

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE GIRLS' SCHOOL ELECTION.

THE number of applications for admission to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls is again assuming alarming proportions in comparison with the number of declared vacancies. The ballot paper for the election to take place on Saturday, the 13th October, gives a list of thirty-two candidates, while the vacancies to be filled are but eight, or exactly one vacancy to each four candidates. This is a great difference to the state of affairs at the last election, in April of the present year, when there were twenty-two vacancies and but twenty-eight candidates, and it gives promise of a more exciting election than has been known for some time past in connection with "Our Girls'" School, which, fortunately for the applicants, has been enabled to take on greatly increased numbers in consequence of the additions made to the school buildings during the past few years.

As may be surmised from the figures given above, there are six candidates on the present list whose applications stand over from the last election, and of these two now appear for the third time, while two others are last application cases. These latter, together with three "first and last application" cases will, as usual, receive our earliest attention. No. 5, Helen Mabel Henshaw, is one of four children dependent on a widowed mother; she has 624 votes to her credit, and will doubtless receive sufficient additional support to secure a place among the successful. Her father was a member of No. 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland, London, and subscribed thereto from the time of his initiation, in 1874, until lunacy incapacitated him. No. 6, Sylvia Mary Haworth, has 428 votes to her credit. She is one of three children left to the care of their mother, the husband of whom was a Past Master of No. 314, Peace and Unity, West Lancashire, and subscribed to his Lodge close on fourteen years. No. 10, Edith Hutton, is another of the "last" cases, she is one of six children, four of whom are wholly, and two partially, dependent on the exertions of their mother. Her father was a Past Master of No. 43, Faithful, Warwickshire, and also figures as a Steward and Life Governor of the Boys' and Girls' Institutions. No. 20, Catherine Graham, one of four fatherless children, is accredited to Cheshire, her father having some time since filled the office of Worshipful Master in the Unanimity Lodge, No. 89. Her case could hardly be in better hands than those of the Cheshire brethren, and if she is so far successful as to secure the support of the Province, there is little doubt but that she will be found among the eight at the head of the poll. No. 20, Amy Margaret Lee, is the other last application case. Her father was a member of No. 13, Union Waterloo. His widow now has four children dependent on her, notwithstanding the fact that one of her boys is an inmate of the Boys' School. This is not the only case on the present list where the child has a brother in the Boys' School; there are two others similarly circumstanced.

We have already disposed of two of the "brought forward" cases, the others are Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4. No. 1, Ellen Hayes, who headed the list of unsuccessful candidates in April last, with 697 votes, has already competed at two elections. Her father, who is still alive, joined Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 359 (Hants and Isle of Wight), in 1863, and at the present time has five children dependent

on him. No reason is given why he appeals to the Girls' School, and, as is usual in such cases, we are entirely ignorant of the special claims he has on the Craft generally. We do not wish to imply that his daughter's candidature is not quite legitimate, but why not give some reason for the appeal which is being made. No. 2, Minnie Woodward, who has also taken part in two previous elections, has a total of 333 votes to her credit. Her mother, whose husband was a Past Master of No. 153, Inhabitants Lodge, Gibraltar, has now six children dependent on her for support. We trust she may, ere long, be successful in securing the election of one of them to our Masonic Institution. No. 3, Jane Wheeler Hutchings, polled 38 votes last April. She is one of four fatherless children. Her father was a member of No. 1382, Corinthian, and is among the few who figure as supporters of the Charities, he having qualified as a Subscriber to the Benevolent Institution. No. 4, Annie Lucie Ochsenein, has but 13 votes to her credit. She is one of three children, left to the care of a widowed mother. Her father was a member of No. 1257, Grosvenor, London, from 1875 until his death in 1879.

No. 32, Rose Ethel Vowles, last on the list, appears to be the next in order. She is one of eight fatherless children who are left dependent on their mother. Her father was a P.M., and held high office in Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire. He died during the current year, and could boast of 31 years' subscribing membership to Freemasonry—the longest time on the present list. Let us hope that this distinction will have some weight in influencing votes on behalf of his daughter. No. 7, Isabella Sophia Heastie, daughter of a member of the Royal Lebanon Lodge, Gloucestershire, is one of a family of seven children left to the care of their mother. Her father, during his lifetime was a subscriber to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. No. 18, Hilda Sophia Lyon, is also one of seven children left to the care of a widowed mother. Her husband was a member of No. 758, Ellesmere, Cheshire. No. 24, Maude Mary Bromley, is similarly situated, so far as family circumstances are concerned. Her father was a member of No. 871, Royal Oak, which Lodge he joined but seven months before his death, in May 1882. It may be very hard on the candidates, but we cannot help thinking that, so long as the pressure is so great, this class of case should not be approved. A child whose father joined Freemasonry but seven months before—by his death—he left her and the other members of his family destitute, ought not to have the same claims on us as the child of a brother of some ten, twenty, or even thirty years' membership. No. 26, Frances Alice Searle, is another of seven fatherless children left to a mother's care. Her father was a member of No. 1107, Cornwallis, from the time of his initiation, in 1870, until his death in 1881. The distinction earned by this Lodge for its charitable propensity is exemplified in this case, for we find the father recorded as a Life Governor of the Boys' and Girls' Institutions. Let us hope that the assistance he rendered to the Institutions in his lifetime may be the means of his child securing support in her candidature now that he is dead. No. 15, Lucy Smith, is a member of a family of whom six children are entirely, and two partially, dependent on a widowed mother. Her husband, a P.M. of No. 651, Brecknock, achieved distinction as a Prov. Grand Officer of South Wales (Western Division), and subscribed to the Craft for 16½ years.

No. 12, Kathleen Alice Gibson, has both parents living, the father being described as "in H.M. Customs." There are six children dependent in this case, and doubtless some good reason exists why the application is approved. We think the subscribers generally should demand that the particulars be published in the ballot papers. The father is a Past Master of No. 223, Charity, Devonshire, and a Past Grand Deacon of the Province. No. 17, Mary Amelia Wheeler, is also a member of a family of six dependent, but in her case the father is dead. Her father was a Past Master of the Dalhousie Lodge, No. 865, Middlesex. No. 25, Beatrice Mary High, another in whose family there are six fatherless children dependent, is a daughter of a Past Master of the Clapton Lodge, No. 1364. During his Masonic career of 8½ years he acted as Steward for the Girls' School, and qualified as subscriber to the three Institutions. No. 23, Amy M. Owen, hails from the Province of North Wales and Shropshire, in which district her father subscribed for 15½ years, serving the office of Worshipful Master in the St. Tudno Lodge, No. 755. There are six children left in this family, of whom five are wholly, and one partially, dependent on the mother. No. 19, Eleanor Alice Johnstone, one of five children left fatherless, comes forward from No. 65, Prosperity Lodge, London. We trust she will receive the hearty support of the members of the Prosperity Lodge, in which case her ultimate success would be all but secured. No. 28, Emily Pinder, is similarly circumstanced as regards family ties; her mother was left a widow in 1882, at which time her husband was Senior Warden of the Excelsior Lodge, No. 1042, West Yorkshire, in which district he subscribed from 1876, until the time of his death. No. 31, Edith Daisy Capon, has both parents living, and is one of five dependent children. Her father is unfortunately insane, and on that account the sympathy of his brother Masons should be forthcoming, and that, too, in such a manner as to secure for his daughter an early election into the Girls' School. No. 22, Edith Ellen Betts, is one of a family of five, of whom one is partially provided for. Her father, who was Past Master of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 419, Staffordshire, died in 1881, after a Masonic career of 7½ years. Cases in which there are four dependent children next call for attention. No. 9, Ethel Haden Sutcliffe, is one of such cases. Her father was a Past Master of the Acacia Lodge, No. 1309, Middlesex, and subscribed from 1875 until his death. The girl has a brother in the Boys' School, a fact which, as we have previously said, should be taken into consideration at the day of election. No. 11, Mary Tanner, is also one of four dependent on a widowed mother. Her father, a member of the Burgoyne Lodge, No. 902, London, died in 1881, after subscribing to Freemasonry for 17 years. No. 13, Florence Ann Motion, has a brother in the Boys' School. The remarks we have previously made in such cases equally apply here. Her father shews a record of twenty-five years Masonic subscription. He was a joining member of No. 453, Chigwell, Essex, in which Province he served as Worshipful Master, and obtained Provincial honours. He was a Steward and Life Governor of the three Institutions, and, on that account, his family deserve some extra attention. No. 29, Emily Sarah Jane Hall, has both parents living, and no reason being assigned why the father is unable to provide for his family, we can only call for more detailed particulars. No. 8, Mabel Harriet Godfrey, is one of three fatherless children. Her father was a member of No. 100, Friendship, Norfolk, and died in December 1877. No. 16, Alice Garton West, daughter of an old Past Master of the Great Northern Lodge, No. 1287, London, is also one of three children looking for support to their mother, who was left a widow in April of the present year. Her husband was a Life Subscriber of the Girls' and Benevolent Institutions, and had many friends among the members of the Craft: let us hope they will unite and endeavour to provide for one of his children. No. 21, Fanny Heath, also one of three dependent on a widowed mother, is a daughter of a late J.D. of the Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 359, Hampshire. Her father, during his lifetime, qualified as Life Subscriber to the Girls' School. No. 14, Florence Alice Weber, calls to mind a brother who must have been known to a very large number of the supporters of the Girls' School. Brother Wilhelm G. Weber for some time previous to his death occupied the position of clerk at the Institution. His early decease was a matter of great regret, and now that one of his children is appealing for the benefits of the

Institution, we hope an effort will be made to practically show the respect in which her father was held. He was an annual subscriber to the Girls' School, and has left his widow with two children to provide for. No. 30, Lucy Harrison, also a member of a family of two dependent on a widowed mother, brings our review to an end. Her father was one of the P.M.'s of Shakespeare, No. 1018, West Yorkshire, and had a Masonic record of 15½ years subscription.

We cannot close our review without a few general remarks. We have not hitherto given special prominence to those cases in which the father appears to have supported the Institutions, but in view of the very small number of the candidates whose fathers are now accredited with having contributed to the Charities, we cannot but think that those who are so accredited are entitled to some special notice. Want of such record should not be a bar to a candidate's admission, but it should count for something on the day of election. Another point we can but refer to is, the short connection many of the families now appealing had with Freemasonry at the time of the father's decease or withdrawal from membership.

We shall next week devote ourselves to the Boys' School list, which, as usual, is of much greater length than that for the Girls' Institution.

We may add, we shall be very pleased to receive the votes of any of our readers who may have no special use for them; we can assure them that any so sent will be judiciously applied.

