, A. Brazier, R. G. Webb, W. Horne, G. Fieldus, E. New; while the visiting brethren included Bros. J. Balwinkle S.D. 1421, E. Broadbridge W.M. 1636, W. Anderson S.D. 315, W. Smithers J.D. 1636, J. Curtis P.M. 315 and 1797, S. M. Lelen W.M. 1821, A. Greenyer 80, A. Burrowes 186, J. C. Buckwell 1797 and 1821, F. Wiseman P.M. Trinity 1734 and 180, and H. Anscombe I.G. 1821. The chief business of the meeting consisted of the initiation of a new member, and the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, the choice of the latter falling unanimously upon Bro. J. Harrison. The Lodge being closed, those present sat down to a complimentary banquet given by the brethren of the Lodge, in honour of Bro. T. Packham W.M. and P.M. 315. The newly-elected W.M. occupied the chair, the vice chairs being filled by Bros. E. Bridges and T. Hardy. Ample justice having been done to the spread supplied by Bro. Gates, the Chairman opened the toast list by proposing H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past, each of which was well received. He then gave the R.W. Sir W. W. Burrell Prov. G.M. of Sussex, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past. He regretted the absence of Sir W. W. Burrell and the Provincial Officers, who were unable to be present. Bro. J. Curtis, in responding, remarked that if rumour were correct, the Burrell Lodge would soon be honoured by the appointment of their W.M., Bro. T. Packham, as one of the Provincial Grand Stewards. The election would, he felt, be well deserved. The Chairman proposed the W.M. Bro. Packham P.M. 315, and bore testimony to his sterling qualities, his zeal on behalf of Masonry, and the excellent manner in which he carried out the duties of the various offices entrusted to him; the longer they knew him the better they liked him. They would all hope with him (Bro. Harrison) that their worthy guest that evening would rise even higher in the Craft. Bro. Packham, in responding, said he never anticipated such an occasion as that on which they were gathered together. If he had been successful as their W.M., it must be remembered that he had had excellent Officers to assist him, and each had carried out his duties faithfully. To his Secretary (Bro. Cheal) he was especially indebted, and he took the opportunity of referring to the blame that had been attached to one of their secretaries on a previous occasion, and of stating that that Officer was not to blame, the neglect really being on the part of his senior Officer, whose duty it was to see that he had been in receipt of the return papers, over which the neglect had occurred. He (Bro. Packham) referred in feeling terms to the losses during his year of office of their late Bros. Captain Sinclair and Mitchell. He was proud that the brethren had been enabled to assist the widow of their late Bro. Mitchell, and those outside the pale of the Craft might be reminded that Masonic Charity had no bounds but prudence. Concluding his remarks, Bro. Packham said he should never forget that day's meeting, and he should always remember with feelings of gratitude, respect, and love all those present with him. He then proposed the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Harrison—a Mason who had worked assiduously in the Craft, and had on many occasions rendered him valuable assistance. He trusted he would experience a happy year of office, for he regarded him as one of the most energetic Masons he had ever met. Bro. J. Harrison, in responding, said the brethren might deem him an inveterate "beggar," but he should continue his utmost in aid of the Masonic Charities. The Chairman proposed the Entered Apprentice. Bro. Horne responded. The toast of the Visitors, given from the chair, was acknowledged by Bros. Broadbridge and Wiseman. The Tyler's toast brought the pleasant gathering to a close. During the evening some excellent songs and recitations were given by several of the brethren present.

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No. 65.—On Tuesday, 12th inst., at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, there were present Bros. Roberts W.M., Shadler S.W., G. H. Stephens J.W., Clements S.D. and Sec., Oxley I.G., Moss Preceptor; also Bro. Mallett. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Mallett acting as candidate. Bro. Mallett answered the questions leading to the second degree, and was entrusted; Lodge advanced, and Bro. Mallett passed to the degree of F.C. For the purpose of practice Lodge opened in the third degree, and closed to the first, when it was proposed by Bro. Moss Preceptor, and seconded by Bro. G. H. Stephens, that Bro. Mallett, of the Clapton Lodge, No. 1365, be elected a member. Bro. Shadler was elected to fill the chair for next Tuesday evening, 19th inst., when the Lodge will be opened at 7 o'clock, and on this occasion Bro. Webb P.M. has kindly consented to rehearse the ceremony of installation; brethren who attend will undoubtedly be rewarded by spending an instructive evening. We may add that this

Lodge has almost entirely devoted itself to the rehearsal of ceremonies, therefore those brethren who are more anxious for this working will do well to place themselves under the able Preceptor, Bro. D. Moss. Lodge closed and adjourned.