MASONIC RECOLLECTIONS.

ONE of the most curious episodes in the Masonic history of the day is the contention which grew out of the establishment in 1860, of a society, styled "The Conservators." Never was more innocent project vilified, never more noble effort maligned. My "recollections" of it are partly sad, partly glad, and this series will indeed be incomplete unless I give a fair space to the subject.

Open before me is the register of the Conservators' Association up to the period when the civil war closed the lines between North and South. The number of registered names is 2820, but at least 500 or 1000 more Conservators were made whose names never reached us. Every State in the Union is represented, and every Territory that was organized prior to 1863. To give an idea of the universality of the movement, I see among the first twenty names the following: Rev. Thos. R. Austin, LL.D., now of Vincennes, Ind, Past Grand Master, a Mason of national fame; Geo. D. Norris, M.D., New Market, Ala, Past Grand Master, a bright light, still living; A. B. Cudworth, Pontiac, Michigan, Past Grand High Priest; Joseph Covell, Jay Bridge, Maine, one of the standards of that jurisdiction in his day, died 1866; P. H. Taylor, Ionia, Michigan, Past Grand Junior Warden, possesses a poetical gift; W. B. Langridge, Muscatine, Iowa, Grand Recorder, &c., a star in the Iowan firmament; John Scott, Nevada, Iowa, Past Grand Master, &c., whose praises have been sung in another paper of this series; Edward A. Guilbert, A.M., M.D., Past Grand Master, &c., of Iowa, of whom I have several times spoken.

Now these are included in the first twenty. Glancing through the other 2800 I find that we had enrolled in this society more than one hundred Masons who were then or have since been Grand Masters.

Now, as no Masonic movement, not even in the Scotch Rite, was ever met with such a storm of slander and reproach as the Conservators, it may well be asked what was the purpose, what were the features of Conservatism? The aim was simply to produce uniformity in Blue Lodge work by laying down in cipher an accurate reproduction of the Webb work of the early part of the present century. The method was to form a Masonic brotherhood for that purpose, limiting the period to five years, and to bind the members together by the institution of a Degree styled "The Conservators' Degree."

It is no part of the present paper to publish these details, nor is it necessary, seeing that Committees in several States published in the Grand Lodge Proceedings all our circulars, and so-called "Masonic papers" published our private letters, equally violating confidence and decency. If the reader cares to see the whole movement elaborated in circular form he will find it in the old files of Grand Lodge Publications.

And when he finds it he will find a plan which had the approval, which had the cordial approbation of 3000 as bright Masons as ever our country produced. Why then the opposition?

1. Those "not invited to participate" clamoured indignantly at their exclusion. The fact that the Order of Conservators was a "wheel within a wheel" (like the Chapter System, the Commandery System, &c.) made it enemies, bitter and implacable. And yet this idea was but borrowed from that of "33rd and last Grade" of the Scotch Rite, in which the one is selected, the ninety-nine are passed by.

2. The stereotyping of the Webb Notes in what was called "Mnemonics" was made the subject of outcry. The work was called "clandestine," an "exposition," &c. and yet it was what had been written in thousands of copies by the acknowledged heads of the Order. And as to the "printing," the book was never offered for sale, and was just as private as a written copy.

3. The attempt to secure uniformity outside of Grand Lodge authority was a subject of objection. But Grand Lodge authority has been invoked in this direction for a century and has always failed.

4. Personal jealousy. Those opposed to me and my friends found this a favourable opportunity (as was openly said) "to rise upon our ruins." In every Grand Lodge there are parties, and in every Grand Lodge rivalries that run into strife and contention. Where the "Conservators" were sufficiently strong (as in Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, &c.) the opposition was beaten and the quarrel ceased. Where their opponents had the advantage (as in Missouri, Kentucky, Illinois, &c.), they took the reins of Grand Lodge and forced the "Conservators" to succumb. The results of the movement upon the whole were favourable in producing uniformity of work, but our success would have been a hundred times greater had the weapons used against us been those of argument and fair debate.

Among the Masonic projects agitated from year to year with persistency, that of a General Grand Lodge is conspicuous. It was proposed in Pennsylvania more than a century since, for in those days the Philadelphia brethren were not so easily alarmed at the idea of innovations as now. But although the name of George Washington was proposed as the first National Grand Master, and I suppose he was not unwilling to accept the honour, and the best talent of the day was employed to make the scheme feasible, yet it failed egregiously. Only a small number of the Grand Lodges consented to it. Two or three more promised to consider it. Three or four more quietly ignored it, and then the matter fell through. But it was resumed in after years again and again. About 1822 a convention of leading Masons was held, of which the celebrated jurist, John Marshall, was chairman. Seaton, of the *National Intelligencer*, took an active part in the meetings. Henry Clay was present. An appeal to the Fraternity was drafted, which shows the hand of the great Kentuckian who, it was understood, was to be the National Grand Master. But the failure was egregious. Even the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, of which Clay had been Grand Master, refused to go into it by a counter-report of great ability, showing the impracticability of the scheme.

Some thirty years later, Hon. Finlay M. King, of New York, to whom I have alluded in previous papers, took up the plan in company with Benjamin B. French and others, and for several years gave much time to its development, visiting Washington City and other cities to enlist the aid of leading Masons. At Chicago, September 1859, we had it up, with strong men like Mackey, Pierson and others to advocate it. But the idea of a National Grand Lodge is evidently distasteful to the popular mind, and I do not believe it will ever prevail. As it could not possibly produce uniformity in rituals, in legislation or in regalias, it is difficult to see what practical good it would accomplish; while the increased expense in Masonic workings, the confusion in government and the immense rush for office that would inevitably result, would neutralize any conceivable benefits to grow out of it.

In looking back thirty-six years over the Masonic field one of the most remarkable developments of Masonry is seen in the growth of the *Scotch Rite*. Even in 1850 it was nothing as a Masonic power. It had no influence. Nobody sought it or cared for it. A few old men claimed to be "thirty-thirds," and when they wanted to increase their numbers, one of them selected a man, took him to a

private room, read to him from some poor manuscripts for an hour, and pronounced him a "thirty-second." That is exactly the way I came in. Even Brother Pike, who went one peg higher, cannot say *when* he was placed in his present exalted position, though no one doubts but what it was done legitimately. But no records were kept. No fees were charged. The degrees, such as they were, were "honorary." For my part, I was so disgusted with the childish and unmeaning stuff read to me by Giles F. Yates that for years the very name of Scotch Masonry called a smile to my face. I remember, in June 1856, Dr. Mackey brought his whole magazine of manuscripts to my house, and in the upper storey made "thirty-seconds" of some five or six brethren, no fees being charged and no records kept. It was a hot day in a hot climate, and I fear the good fellows found the Kentucky dinner with which my wife had endowed them rather too much for the necessary mental effort of taking in thirty-two degrees in ninety minutes! In 1858-59 I was Grand Commander of the Kentucky Grand Consistory at Louisville, and conferred the orders upon some fifty applicants, and although we did charge a fee (sixty dollars), and by the vigilance of Bro. Fred. Webber did keep a record, yet the loose and hasty communication of such varied Rituals (the whole in a single evening), was but a 'parody for which fifty cents would have been ample return. We had no scenery or machinery, not even candlesticks or aids of any sort.

But now, what a change! Pike put in his time and talents to reforming (better say, originating) the Rituals, and rallied around him scores of the most influential Masons in the South, and by 1860 the Scotch Rite was a power in the land. The North caught the fire, reformed their Rituals, settled (for a time) their quarrels, fitted up apartments, provided expensive and splendid accessories, and only the other day I saw that one of their leading "thirty-thirds" in New York is predicting a Napoleonic career for "the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite." To me it is marvellous. It shows what one man of intelligence, learning and zeal can do. It proves that the "equality" theory of Masonry in this country is not so popular after all as the "autocratic," and while I am not specially favourable to the system or its growth so far as it has been at the cost of Symbolical Masonry, yet I feel proud to pay my tribute to the edifice whose foundation was laid on walls built chiefly by Albert Pike.

"Chiefly by Pike," but there is a Cincinnati Mason to whom the credit of persistent and self-sacrificing devotion to the Scotch Rite is equally due, who bore the Cincinnati Consistory on his shoulders unaided for many years, whose own library of foreign and home authors upon this subject is the best in the world, a Mason whose knowledge is *not* limited to the Scotch Rite, but ranges through the "primality," the Blue Lodge degrees, and who knows as much of all the degrees in use in this country as any one else, a man to whom a long and intimate acquaintance has greatly endeared me—ENOCH T. CARSON.

Bro. Rob Morris, in the Masonic Review.

A meeting of the North London Chapter of Improvement was held on Thursday; Comp. Gregory, who presided, rehearsed the ceremony of exaltation. He was ably supported by Comps. Dean, Hunter, Bird, Knight, George &c. In future the meetings of this Chapter of Improvement will be held at Comp. Meekham's, the Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's Road.

The new Masonic Hall at Woolston, which is being built by Bro. Chapman for the accommodation of the brethren of the Clausentum Lodge, is rapidly approaching completion, and will be consecrated by the Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Right Worshipful Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., in November, on the tenth anniversary of the foundation of the Lodge.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Indisputable Remedies.—In the use of these medicaments there need be no hesitation or doubt of their cooling, healing, and purifying properties. Imagination can scarcely conceive the marvellous facility with which this unguent relieves and heals the most inveterate sores and ulcers, and in cases of bad legs and bad breasts they act like a charm. The Pills are the most effectual remedy ever discovered for the cure of liver and stomach complaints, diseases most disastrous in their effects, deranging all the proper functions of the organs affected, inducing restlessness, melancholy, weariness, inability to sleep, and pain in the side, until the whole system is exhausted. These wonderful Pills, if taken according to the printed directions accompanying each box, strike at the root of the malady, stimulate the stomach and liver into a healthy action, and effect a complete cure.

HOLIDAY HAUNTS.

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THE SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.

KENT is a most charming county, owing to a wonderful diversity of scenery and rich cultivation. It abounds in fruit, vegetables, cereals, and hops, and by some writers it has been designated the "Garden of England." It justly merits the title; besides, it has the additional advantage of a very attractive coast line, with numerous popular and fashionable watering places established thereon. No part of Kent is destitute of beauty, unless we except the shore of the Thames below Greenwich, and a part of the marshes, which make up in the richness of their feeding pasture for any lack of Nature's adornment. The South Eastern Railway goes through some of the most charming parts of the country. Before touching on Kent we may just observe that a branch of the line seems almost to mark the boundary between that county and Surrey. Leaving Charing Cross or Cannon-street, the line diverges at Spa-road, one division going to Deptford, and keeping as nearly as possible to the course of the river as far as Sheerness; the other going to New Cross and Lewisham, where it again divides. One branch takes in the country from Ladywell to Addiscombe-road, Croydon. Spurs also shoot out, taking in such charming spots as Bromley, Bickley, Shortlands, Hayes, West Wickham, and Eden Park. "Eden" is a very proper name for some of the places we have mentioned. From Croydon the line goes south to Redhill, west to Aldershot, and north-west to Reading, with which we have already dealt. What we may term the upper line, takes in Deptford, Greenwich and Woolwich, Abbey Wood, Belvedere, Erith, Dartford, and Gravesend. Between the latter place and Sheerness is Higham, where a branch turns sharp to the right for Strood, and joins the main line at Paddock Wood. At Lee, the next station beyond Lewisham, a loop line connects it with Dartford, passing through Eltham, Sidcup, Bexley and Crayford, all delightful localities. The other branch from Lee goes through Chislehurst, Orpington, Danton Green (a spur-line going to Westerham), Sevenoaks to Tunbridge, a most charming country.

Among the towns and villages we have named there are some worthy of especial notice. Greenwich was once a royal borough, and although its ancient fame is somewhat dimmed, it rejoices in those matchless buildings called the Hospital, which are now alienated from their original purpose, although they still stand in all their pristine grandeur and beauty. Where for nearly two centuries our old sailors ended their days after the shocks of battle and the decay that time and disease bring, now young cadets are housed and educated, and prepared for the naval work of the future. Greenwich Hospital is one of the sights of England, and when the old sea lions were there they invested the building with a romance that was always pleasant and flattering to contemplate. Their yarns were not always true; like artists, fond of broad and striking effects, they laid on the colours thick: their habits were not always of the cleanest, yet there was something characteristic of the sea about the whole place, something which told of England's power on the ocean, and a good deal which showed that those who had won for her renown and power were well cared for by a grateful nation. All that is now changed, in accordance with the utilitarian spirit of the age; still, as we have said, the temple erected for the sons of Neptune remains as a magnificent monument of skill and gratitude. We by no means wish it to be understood that our old sailors are uncared for, but they are scattered far and wide, and no longer represent the past in a body as they did aforetime. Long before the Hospital was built there was a royal palace at Greenwich. Queen Elizabeth was born there, and many a gay gathering has been witnessed on the ground now covered with buildings, and part of which forms Greenwich Park, with the Observatory crowning its summit. The Park is still the rendezvous of the lower classes on holiday occasions, and at other times of visitors and residents, who enjoy its pleasant walks and scenery. The fair, once held on its borders, has vanished, and nobody mourns its departure. On the southern side of Greenwich Park is Blackheath—high, dry, and breezy—once the camping ground of Jack Cade, a rebel who caused much trouble in 1450, and whose character is humorously described by Shakespeare in the fourth Act, scene two, of the second part of Henry VI. The heath is now the resort of those who are fond of a healthy walk, of the few who indulge in the Scotch game of golf, and of the many who delight in cricket and football. Blackheath village lies on the far side of the heath, in a hollow, and presents a lively picture of activity set in a rustic, almost sylvan, frame. Beyond is the growing village of Lee, and further on still is Eltham, with its ruined palace, once the abode of kings, now the haunt of birds. For centuries Eltham Palace was the favoured residence of royalty. Parliaments were held there, princes and princesses were born there, and many a courtly crowd assembled within its walls. Froissart was a frequent guest at Eltham, and he has recorded some of the doings he witnessed. Now, in the words of Shakespeare, "Reproach and beggary is crept into the palace of our king"—reproach, because of decay; and beggary, because of neglect. Even now the ruins are worth visiting, especially by those who are familiar with the historical associations that surround the place, and are fond of traditions and archaeological speculations. Not far from Eltham is Chislehurst Common, one of the most delightful spots in Kent. It is surrounded by noble trees and dotted here and there with villas and mansions. The church is chiefly in the Perpendicular style, and has a lofty spire. It contains some memorials of interest. Sir Francis Walsingham was born at Chislehurst, and here is Camden Place, the residence of that famous antiquary Camden; here also lived and died Napoleon III. Few who saw them will forget the scenes that were witnessed at the entrance to Camden Place when the illustrious exile laid at the very gates of death. Rich and poor clustered round the lodge to learn what they could of the patient's progress, and when at last death came, followed by the funeral obsequies, the sight

was melancholy indeed. The remains of the "Man of December," whose power ceased with the defeat at Sedan, lie not far from the house where he lived, in a secluded spot, now the shrine in which are contained what were the chief hopes of the Bonapartist party. Orpington, Sidcup, the Crays, indeed the whole country round, is most charming. We need hardly dwell upon Gravesend, nor upon Sheerness; both are well known—one as a popular resort and the other as the site of a famous dockyard. Going from Higham southwards the line passes Strood and Maidstone. On the other, and what really is the main line, is Sevenoaks, beautifully situated. Near the town is Knole Park, a most enjoyable spot for a ramble. The mansion stands on high ground and is notable for its immense size and the treasures it contains. The main buildings are said to cover three acres of ground, and their contents include a large collection of pictures by Italian, Venetian, Flemish and Dutch painters, portraits of eminent poets, and other works of art. At the time of the reign of King John there was a mansion in Knole Park, the occupants of which were frequently changed. Thomas Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury between 1454 and 1486, bought the demesne and rebuilt the mansion. A great portion of the structure of that date is still standing. In 1603 it came into the possession of Thomas Sackville, who afterwards became Earl of Dorset, in whose family the property remains. A few miles further on is Tunbridge, an old town, which contains the ruins of a castle and some fragments of a Priory. To the west of Tunbridge is Penshurst, memorable as the home of Sir Philip Sydney, poet, scholar, soldier, and gentleman, in the highest sense of the word. His works are still read and admired, while his character is quoted as a model of what a man and an Englishman should be. One extract we quote from his writings, which is characteristic of the man. He wrote: "Let calamities be the exercise, but not the overthrow of my virtue. Let the power of my enemies prevail, but prevail not to my destruction. Let my greatness be their pretext, my pain be the sweetness of their revenge. Let them, if so it seems good unto Thee, vex me with more and more punishment; but, O Lord, let never their wickedness have such a head but that I may carry a pure mind in a pure body." It is singular, but nevertheless true, that Charles I. repeated these words shortly before his execution. There are many memorials of Sir Philip at Penshurst, but nothing so striking as the incident that occurred at the battle of Zutphen, where he received the wound that ended in death about four weeks afterwards. While lying on the field of war he was offered water to drink; he gently repulsed the kindly hand that held the welcome draught, and begged that it might be given to a soldier whose wants, he said, were greater than his own. Nearly a century later, a descendant of the family met with a very different fate. The contrast between Philip and Algernon Sydney is very great. One was loyal to the reigning monarch, the other assisted in the downfall of Charles I. He was nominated one of the King's judges, but, whatever part he may have taken in the trial, he was not present when judgment was pronounced, nor did he sign the death-warrant. He was a Republican; he fought on the side of Cromwell, but when the war was over, and "Old Noll" was appointed Protector, Sydney retired into private life. He went abroad at the Restoration, came back again and was pardoned. He was, however, suspected of being concerned in the Rye-house Plot, charged before Judge Jeffries, and like many others was illegally sentenced to death. To complete the contrast, we here quote what Bishop Burnet wrote of Algernon Sydney. He says he was "a man of the most extraordinary courage; a steady man even to obstinacy; sincere, but of a rough and boisterous temper, that could not bear contradiction, but would give foul language upon it." Penshurst is a delightful place, the house is built after many styles, and contains a rare store of historical and art treasures. In the same locality is Hever Castle, the home of Anne Boleyn, one of the wives of Henry VIII. and mother of Queen Elizabeth. What memories does the name awaken, what episodes does it recall. The castle itself presents no particular charm, it is the associations that surround its history that make it memorable. The interior contains much of interest in connection with the ill-fated Anne and her family, who attained to the zenith of their fame at her marriage, and sank rapidly into commonplace after her death. Whether she deserved her fate or not, it is not for us to contend. Henry was not the man to stick at trifles where his desires were concerned, and the fact that he put away so many of his wives from him leaves it at least open to suspicion that he himself was not guiltless. Whatever may be the truth with regard to the successor of Katherine, popular feeling went with Anne Boleyn. It is related that the latter's grandfather had an estate in Kent, on which resided a certain innkeeper. He was so indignant at the treatment of his old master's relative that he altered the sign of the house from the "Boleyne Arms" to the "Boleyne Butchered." According to "Historical Reminiscences of the City of London and its Livery Companies," by Thomas Arundell, B.D., Queen Elizabeth took every means to hush up her mother's sorrows and end, and induced the host to amend the sign into the "Bull and Butcher," which henceforth became a popular sign throughout all England.

Returning to Tunbridge, some remains will be found of an ancient castle and a priory. The history of the former is full of military exploits, while of the latter not much is recorded, and what is left of the building supplies very little information. A few miles further on is Tunbridge Wells, noted for its springs and charming scenery. The origin of the town can be traced with absolute precision. Bth has its "Bladud," and the legend connected with his name. Tunbridge Wells owes its origin to Dudley Lord North, who, in 1606, was suffering from great physical exhaustion through dissipation. He was on his way to Eridge House in the neighbourhood, and was struck with the appearance of the water he saw flowing at his feet. He had a portion put into a bottle and submitted to his physicians, who pronounced it good. He drank, and was restored. Being a man of mark the place soon became famous, and continues so until this day. Lord Macaulay has limned Tunbridge Wells as it was originally, and we make no apology for quoting his description. He says:—