Joppa Lodge of Instruction, No. 188.—It is seldom our pleasurable duty to record such steady progress and so eminently satisfactory a result in connection with a Lodge of Instruction as it becomes our duty, after visiting the Joppa Lodge, which was held on Tuesday evening last, at the Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street. Although established scarcely two years, this Lodge has attracted to itself a goodly circle of thorough working members, whose heart is in the cause, and whose Masonic zeal finds tangible and frequent expression. As one proof of the thoroughly good work done, and the right direction given to the efforts of the members, it is only necessary to mention that within the very short period of its existence, and with only the nominal fees common to most Lodges of Instruction, this Lodge has already created two life subscribers to the Masonic Charities—one to the Royal Benevolent Institution, and another to the Boys' School; and on Tuesday evening it was announced that the funds in hand were sufficient to admit of a ballot for the third life subscriber at the next alternate meeting. This is a state of things reflecting the highest credit upon so young a Lodge of Instruction, and is deserving of being extensively copied. Another feature of this little conclave at the Champion is the excellence of the work that is being carried on, under the guidance of Bro. A. G. Dodson P.M. as Preceptor, and the no less admirable arrangements which have been made by Bro. R. Chillingworth P.M., the esteemed proprietor of the hotel, for the comfort and enjoyment of the brethren. The Lodge room is fitted up in cosy, and even luxurious fashion, with every possible convenience, whilst the urbanity of Bro. Chillingworth, his readiness to take any position in the Lodge when required, and to render good service in the working, in which he is so proficient, as well as for his general arrangements for promoting the welfare of the Lodge and the happiness of its members, add greatly to the pleasure of a visit here. On Tuesday evening last, the chair was occupied by Bro. J. Hughes, who acquitted himself most creditably as Worshipful Master, supported by Bros. Thomas Agutter S.W., H. L. Phillips J.W., Samuel Pardoe S.D., Isaac Botibol I.G., A. G. Dodson P.M. Preceptor, R. J. Chillingworth P.M., J. Hicks Secretary, F. Deering, Nightingale, A. R. Green, G. H. Cobb, C. J. Dunlop, E. Davy, E. H. Tyrrell, J. Pigé, W. Gardner, and others. Lodge having been opened in due form, the questions for passing were put to Bros. Deering and Cobb, both of whom answered satisfactorily, and were entrusted. Bro. Deering then retired, being the initiate. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, with Bro. Cobb as candidate, Bro. Pardoe as S.D. The questions before raising having been put to Bro. Cobb, Lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bro. Hughes then vacated the chair, which was taken by Bro. A. G. Dodson P.M., who rehearsed the ceremony of raising. The impressive and accurate manner in which the Preceptor delivered the charges was decidedly an intellectual treat, and afforded the utmost gratification, as well as edification, to the brethren and visitors who were fortunate enough to be present. At the close of the ceremony Brother Hughes resumed his position, and Lodge was closed in form, after two members had been accepted, and other matters of business transacted. Bro. Thomas Agutter was unanimously elected as W.M. for the next meeting. We may add that these enjoyable gatherings for instruction are held every Tuesday evening at the Champion Hotel, at half past seven o'clock, and that visitors are always most cordially welcomed.

Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, No. 382.—At the Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge, on Monday, 11th inst., Bros. Taplin W.M., Rowles S.W., Cotton J.W., Nicholson S.D., Taylor J.D., Fleming I.G. and Tyler, Brooks Secretary, and others. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read, confirmed, and signed. Lodge was opened and closed in the second. The evening was occupied with the following official business. The committee reported the result of their audit of the accounts; and also made an inventory of Lodge furniture. Bro. Brooks Sec. read the Bye-laws, also the following short summary of the work of the past session. A retrospect of the whole course of meetings of this Lodge of Instruction is exceedingly interesting and satisfactory to all concerned; it can boast of having been visited by the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Province, Brother Sir Francis Burdett, Bart. The Lodge has received valuable presents, from Bros. H. E. Tucker Preceptor, and Nicholson, of a volume of the Sacred Laws from the former, and a velvet cushion from the latter. The Lodge consists of sixteen subscribing, and nine honorary members. The meetings commenced on the 31st October 1881, and closed on 28th August 1882, so that thirty-nine meetings have been held. The number of attendances for the whole course, including visitors, has been 377, an average of nearly ten per meeting; the largest attendance was on the occasion of the presentations being made by Bros. Tucker and Nicholson, on the 9th January 1882, when 41 were present; the smallest number during the summer has been five, when the brethren found other enjoyment than that of a Lodge indoors. The ceremonies have been rehearsed as follow:—Initiation 29, Passing 15, Raising 6; total 50. The brethren have only met twice without rehearsing a ceremony, and have never assembled without a sufficient number to open the Lodge. In addition to the ceremonies mentioned above, Bro. C. Andrews P.M., honorary member, has worked one or more sections of the first lecture at four meetings, and given a lecture on the first tracing board twice. The Lodge is also indebted to Bro. W. W. Morgan honorary member, for twice delivering Lectures during the course. The following list gives the names of those who have filled the chair, and also the number of times each has filled it:—Bros. C. Andrews P.M. honorary member 1, E. H. Sugg P.M. honorary member 1, C. E. Botley honorary

member 1, F. Botley honorary member 1, Gray 1, H. E. Tucker Preceptor 2, Rowles 4, Nicholson 5, Brooks 7, Taplin 8, Cotton 8; total 39. This short report of the first course of meetings will be sufficient to prove the necessity for the Lodge, and we hope the work of the future may be even more satisfactory than that of the past. Bro. Cotton Treasurer reported upon the financial position as follows: Receipts £6 12s 10d, Expenses £3 16s 6d, balance in hand £2 16s 4d. The consideration of the disposal of the balance was adjourned for a fortnight; the Secretary and Treasurer were reappointed. Bro. Rowles S.W. was unanimously elected to fill the chair at the next meeting. Bro. Cotton S.W. intimated his intention of presenting the Lodge with a new set of collars. This brought a long evening's work to a close, and the Lodge was closed with the usual formalities, and adjourned until Monday, the 18th September.

United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, No. 507.—The meeting on Friday, the 8th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, was presided over by Bro. C. H. Phillips W.M., who was supported by Bros. R. Poore S.W., J. N. Bate J.W., J. Hill S.D., W. J. Newland J.D., H. Stokes I.G., James Stevens P.M. Preceptor, E. A. Francis, S. C. Hill, H. S. Biggs, &c. Lodge was opened and minutes confirmed. Bro. Biggs, as candidate, was proved and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The F.C. charge was given by Bro. Bate. The explanation of the tracing board was rendered by the Preceptor, Bro. James Stevens, who was assisted by Bros. Francis and J. Hill. Lodge was closed down, and called off. "Entry drill" was practised, and the Lodge called on. Bro. R. Poore was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and then Lodge closed in perfect harmony.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—On Friday, 8th instant, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, Bros. F. Botley W.M., Gunner S.W., C. E. Botley J.W., Goss P.M. S.D., Blasby P.M. J.D., E. Monson I.G.; Bros. Dorey, Hewlings, Sperring, Maton, Turner. Lodge opened in the first degree, and the minutes of meeting held on 25th August were read and confirmed. Lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Sperring candidate. Lodge closed in third and second degrees. Bro. Gunner was elected W.M. for 29th September. Bro. Sidney Turner, of the Lodge of Agriculture, 1199, was elected a member. Lodge was then closed and adjourned until 15th September (Officers' night).

Star in the East Lodge, No. 650.—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, held at Harwich, Essex, on Tuesday evening, 12th inst., the election of W.M. for the ensuing year took place, when the choice of the brethren unanimously fell upon Brother Richard Clowes, a most hardworking member of the Lodge, who has filled the chair of S.W. during the past year with great credit to himself and benefit to the Lodge.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. T. Clark W.M., Christian S.W., Smyth J.W., F. Carr Secretary, A. J. Clark S.D., Glass J.D., Bunker I.G. P.M. Bro. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Brasted, Steel, Baker, Edwards, Marsh, Forss, Darnell. Lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Edwards offered himself as a candidate for passing and was interrogated and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony was rehearsed. Lodge was called off, and on resuming its Masonic duties Bro. Christian gave the lecture on the tracing board. Bro. Forss worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was opened in the third degree and regularly closed to the first. Bro. Forss worked the fourth section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Christian was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his Officers in rotation. Lodge was then closed and adjourned.