"When the court, soon after the Restoration, visited Tunbridge Wells, there was no town; but within a mile of the springs, rustic cottages, somewhat cleaner and neater than ordinary cottages of that time, were scattered over the heath. Some of these cabins were moveable, and were carried on sledges from one part of the common to another. To these huts men of fashion, wearied by the din and smoke of London, sometimes came in the summer to breathe fresh air, and to catch a glimpse of rural life. During the season a kind of fair was held daily near the fountain. The wives and daughters of the Kentish farmers came from the neighbouring villages with cream, cherries, wheatears, and quails. To chaff with them, to flirt with them, to praise their straw hats and tight heels, was a refreshing pastime to voluptuaries, sick of the airs of actresses and maids of honour. Milliners, toymen, and jewellers came down from London and opened a bazaar under the trees. In one booth the politician might find his coffee and the London Gazette; in another were gamblers, playing deep at basset; and on fine evenings the fiddlers were in attendance, and there were morris dances on the elastic turf of the bowling green." A wonderful change has come over the scene since that time, and now Tunbridge Wells, if not honoured with the presence of royalty, is visited by the aristocracy, for whom every provision is made. It is a fashionable town now, with its pump room, shaded streets, and beautiful walks. The common is a favourite resort, and the "grove" just the place to escape from the heat of the sun. Tunbridge Wells is said to be a modern counterpart of what Jerusalem was. Whether the comparison is correct or not, we cannot say, but the groups of houses are named after a surrounding hill, such as Mount Ephraim, Mount Zion, and Mount Pleasant. From some of these hills fine views are obtained. Although "Bladud" is absent, Tunbridge Wells is not without a legend. The water of the springs is powerfully tonic, of a steely taste, owing, it is said, to the devil having cooled his nose in it after St. Dunstan's attack with the hot tongues. Some beautiful walks and drives in the locality add to the charm of the place; there are also many gentlemen's seats round about, and the ruins of Bayham Abbey, linking the past with the present. Continuing on the line southwards, Battle is reached. Here William the Norman met Harold, King of England, and defeated him. The conflict was a bloody one, and the issue one of the most momentous in the history of the country. About a year after the battle William founded an Abbey in commemoration of his victory. The precincts of the Abbey were a mile in circuit, and the buildings were on a magnificent scale. The foundation was liberally endowed, and the exemptions and privileges granted were extraordinary. The Abbey shared the fate of other similar establishments at the time of the Dissolution of Monasteries, but the ruins still left indicate the character of the structure, and mark them as objects of profound interest to the archaeologist. There is a tradition to the effect that the Roll of Battle Abbey was preserved in the crypt of what was believed to be the hall in which the tenants of the Abbey were entertained. The hall has been converted into a barn, but its pointed windows, and the vaulted crypt beneath, with elegant pillars and arches, are sources of attraction. Authorities are divided in opinion about the Roll, some stating that when the Montague family sold Battle Abbey they removed it to Cowdray, of which we have already spoken. When Cowdray House was destroyed by fire, in 1793, it is supposed that the Roll perished in the flames, that is, if it ever existed. Experts may speculate upon doubtful points; the ordinary tourist will find enough to interest him in the ruins of Battle Abbey without following their example. A few miles further on are St. Leonards and Hastings, separately named, but joined together by bricks and mortar. The former may be considered a modern, though beautiful and aristocratic suburb of ancient Hastings. The latter place existed far back in the mists of time, which no new light has yet dispelled. Its known history, however, is sufficiently interesting to attract visitors, to keep them, and to make a repetition of their sojourn desirable. The ruins of the castle, perched hundreds of feet above the sea level, with its associations, alone command attention. In addition, there are the disposition of the houses, the walks, and sea, and country views unsurpassed on the Sussex coast. Almost any climate can be commanded at Hastings, from the warm and relaxing, to the invigorating air of the Yorkshire coast. A judicious selection of residence alone is necessary to satisfy most conditions of human life. Both St. Leonards and Hastings are protected from cold winds by hills behind, while the summits afford splendid views, and the valleys beneath rich varieties of scenery. Who that knows Hastings, has not revelled in Fairlight, with its Glen, Dropping Well, and Lovers' Seat. From the hill just beyond and above it, a sea view commands on either hand Dover Cliffs or Beachy Head, across to Boulogne Heights, and inland as many "as 10 towns, 66 churches, 70 martello towers, 5 ancient castles, 40 windmills, and 3 bays." Both Hastings and St. Leonards are charming in summer, and, according to some authorities, are equal to Torquay as winter residences. They are worthy of the fame they have acquired, as art and enterprise have been added to the charms that nature has so lavishly bestowed. From Hastings the line goes upwards again to Ashford, a spur branching out at Appledore to Lydd, and now being continued to Dungeness.

From Ashford the main line goes on to Westenhanger (where a spur shoots out to Hythe and Sandgate), on to Shorncliffe, Folkestone, and Dover. Hythe is a sleepy little place, although at one time it was an important seaport. The sea has receded, and left the ancient castle and harbour three miles inland. The church stands on high ground, and from its tower a fine view can be obtained of Romney Marsh and the sea. Parts of the structure are Roman; the chancel, which is of rare beauty, is Early English. Underneath is a groined crypt, skilfully designed and constructed. It is of interest to the few, while to the many the enormous collection of blanched skulls, piled up in order and carefully preserved, are objects of wonder. They are said to be over a thousand years old, and to have been collected on the sea shore after some great battle between our ancient ancestors. The avenue of elms leading to the sea is

another sight to be seen. Pretty, quiet little Sandgate, like Hythe, lies below Shorncliffe, a lofty eminence, on which an encampment has existed since the Crimean War. A castle was built at Sandgate by Henry VIII. to which has been added a martello tower. It is a pleasant walk from Folkestone to Sandgate along the Lees and cliffs. Inland, in the distance on the right, are the Sugar-loaf and Castle Hills, below the thriving little watering place, and to the left the open sea. The South Eastern Railway Company have redeemed Folkestone from decay, and have made it one of the pleasantest and most prosperous resorts on the coast. The town is of early date, and before the sea made encroachments it possessed some ancient monuments of piety and war. Little now remains to show of their existence. Tradition gives it that Eadbald, at the request of his pious daughter, Eanswitha, founded the first Nunnery in England, at Folkestone. "The author of New Legends of England," says Lambard, "reporteth many wonders of this woman; and that she lengthened the beams of a building three foute, when the carpenters, missing in their measure had made it so much too short; that she baled and drew water over the hills and rocks against nature from Sweeton, a mile off, to her oratorie at the seaside; that she forbade certaine birdes the country, which before did much harm thereabouts; that she restored the blinde, cast out the devil, and healed innumerable folkes of their infirmities; and therefore, after her death, she was, by the policy of the Popish priestes, and follie of the common people, honoured for a saint." The church stands on the top of a high cliff, at the beginning of a splendid promenade, called the Lees. From this parade the visitors look down upon the harbour and beach, and far out upon the sea, even to the coast of France, to which there is a capital service of boats. The excursions to Boulogne are an attractive feature during the season, and make a pleasant change in the ordinary routine of seaside jaunts. The trains run down to the pier to put down and take up passengers to and from the Continent, and, judging from the progress made in a few years, the traffic between Folkestone and France will be a big thing ere long. The ways into the old town are steep and rugged, the streets are not attractive, but the country around is beautiful. The walk along the cliff to Dover is one of the pleasures of the place. On the way is what used to be called the "Warren," a charming bit of miniature Swiss scenery. The railway to Dover passes through it, and unfortunately landslips mar its beauty; still it used to be a wonderfully pretty spot, abounding in surprises at every turn, and presenting a different picture at every step. The difficulties of making the line to Folkestone were immense, and one of the triumphs of engineering skill is the viaduct upon entering the town. It has a very light, even elegant appearance, and when a train is passing one wonders how so airy a structure can bear the weight and resist the vibration. There are many hills round about, and in the valleys are delightful bits of scenery. Churches stand out here and there, hoary with age and full of charm for the student. At Swingfield Minnis, about four miles off, there are the remains of a Preceptory of the Knights of St. John, which formerly belonged to a Commandery of the Knights Templars. The air of Folkestone is salubrious and the bathing good. We have already spoken of Dover, Walmer, Deal, Ramsgate, and Margate, but Sandwich has been omitted. It is an ancient town, and was once one of the wealthiest parts of England. It cannot be called pretty, and yet there is a quaintness about the town which interests visitors.

On the line returning to Ashford is Minster, a little village full of legends. With a brief reference to this much-frequented spot we shall close this paper. Minster Abbey, as it is called, stands on the site of a Saxon foundation, which owed its origin to a curious expiation of a murder committed by one Thunor. A certain Princess, named Domneva, daughter of the eldest son of Eadbald, and wife to Merwodd, the son of Penda, King of Mercia, refused some presents offered to her, in consequence of the crime that had been committed, and with the sufferers in whom she was interested. Instead of the presents she asked the King to grant her as much land as her lame deer "could run over at one course." The "course" resulted in the acquirement of about ten thousand acres, and was the origin of the Abbey. This lady took the vow of chastity after she had borne her husband three children, and afterwards performed some extraordinary miracles. She was known by the name of St. Mildred, and forty years after her death her body was so pure and incorrupt that "she seemed more like a lady in her bed than one resting in her sepulchre or grave." We cannot follow all the monkish stories that are told in connection with Minster Abbey; they are nevertheless characteristic of the times in which they are said to have occurred; but tourists ought not to miss seeing it and the memorials it contains.

At a meeting of the New Forest Lodge, No. 319, held at Lymington, on the 11th inst., a P.M.'s jewel was presented to the Immediate Past Master, Bro. Horton (of Southampton, and formerly of Portsmouth), as a mark of the brethren's high appreciation of his able services throughout the past year.

Madame Franziska Ellmenreich, an eminent German actress, of whose talent report speaks in the highest terms, will make her *debut* on the English stage at the Gaiety Theatre, at a Special Matinée, on Wednesday, the 26th inst. Madame Ellmenreich is said to have a wonderful command of the English tongue, and has already played in our language in the United States, with the greatest possible success, in such roles as Camille, Marie Stuart, Adrienne Lecouvreur, &c. The American critics write of her as "a great actress, majestic and powerful, and at the same time subtle in portraying the most delicate shades of human passion."

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THOUGHTS ON THE NEW HISTORY.

BY BRO. JACOB NORTON.

I MAILED three articles under the above heading: the second and third were published, and the first did not probably reach its destination. I hesitated for some time whether to rewrite it or not, but I find, like the Bourbons, our *high degrees* "never learn anything, and never forget anything;" that they still hanker after a Masonic "*history of events which have never happened.*" Thus, our Boston Bro. Charles L. Woodbury has recently published an article in the *Voice of Masonry* which is on a par with his oration on Egyptian Masonry which was reprinted three years ago in this journal. And the FREEMASON of 11th August opens with a leader on Masonic archaeology, in which the author begs, prays and hopes for a history of Freemasonry which will conglomerate "the mysteries, the secret societies, the Roman Collegia, the building corporations, the monastic fraternities, the mediæval guilds, the compagne, the operative Lodges, the knightly orders, and the Hermetic association." I suppose the "secret societies" meant the Fehmgerichte, the Assassins, the Jesuits, &c. The writer says, "Neither can we safely forget * * * the fact of contemporary Hermeticians * * * of which even Ashmole was certainly a member in some form;" and because Ashmole was a member in "*some form*," though no one knows *what form*, therefore Ashmole might have Hermetised Freemasonry. What curious reasoning! Briefly then, I venture to assert, that if such a Masonic history appeared it would deservedly be called the *hotch potch* history of Masonry. I therefore determined to reconstruct the lost article.

Ever since the 1723 Constitutions appeared, a succession of Masonic scholars (their name is legion) continued to assert that either Freemasonry descended from the ancient mysteries, or the mysteries descended from Masonry. And after their peculiar fashion they demonstrated that every old sect—Pagan, Jewish, or Christian, who possessed a secret, were brothers of the Masonic Fraternity. And an awfully learned Boston brother came to the conclusion that because somebody said that the early Christians had a secret, therefore, not only were the two saints John Masons, but *all* the apostles were also Masons; and he had no doubt that the apostles shifted the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday inside of a tyled Masonic Lodge.

It is curious that while some of our Masonic writers can reason like philosophers on some subjects, yet no sooner do they take the pen in hand to write on Masonry, when all reason and commonsense seems to forsake them. I could name a score of them, but I shall here refer only to two Masonic scholars. First, Bro. Woodbury, above referred to, who is not only a scholar and a distinguished lawyer, but he is the best read man I know of among our American Masons. But whatever he has written about Masonic history is nothing but imagination and assertion. And second, Bro. Simon Greenleaf, Past Grand Master of Maine, Professor of Law in the Harvard College, and author of "Law of Evidence," considered a standard work, not only in America but also in England. In a note on page 2 of Bro. Gould's History, the reader will find "Law of Evidence" referred to with approbation. Lawyers who have received instruction from Bro. Greenleaf, in College, speak in the highest terms of his reasoning powers. But in 1820, Bro. Greenleaf published a Masonic book; and if the reader has access to the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE of 20th of January, and will read an article headed "Crazy and Partizan Masonic Writers," he will see that Bro. Greenleaf's reasoning on Masonry was no reasoning at all.

I have read all the authors who wrote about the ancient mysteries, wherever I could lay hands on their books, including Clemense of Alexandria, and I repeatedly urged our Masonic scholars for information as to where I could find the alleged connection between Masonry and the ancient mysteries, without receiving a satisfactory answer. The truth is, Pagan writers who refer to the mysteries keep the secrets to themselves, and the early Christian writers, like our high degree lecturers, merely guessed and asserted without knowing anything about the mysteries. I have repeatedly protested against the writings of our Masonic luminaries; but what chance has one who is not classically educated when coping with a D.D., an M.D., an LL.D., or some other kind of a learned Masonic *tweedledee*? In answer to a commonsense argument the deluded believers exclaim:—"Have you examined the whole range of classical literature? and don't our Doctors know more than you do about ancient history?" In short, the mass of the Brotherhood who have taken the high degrees stick to their belief, because their Doctors say it is so. At last our Bro. Gould, in whom is fortunately combined great patience, scholarship, and common sense, and I have no doubt that he made a more thorough examination of the literature which treats of the ancient mysteries than all the Masonic high degree Doctors did together. Well, Bro. Gould says, "As to the real object of the mysteries nothing is certain." And again, "Of the instruction communicated in the inner mysteries no record whatever has come down to us." We see, now, that our awfully learned connectors of Freemasonry with the ancient mysteries have, for the last hundred and sixty years, *made much ado about nothing*.

Bro. Gould devoted fifty-six quarto pages of his history to the *ancient mysteries*; and besides the authorities referred to in the work itself, the two hundred and sixty-eight foot-notes will refer the reader to more authorities. I think Bro. Gould has proved himself a marvel of patience and industry. If, however, our brethren of the so-called high degrees think that Bro. Gould was unjust to their claims, then let them write a history of Freemasonry to their heart's content, or let them point out wherein Bro. Gould wrongs them, and not continue, by their wild assertions and innuendoes, to hold out false hopes to their deluded dupes that the legends invented by Masonic quacks in the last century for manufacturing high degrees were based on historic facts.

In the second Chapter Bro. Gould treats on the "Old Charges." In the last paper I discussed the ages of the two oldest MSS., but

finding, since then, that Bro. Gould treats upon that subject in the next volume, I shall leave that to a future consideration. That these old MSS. were a subject of interest to me for many years I beg to refer the reader to the FREEMASON, vol. iv. pp 378-9, of 17th June 1871, wherein I pointed out that these Old Charges were the *bond fide* rituals of the pre-1717 Masons; and on page 217 of the same volume I called attention to extracts made by Mr. Thomas Riley, from the old City of London Records, showing that, up to the year 1356 the London Masons had no code of laws whatever, and consequently there could have been no Masonic organisation up to that year; but, on the 2nd February 1356, in order to put a stop to fights and quarrels between the operative masons, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs summoned twelve of the most skillful masons for consultation, who agreed to promulgate some eight or ten regulations for the government of the London Masons. Now, if the Masons of the English metropolis had no code of laws before 1356, it is highly improbable for the Masons in the provincial towns to have had any such a code; and unless positive proof is adduced to show the existence of a Masonic organisation at an earlier period we may assume that no Masonic brotherhood existed in England in 1356.

In 1360, the Statutes indicated the existence of Masonic and Carpenteric secret societies: for the Statute says—"That all alliances and covins of masons and carpenters, and congregations, chapters, ordinances, and oaths betwixt them made, or to be made, shall be from henceforth void and wholly annulled." Whether these secret congregations were confined to London, and what kind of ordinances these societies had, I know not. The series of Masonic MSS. described by Bro. Gould in the second chapter are, however, valuable to the Masonic student for several reasons. For, first, they disabuse our mind from the notions promulgated by the late Dr. Mackey and other awfully learned Masonic scholars, that "our ancient brethren were philosophers;" for the legends in those MSS. prove conclusively that our ancient brethren were a simple-minded and credulous set. True, they talked about the "seven sciences, but the mere verbiage did not make them philosophers. And, second, those MSS. prove the continuity of the Masonic organisation in England for a period of near five hundred years.

The oldest MS. is the poem, or the "Halliwell Constitution." It is probable that the original code was written in prose, and a priest who was attached to the fraternity made it into rhyme, adding thereto three legends—the seven sciences, Noah's flood, the building of the tower of Babylon by Nabogodonzor seven miles high, so that in case of another flood, the people might ascend to the upper storey, which was above the high flood mark; and he also added a genuine Roman Catholic sermon, enjoining the brethren to be shrived, to cross themselves, &c. Now, with regard to monkish legends, we all know that monks in those days were great inventors of *cock and bull* stories, and these stories they invariably ascribed either to an unknown old "boke," or to tradition. Hence, when these stories cannot be traced by our antiquaries, either to a *boke* or to an old tradition, it is safe to credit the said monks as the inventors of that story or stories. Now our poet begins his first story about how Euclid founded a Masonic fraternity in Egypt thus:

"Whose wol bothe wel rede and loke,
He may fynde wryte yn olde boke."

And his second story about the origin of the Masonic Craft in England he introduces thus:

"Thys craft com ynto Englonde, as y so say,
Yn tyme of good Kynge Adelstonus day."

The third story is about the four holy martyrs. This story he refers to a book called "the legent of scanctorum, the names of quator coronotorum." The conclusion I therefore come to is, that the two first stories were manufactured by his Reverence; and the third he copied from some old book of Christian martyrs, which was probably invented by an earlier monkish writer.

The second MS. is known as the "Matthew Cooke MS." It seems, at the first glance of the two oldest MSS., that the author of No 2 had a copy of the poem before him, and would have written his book also in poetry, but, being unable to rhyme, he therefore did the next best thing he could by writing his lines in irregular lengths; and made it look like "blank verse." But, be that as it may, the author copied from the poem the Euclid and Athelstan Legends, the Seven Sciences, and took advantage of the hints given in the poem about Noah's Flood, the Tower of Babel, &c., by introducing Biblical personages into the Masonic brotherhood of whom the poet never dreamt:—thus we have in this MS. Lamach, Jabal, Jubal, Tubal, Enoch, Abraham. The MS. says, that the sciences were engraved by the antediluvians, Bros. Enoch and Co., on two stones. One of these stones could not burn, and the other could not sink; that many years after the Flood one of these stones was discovered by Bro. Pythagoras, and the other by Bro. Hermes. The fashion of giving Charges to Masons began with Bro. Nimrod, when he sent a company of Masons to Bro. Asur. When Bro. Solomon was in Egypt he taught Euclid the seven sciences, and the Euclid legend shows that Euclid was the founder of Egyptian Masonry. The Jews having learned Masonry in Egypt, David was therefore a Mason, and so was Abraham. Each of these distinguished brethren gave Charges to the Masons. The MS. also alludes to Solomon's "Master Mason" as having been the son of the King of Tyre. All these *histories* the author supports from authorities of some unknown old Chronicles. Next comes the legend that Charles Martel was a Bro. Mason, next Bro. St. Alban is introduced, next comes Bro. Athelstan and his son Edwin, all of whom loved Masons well and gave them Charges; and last, most strangely, the story of Euclid is repeated, only the name is changed into Englet.

Bro. Gould describes and compares forty-nine old Masonic MSS. One of the same class of MSS. has, since the publication of the new history, been discovered by Bro. Sillitoe, of Manchester. These MSS., all in all, may be compared to a family that we know; that the Halliwell poem is the great grandfather of the family, the Matthew Cooke

MS. stands next in order as No. 2, and the forty-eight remaining MSS., which Bro. Hughan called "The Old Charges," are the progeny of the Cooke MS. In what order the "Old Charges" stand to each other is immaterial, for it is certain that they were written at different times, and for different Lodges in various parts of England, and even for one or more Scotch Lodges; in short, the Cooke MS. contains some legends borrowed from the poem and the Old Charges, though with some variations and improvements, reproduced all the legends given by the author of the Matthew Cooke MS., hence the legends in the succession of the said Masonic MSS. prove the existence of a Masonic fraternity at the time when the Halliwell poem was written. As to the question of the age of the poem there is some difference of opinion, but anyhow they differ only in about forty years. One dates its age to 1390, and another, dates it 1427 or a little later. And if we further take into consideration the succession of Masonic laws:—thus, the laws enacted by the Mayor, Aldermen, &c., in 1356, were absorbed as it were, and form part of the Halliwell Constitution, and the thirty laws of the Halliwell Constitution form more or less the backbone of the Constitutions given in the Old Charges, and add thereto the Statute of 1360, above quoted,—these, altogether, furnish a chain of evidence of the continuous existence of a Masonic organisation for about five hundred years.