Islington Lodge of Instruction, No 1471.—On Monday, at the Crown and Cushion Tavern, London Wall, Bro. D. P. Holness W.M. of the mother Lodge presided; he was supported by Bros. Cuthbertson S.W., Thompson J.W., Medwin S.D., Hawksley J.D., Couchman I.G., Hunter Acting Preceptor, Sparrow Secretary. Lodge was opened in due form, and after the minutes had been read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Petley candidate. Bro. Bedington answered the questions leading to the second degree. Lodge opened in second degree. Bro. Wall answered questions leading to the third. Lodge was advanced and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Wall candidate. On resuming the Lodge to the first degree, Bro. O'Brien, of Perseverance, No. 1743, was elected a member. Bro. Cuthbertson was appointed W.M. for the ensuing meeting. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Holness for attending to preside on this occasion, and special reference was made to the interest he had taken in this Lodge of Instruction.

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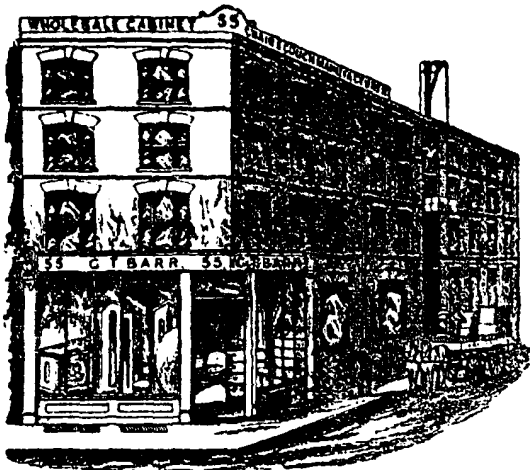
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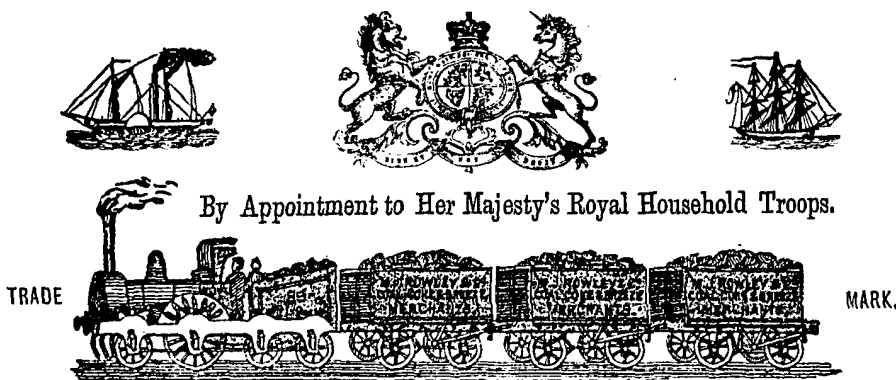
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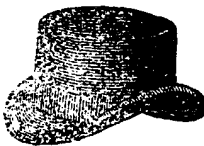
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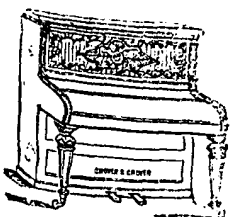
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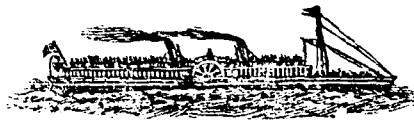
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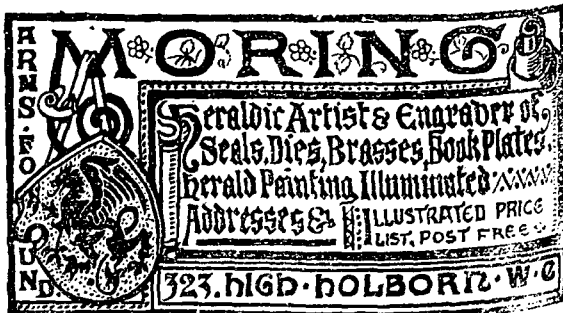
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