I said, that the 17th century MSS. were copied from the Cooke MS., with "variations and improvements." I will just point out some of these improvements. Thus, the two oldest MSS. give a full account of the Athelstan assembly, but neither location nor date is mentioned, but the oldest writer of the 17th century discovered that the assembly was held in York, and of course the succeeding writers copied it. Dr. James Anderson discovered, in 1723, that the Athelstan assembly met "about A.D. 930." But in 1738 our learned author fixed the exact year, viz., 926. Similar discoveries are abundant about the other legends. I must, however, call attention to one legend in particular, viz., the author of the Cooke MS. merely says, "And the King's son of Tyre was his [Solomon's] master mason." And that is all he says about the King of Tyre and Solomon's master mason. The writer of the 17th century—"Old Charges"—discovered that the King's son of Tyre, who was Solomon's master mason, was named "Aynon." The remainder of the Old Charges repeat the name, though variously spelled. In 1723, Doctor Anderson discovered that Hiram Abif was Solomon's master mason. In 1738 a copy of the Old Charges was printed (evidently from the one engraved by Pine in 1729) in which, besides copying from Anderson the name of Hiram Abif, the writer added a discovery of his own, viz., that Hiram Abif's father was "Urias the Israelite;" and in 1819 an American Masonic luminary discovered the model of the monument which King Solomon erected to the memory of Hiram Abif.

I am, however, puzzled, first, as to whether Hiram Abif belonged to the tribe of Naphtali, or to that of Dan? For the Books of Kings and of Chronicles differ about it. And second, the Bible does not say that Hiram Abif was the builder of Solomon's Temple at all. I am, however, just now too tired to speculate about it, and must, therefore, let the Hiram Abif puzzles be solved by the coming Masonic historian of the near future who, in his history, based on "Masonic Archaeology," will doubtless solve all Masonic riddles.

Boston, 4th September 1 83.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WILTSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of this Grand Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Salisbury, on Friday, the 7th inst., under the presidency of the P.G. Supt. the Right Hon. Lord H. F. Thynne, the chairs of H. and J. being occupied by Companions Stokes and Wyndham respectively, the former, owing to the unavoidable absence of the P.G.H. Companion King, the latter owing to the vacancy caused by the death of Companion S. Gauntlett, who was appointed to that office at the previous P.G. Chapter, and whose loss to the Province was alluded to in feeling terms by the P.G. Superintendent.

There was no special business before the Provincial Grand Chapter, and the usual routine was quickly disposed of, the following being the appointments of the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

Comps. W. Nott 632	-	-	-	P.G.H.
J. Sparks 632	-	-	-	P.G.J.
H. C. Tombs 355 P.P.G.H. (reappointed)	-	-	-	P.G.S.E.
W. C. Powning 586 and 1478	-	-	-	P.G.S.N.
W. Nott 632 (re-elected)	-	-	-	P.G. Treas.
W. Tasker 586 and 1478	-	-	-	P.G.P. Soj.
E. Eyres 355	-	-	-	P.G. Reg.
T. Ringer, M.D., 355	-	-	-	P.G.S.B.
J. Chandler 355 P.P.G.H. (re-appointed)	-	-	-	P.G.D.C.
C. S. Mackrell 1478	-	-	-	P.G. Org.
J. Savory 355 (re-elected)	-	-	-	P.G. Janitor

After the Chapter was closed the Companions dined together at the Red Lion Hotel.

The Fermor-Hesketh Lodge, No. 1350, Liverpool, held its installation meeting on the 10th inst., when Brother Henry B. Brown was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year.

Obituary.

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THE LATE BRO. DR. F. H. WILSON ILES.

ALTHOUGH equality is one of the cardinal points in the economy of Freemasonry, there are some who stand out conspicuously as being worthy of special honour. Even in life such brethren are marked out for preferment, but it is only when death comes that the rare virtues of some are really appreciated. 'Twas at the witching hour of night on Tuesday that Brother Dr. F. H. Wilson Iles, Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire, passed from life to death; we hope to a new life that shall be immortal. Bro. Iles was a devoted Mason, a laborious worker, and a generous supporter of every good movement. From our knowledge of the Province, gained by actual experience, we can say that Herts has lost a noble representative, and the Order generally a bright and shining light. The Province has stood high in the list of contributors to the Masonic Charities, owing in a great measure to Bro. Iles' indefatigable and unselfish efforts. Masonry to him was a labour of love, its lessons a gospel, and their practice a duty. How well he realised his obligations and sought to honour them, let those testify who were intimately associated with him. We knew him, and respected him for his devotion; we mourn his loss with those who, perhaps, have a still deeper sense of how great that loss is than we have. At the time of his death Bro. Iles was Master of the Clarendon Lodge, No. 1984, into which office he was installed by the Provincial Grand Master of Hertfordshire, Brother Halsey, M.P., in December last. He was an able worker, and the mode in which he invested his Officers on the occasion of his installation afforded intense pleasure to those who were privileged to hear him. The Lodges in the Province will go into mourning in memory of Bro. Iles, and it is to be hoped that the deeds he did in the flesh will long be remembered as mementoes of a noble soul. We learn that our deceased brother had the misfortune to scratch one of his fingers while performing a surgical operation. He paid no attention to what appeared to be a very simple matter, and unfortunately blood poisoning set in, which terminated in death as stated above. We may add that Brother Iles was initiated in the Watford Lodge, No. 404, at Watford, in 1859; in 1866 he filled the post of W.M. of his Mother Lodge, and afterwards became its Treasurer, an office he held until his death. In 1874, on the installation of Brother T. F. Halsey, M.P., as Provincial Grand Master of Hertfordshire, Brother Iles was appointed Prov. Grand Secretary. He subsequently, upon the resignation of Brother Sedgwick, in 1879, was selected to fill the office of Deputy Grand Master of the Province. We have already mentioned his connection with the Clarendon Lodge, and other instances of duty done in behalf of Craft Masonry might be mentioned. He was a member of the Royal Arch and Mark degrees. He was exalted in May 1861 in the Watford Chapter, No. 404, and was First Principal in 1868 and 1873. He was also a Past Grand H., Treasurer of his Chapter, and in February 1875 he consecrated the Gladsmuir Chapter, No. 1385, Barnet, of which he was elected an honorary member. Brother Iles was S.W. and Treasurer of the Watford Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 241, a P.E.C. and Treasurer of the Stuart Encampment of Knights Templar, Watford, a P.A.G.D.C. of the Great Priory of England. He was not less conspicuous in charitable movements in connection with the Order. Brother Iles was a Life Governor of the Royal Masonic Boys' School, and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and had served the office of Steward to both Charities. He was also a Life Subscriber of the Girls School, for which he intended to act as Steward at the next Festival. Such a record is rarely reached, and the loss of Brother Iles can only be approximately measured by taking into account the various movements with which he was so intimately associated. The funeral will take place to-day (Saturday) at Watford Cemetery, at 3.30 p.m.

The ceremony of installation of W.M. will be rehearsed by Bro. James Stevens, P.M. of The Great City Lodge, in the United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, No. 507, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 28th inst., at 7.30. The members of the Lodge of Instruction will be pleased to welcome visitors on this occasion.

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TARIFF on APPLICATION to Bro. A. BEGBIE.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.**PREPARATORY SCHOOL SPECIAL BUILDING FUND.****SPECIAL PRIVILEGES.**

In connection with such Special Fund, attainable until 31st December 1883.

Any present Life Governor of the General Fund, or any Donor who may qualify as such up to the date named above, will receive—

TWO VOTES,—instead of One Vote, for LIFE, FOR EVERY FIVE GUINEAS contributed to the "SPECIAL FUND."

Lodges, Chapters, &c., similarly qualified may secure Two Votes instead of One Vote—for every Ten Guineas contributed to the "SPECIAL FUND."

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

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

Lymington Villa, Clapham, S.W.
July 1883.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am personally interested in the undermentioned case, the applicant being related to me. The sad circumstances under which the application is made are such as to justify the most strenuous exertions on the part of those who can sympathise with misfortune, and desire to mitigate unmerited distress.

If you will help me at the ensuing Election, I shall be very greatly obliged to you. The promise of your proxies and of your interest in support of this case will be highly esteemed and remembered should occasion arise.

Yours very truly and fraternally,

JAMES STEVENS P.M. P.Z.

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.**OCTOBER ELECTION, 1883.**

The favour of your Vote and Interest is respectfully and earnestly solicited on behalf of

KATHLEEN ALICE GIBSON,

AGED 8 YEARS

Daughter of Brother CHARLES GEORGE GIBSON P.M. 223, 189 (now in Australia), who from unfortunate circumstance is unable to contribute anything towards the maintenance of his Wife and Six Children.

The case is strongly recommended by

- W. Bro. Isaac Latimer, J.P., P.M. 189 P.P.G.S.W. Devon.
 W. Bro. William Derry P.M. 156 P.G.J.W. Devon.
 W. Bro. J. Edward Curteis P.M. 70, 189 P.P.G.S.W. Devon, V. Pat. R.M.I.B. V.P. R.M.B.I.
 W. Bro. A. McPherson Walls P.G. Std., Vice-Pres.—Lloyds.
 *W. Bro. E. F. Storr P.M. 22, 1679, P.Z. 1044, Z. 192, Mayday Villas, Bartholomew Road, Kentish Town, N.W.
 W. Bro. E. C. Mather P.M. 23, 71 Fleet Street.
 *W. Bro. J. Farmaner P.M. 28, 485, 8 Coleman Street, E.C.
 *W. Bro. J. Hainsworth P.M. 28, 8 Coleman Street, E.C.
 W. Bro. T. J. Thomas P.M. 28, 139 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
 W. Bro. T. Grove P.M. 1769, 173 Bishopsgate Street, E.C.
 *W. Bro. Thomas Fairweather P.S.W. 22, 15 Watling Street, E.C.
 W. Bro. James Stevens P.M. 720, 1216, 1426, P.Z., &c., Clapham, S.W.

Proxies will be thankfully received by those marked thus (*); also by the Mother, Mrs. C. G. Gibson, 14 Endsleigh Place, Plymouth.

VOTES AND INTEREST ARE SOLICITED FOR
MRS. JANE TRIBE, aged 63,

WIDOW of Brother George Henry Tribe, who was initiated 1858 in No. 604, Lyttelton, New Zealand; joined No. 609, Christchurch, New Zealand; was first Worshipful Master of No. 1241, Ross, New Zealand; subsequently District Grand Chaplain Westland; and District Grand Treasurer North Island, New Zealand.

Votes thankfully received by

Mr. C. BECKINGHAM, 415 Strand; or by
Bro. C. J. PERCEVAL (V.P.), 8 Thurlow Place, S.W.**FIRST AND LAST APPLICATION.**To the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal
Masonic Institution for Girls.

YOUR VOTES AND INTEREST are earnestly solicited on behalf of AMY MARGARET LEE, daughter of the late Bro. THOMAS VINCENT LEE, of the Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13.

MARGARET J. LEE, Bull and Last, Highgate Road, N.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**AUTUMN EXCURSIONS.**

(Last of the Season).

Meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce at Derby, 2nd and 3rd October.

Baptist Union Meeting at Leicester, 1st and 4th October.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS will be run FROM LONDON as under:—

From	Friday night, 28th Sept.	Saturday, 29th September.	
		A a.m.	B a.m.
Euston Station	12 1	8 50	10 50
Broad Street	p.m. 10 55	8 20	10 25
Kensington (Addison Road) ...	11 38	8 47	10 50
Victoria (L. B. & S. C. Ry.) ...	10 14	8 25	10 20

A For Carlisle, Windermere, Kendal, Barrow, Whitehaven, Grange, Cockermouth, Morecambe, Lancaster, Carnforth, and the English Lake District. For 3 or 6 days.

B For Liverpool, Manchester, Warrington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Blackpool, Preston, Blackburn, Wigan, Bolton, Birkhead, Carnarvon, Bangor, Blaenau Festiniog, Holyhead, Rhyl, Denbigh, Corwen, Chester, Crewe, Nantwich, Hereford, Leominster, Ludlow, Craven Arms, Llanidloes, Macclesfield, Stoke, Stoke, Montgomery, Newtown, Oswestry, Welshpool, Minsterley, Shrewsbury, Wellington, Newport (Salop), Stafford, Stockport, Oldham, Ashton, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Buxton, Nottingham, Derby, Buxton, Tamworth, Leicester, Nuneaton, Kenilworth, Leamington, Coventry, Walsall, Stour Valley, and South Staffordshire Stations. For 3 or 6 days.

C For Coalville East, Whitwick, and Loughboro'. For 3 and 6 days.

For Fares and full particulars as to times of return, see Bills, which can be obtained at any of the Railway Stations, the various Parcels Receiving Offices, and at Gaze's Tourist Office, 142 Strand.

G. FINDLAY, General Manager.

Euston Station, September 1883.

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(EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL)

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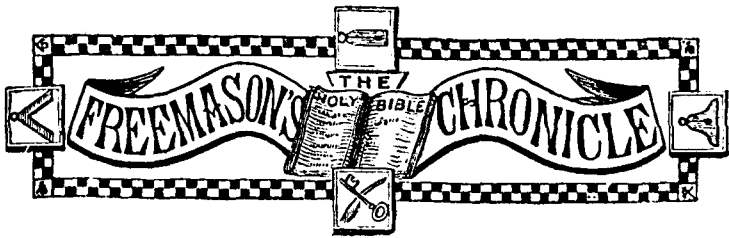
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RANDOM NOTES AND REFLECTIONS.

TWO questions of the first importance are now before the Craft, and until they are finally settled there will be need of much patience and forbearance. Whatever may be the opinion of the Provinces generally, among a considerable and influential section of them strong views are held on the subject of the status of Past Masters. The brethren who carried the resolution of the 8th August did not journey up to London at the bidding of mere sentiment; a goodly number of them did not put in an appearance a second time at the Quarterly Communication in September merely to seal that sentiment. The conviction in their minds at least, was strong and fervent, and it will require something more than forcible language, or chaff and banter to move them from the position they have taken up. Among the brethren in London, who may be termed the Conservatives of the Order, there is a disposition to let matters remain as they were before the question was raised upon the revision of the rules. But this position seems almost impossible. Many anomalies have been brought to light during the discussion of the subject which it would be well to prevent in the future. If these anomalies can be swept away without making a radical change in old practice, so much the better. We believe in reward following work, and that reward should come from the body for whom the work was done. The influence of such examples is great because the motive is palpable. It is scarcely less effective when honour is voluntarily conferred upon a joining Past Master. The whole of the members of the Lodge are participators in the act, and willingly give what they can on the ground of merit alone. To make it imperative on a Past Master joining a new Lodge that he shall take rank as if he had earned the office in the Lodge is to narrow the test of worth to his admission. It is placing law above choice; it lessens the powers of a Lodge, and therefore is likely to provoke hostilities.

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There is something in the argument that a Master's work is not only done for the Lodge to which he belongs, but for the whole Craft. That is so in the sense that it gives him a common footing in Grand Lodge. It also shows that although there are divergences in work, the result is the same. The comparison ceases here and individuality asserts itself, without which Masonry would not be the grand institution it is. It is universal in principle, it should also be universal in practice. It is undoubtedly local in working. Each centre, like the father of a family, has its children, who in turn grow up to be fathers. However widely they may be scattered, there is still the head, the principal, to whom honour and homage are given. A man may attain to the highest point of national fame, and his name may become the property of the country, yet he still retains his individuality as the member of the family to which he belongs.

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Other conditions being satisfied, there is no reason why a joining Past Master should not retain all the privileges that his office brings outside of his own home. It cannot, on the other hand, be fairly contended that he should claim the special advantages which pertain to his own abode, except they are willingly yielded by those who have received him among them. We do not think that the right of rank is inherent in the office of Past Masters, and that it ought not to be so created by law. What is inherent is already recognised by Grand Lodge, and the only question to be settled is, that the brother who leaves his mother Lodge should not sacrifice the privileges he has gained in the Craft as a concrete body when he joins another Lodge. If these are assured to him, his local rank may very properly be left to those who elect him.

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No fundamental law need be altered to effect the change

which has been indicated. There is no necessity for any rude disturbance of old landmarks. A joining Past Master would know that merit alone would entitle him to secure the coveted position, and the local Lodges would be free agents.

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Not less likely to cause diversity of opinion is the subject of the re-building of the Temple. Some brethren are impatient at the delay that has already taken place, and would hurry on to a decision; others, again, see in postponement the opportunity for perfecting a really good scheme. It is evident that the plan proposed by the Special Building Committee has frightened a great many of the members, who see no finality in the estimates, and who are in doubt as to the prudence of spending so much money with the prospect of a small return. We confess that this feature has struck us with considerable force. Taking the plan now before the Craft, it appears as if the chief consideration had been paid to the gastronomic arrangements. It is true that it is proposed to take in the present banqueting hall, and with the site of the late temple make one great building of the two. The contemplated outlay is great—the absolute expenditure would be enormous. Before brethren make up their minds it would be as well to consider what property could be obtained west of the existing building. At present the outward appearance of Freemasons' Hall is not uniform, is, in fact, lop-sided. The acquisition of a few houses and their conversion into a wing would complete the outside character of the structure. Of course, the question of outlay should be considered as well as appearance, but there would be the advantage of possessing property that would cover all probable necessities for centuries to come.

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The osoteric part of the scheme requires more consideration than it has received. Now is the time to see whether a museum and library, worthy of the Order, cannot be founded, whether other necessary accommodation could not be provided, so that the Freemasons' Hall of the future should be the complete home of the brethren, where they could not only participate in the celebration of the rites of the Craft, with all the accessories that art and wealth could purchase, and where they could have the inner wants supplied after the most comfortable and improved fashion, but also where those who love the archæology of Freemasonry could sip lightly of reference books, or drink deeply of the rich stores of learning that can be gathered together. Man is a composite being, and all his faculties require attention. It appears to us imperative, therefore, that not only the building scheme, but also the completion of other arrangements should engage the consideration of the brethren. A grand opportunity has been created by misfortune, we ought to make the best of it, and in no way could this spirit be better exemplified than in founding a library and museum that for ages to come should testify of the brethren of the present that they were not wholly given up to the letter of the Craft, but partook also of its spirit.

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It is a mistake to suppose that Past Masters have no seats in Grand Lodges in the United States. At present we believe, with one exception, they have that privilege, but as the membership grows it will become a question of the near future whether the right to attend Grand Lodge should not be limited to the officers of the Lodges within the jurisdiction of the authority under which they live.

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Amusing incidents occasionally occur in Lodges. There is one recorded in the *Rough Ashlar* (South Australia). It appears that the Worshipful Master of a certain Lodge appointed two lawyers to two conspicuous offices. Addressing them with regard to their particular duties, he said: "If unfortunately a dispute should arise between any of the brethren, it will be your duty to endeavour to heal the breach, and to hold out to them the olive branch of peace." Professional instinct would lead these officers to disregard this advice; their obligations teach them quite another lesson. Just as they realise the spirit of duty, will be their action. If they are true to principle, their practice will be virtuous, however strongly their professional sympathies might incline them.

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How or by what means a rumour got abroad that the number of vacancies in the Boys' and Girls' Schools was

to be increased does not appear. That such a rumour was afloat we have been well assured. It turns out that the generous wish was father to the thought. Notwithstanding the economy of management and the liberality of donors, it is not at present deemed advisable to increase the number of inmates in either establishment. No one would wantonly excite hopes that cannot be realised, nor would any one, with a due sense of responsibility, give weight to mere speculations. Yet this has been done in the cases we have named, much to the annoyance of those who have taken up cases, and to the disappointment of the candidates themselves, who saw hope in the large number of vacancies. We cannot learn that there was any real ground for this hope, and we cannot protest too strongly against a practice that, however well meant, recoils with painful effect upon those who yearn for the help which both Institutions so well afford, but whose capacities are limited. We should rejoice if any additions could be made to the list of vacancies, but we should hesitate about giving currency to a rumour that only inflicts pain by raising false hopes. We are not necessarily inclined to accept the present state of things as final, nor are we inclined to let the Governors of the two Institutions now under consideration have matters all their own way. We yield to them all the credit that is their due, and we respect their opinion; but there is a time when they require a push forward. That period has not yet arrived; and before any further announcement is made, relative to the probable number of candidates, it would be more prudent as well as kinder to wait for the official decision.

MASONIC CLUB IN ADELAIDE (SOUTH AUSTRALIA).

It is announced that a scheme is on foot to build a Masonic club on the land adjoining the Masonic Hall, Flinders street. The plans, which are elaborate, were recently submitted to the trustees, and approved, except as to some minor details. If carried out, the club will make a handsome addition to the city.

The Lodge of Benevolence held its monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday; Bro. Joshua Nunn occupied the President's chair, while Bros. James Brett and Charles Atkins occupied their chairs as Senior and Junior Vice Presidents. Bro. Nunn stated that several letters had been received since the August meeting from petitioners then relieved, thanking the brethren for the grants they had made. The new list of petitioners was perhaps the smallest known for years, there being only twelve names on it. The cases were carefully gone into, and a total sum of £370 was awarded. In one case a large grant was made, but the total amount will stand out as among the least the Lodge has voted in modern times at one meeting. There was a large attendance.

Many of our subscribers, both at home and abroad, will readily note that our esteemed Bro. W. J. Hughan has changed his address. Bro. Hughan has a very large number of correspondents, and he has the credit of invariably replying promptly to any communication that may be sent him. In order to facilitate this, our readers should in future address him at Grosvenor House, Warren-road, Torquay. We sincerely trust this change of locality may have a beneficial effect upon the health of our learned and enthusiastic brother.

A meeting of the Grand Master's Council, No. 1, of Royal and Select Masters of England, &c. (Bro. Thos. Charles Walls R.P.G. Ill. M., Thrice Ill. M.), will be held at the Masonic Hall, 8A Red Lion-square, on Thursday next, at 5.30 p.m. The names of a large number of brethren appear on the agenda as candidates for admission into the Rite.

The Annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of Berks and Oxon will be held at Reading, under the banner of the Leopold Lodge, No. 235, on the 9th prox., by command of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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YARBOROUGH LODGE, No. 811.

THE installation meeting of this numerously attended and flourishing Lodge was held on the 15th instant, at the Masonic Rooms, Royal Pavilion, Brighton. The chair was occupied by Brother V. P. Freeman P.G.S. in the absence of Bro. H. K. Cook W.M.; G. S. Godfree I.P.M., Lomax S.W., Sharp J.W., Germon P.M. 1466 Treas., Dr. Paris P.P.G.S.D. Sec., Ardley S.D., Dr. Burrows J.D., Halford P.M. M.C., Cross Chaplain, Roworth Organist. P.M.'s Bros. W. R. Wood G. P. Grand Lodge of England, Taaff, Lainson, Chalk P.P.G.P. Sussex, Halford, L. Lewis P.G.S. Visitors—Bros. V. P. Freeman P.G.S. Sussex, G. S. Godfree G.S. Sussex P.M. 182, F. Harrison P.P.G.S.W. Hampshire, S. H. Soper W.M. 732, Allison 1797, Alderman Hallett P.P.G.S.W. Sussex, Broadbridge W.M. 1797, Thompson W.M. 56, Davis 916, Kuhe P.G.O. Grand Lodge of England, Lockyear 315, Lye 1110, Long 1726, Newcombe W.M. 1821, Creek 271, A. King W.M. 271 P.P.G.O. Sussex, H. M. Levy P.M. 188. Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. A Board of Installed Masters was opened, and Bro. B. Lomax was presented and duly installed into the chair by the retiring W.M., Bro. Cook, in a very excellent and perfect manner, in the presence of 19 W.M.'s and P.M.'s. The newly-installed W.M. then, in appropriate terms, appointed and invested his Officers:—Bros. Cook I.P.M., Sharp S.W., Ardley J.W., W. H. Germon P.M. Treasurer, Dr. Paris Secretary, Burrows S.D., Dykins J.D. Lainson I.G., Roworth Organist, Cross Chaplain, Hughes Tyler. Bro. Freeman, in a perfect manner, gave the concluding address, and was warmly congratulated on its conclusion by the brethren and visitors. A letter was read from the Provincial Grand Master, Sir W. Burrell, M.P., thanking the brethren for the letter of condolence on the death of his second son. Bro. Wood P.G.Pars. was unanimously elected to serve on the Charities Committee of the Prov. Grand Lodge. Hearty good wishes were given, and Lodge was then closed until the ensuing month. The brethren sat down to a very sumptuous and recherché banquet, provided by Bro. Booth, that gave great satisfaction. Grace having been said, the W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, Bros. Broadbridge and Soper singing the "National Anthem," and "God Bless the Prince of Wales. The toasts of the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers were given. The W.M. said we have two Grand Officers present—Bro. Wood, Grand Purs., one of the founders of the Yarrow Lodge, and Bro. Kuhe Past Grand Organist. With respect to Bro. Wood, he is well deserving of the honour conferred upon him; and all England is acquainted with the musical talent possessed by Bro. Kuhe. The Lodge might be proud of having two such brethren associated with it. Bros. Wood and Kuhe spoke at length of the distinguished brethren whose names had been mentioned in connection with the toast. Reference was also made to the recent visit of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master to York, where he was loyally supported by the members of the Craft. The toast of the Right W. Bro. Sir Walter Burrell, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. of Sussex, was next given by the Worshipful Master, who said Sir Walter was singularly fortunate in having so worthy an exponent in Bro. Freeman P.G. Sec, whose knowledge of Freemasonry entitles him to every respect. Brother Alderman Hallett, one of the best business men in the borough, and a thorough Mason, was always willing to assist in every cause that would advance Freemasonry in the Province; with the toast he would couple the names of these two brethren. Bro. Freeman, in one of those eloquent speeches for which he is noted in the Province, responded. He referred to the excellent qualities of the P.G.M., who, but for a domestic bereavement, would have been present. All, however, hoped to see him on the 12th October, when he had promised to preside at the Provincial Grand Lodge. Bro. Alderman Hallett followed, fully endorsing what Bro. Freeman had said in regard to the sterling qualities of the Prov. G. Master. Bro. Cook I.P.M. then proposed the health of the W.M., which toast was very warmly received. Bro. Lomax is a man well known in Brighton; he (Bro. Cook) personally had the highest respect for him, and felt proud in having had to assist in placing him in the position of Worshipful Master; he called on one and all to drink the toast with the enthusiasm it deserved. The W.M. most gracefully acknowledged the compliment paid him. He could look round the table and say there was not a brother present whom he could not rely on as a friend. He felt honoured by the confidence they had reposed in him, and would strive to become still more deserving of their confidence. In speaking to the toast of the Past Masters, the Worshipful Master said each of those who had passed the chair of the Lodge was worthy of every confidence. Brother Wood, a founder of this Lodge, was ever mindful of its welfare; in fact, he (the W.M.) scarcely knew how they could get on without him. He had an especially pleasing duty now to perform; to place on the breast of the Immediate Past Master the jewel he had so well deserved. In doing so he could only hope Bro. Cook might live many years to wear it amongst them. In connection with this toast he had also to bring under their notice the merits of Bros. Alderman Hallett and Lainson. The former brother had worthily fulfilled the functions of Mayor of Brighton, and had secured the respect of his fellow townsmen; while Bro. Lainson was equally deserving of their esteem. This toast elicited some excellent remarks from the brethren who responded, and then Bro. Kuhe gave one of his musical melanges that elicited the warmest encomiums. For the toast of the Visitors, to whom the W.M. gave a cordial greeting, Bros. King, Harrison, and Levy replied. The W.M. next proposed the newly initiated brother—John Taylor—a nephew of our respected Bro. Wood; he was initiated last July. He was a gentleman who would undoubtedly become a credit to the Order. Bro. Taylor briefly and appropriately responded, and then the other Officers were complimented; no Worshipful Master could have better Officers; he hoped in time to see each of

them occupy the chair. Bro. Sharp S.W. and Bro. De Paris in appropriate terms responded, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

LOYALTY LODGE, No. 1607.

THIS Lodge, which has been in recess since April, met at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, E.C., on Saturday, 10th inst., when Brother T. Jones W.M., supported by his Officers, opened the Lodge, and after the usual preliminaries, proceeded to instal his successor, Brother F. Carr S.W., into the chair of K.S., with such perfection as is rarely met with. This is the more creditable as Bro. Jones was one of the initiates of the Lodge, which is but yet in its early days. The newly installed Master appointed and invested his Officers as follow:—Bros. F. Brown Treasurer, J. Newton Sec., Dr. Gaylon S.D., J. Large J.D., J. Cushing I.G., T. Clark M.C., and T. Holsworth W.S. The Senior and Junior Wardens not being present, their investment had to be deferred. A ballot was taken for Mr. H. A. Hunt, and proving unanimous, the ceremony of initiation was undertaken by the Worshipful Master, and in such a manner as to merit the praise of all present; in fact Bro. Carr, who also was an initiate of this Lodge, was perfect in his work. Upon rising for the time the W.M. offered his services, which were accepted, as Steward for the next Festival of the Benevolent Institution, whereupon the Lodge voted ten guineas to be placed on his list. It is an excellent feature in this Lodge that every Master since its consecration has served a Stewardship to the Benevolent Institution. Another praiseworthy feature is that each Master has installed his successor, a duty we should like to see carried out in all Lodges. After hearty good wishes, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to dinner. The usual toasts followed. The Visitors and the members, altogether a numerous body, then departed, agreeing that it was one of the most enjoyable evenings they had ever spent.

New Concord Lodge of Instruction, No. 813.—A regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday last, at Bro. Langdale's, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, at 8 p.m., Brother Marks presiding; he was supported by Bros. Western S.W., Ashton J.W., Trewinnard acting Preceptor, Perl Secretary, Langdale, Powell, &c. The usual formalities having been observed in opening the Lodge, the W.M. proceeded to rehearse the ceremony of initiation. Bro. Langdale acting as candidate, who, after the Lodge was opened in the second degree, acted as a candidate to be passed. Lodge was then opened in the third degree, and afterwards closed down. Bro. Western was then elected to fill the chair at the ensuing meeting. This Lodge has now commenced working for the winter months, and it is to be hoped brethren will avail themselves of the opportunity of occupying the chair, which is placed at their disposal, and to assist in making this Lodge as successful as hitherto. Brethren are cordially invited.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at York, on Monday, the 10th inst., when there was a capital muster of members. In the absence of the W.M., the chair was taken by Bro. T. B. Wytehead W.M., who was supported by Bros. J. S. Cumberland P.M., J. T. Seller P.M., C. G. Padel P.M., G. Balmford P.M., George Simpson P.M., Major A. E. McGachen P.M. 1991, R. W. Hollon P.M., S. Chadwick W.M. 1040, the Wardens, Officers, and a large number of brethren, amongst the Visitors being Bro. W. P. Moat P.M., Senior District Grand Warden of Auckland, New Zealand. The business consisted in a passing and a raising, which having been accomplished, the ballot was taken for the following brethren as honorary members, proposed by Bro. Whytehead, seconded by Bro. Cumberland, and supported by several other Past Masters:—Bros. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke Grand Secretary, D. Murray Lyon Grand Secretary of Scotland, Robert F. Gould P.G.D., and Colonel W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Canada, all of whom were elected unanimously. The acting W.M. announced that the W.M. had, with his usual liberality, presented the Lodge with a series of forms of honorary certificates on parchment, and that some had already been issued. The name of a candidate was proposed, and the Lodge was closed amid "Hearty good wishes." There was a great gathering round the refreshment table, when a number of toasts were honoured and songs sung. Bro. Moat responded to The Health of the Visitors, and expressed his pleasure at having witnessed the working of the Lodge. When he left New Zealand he had made up his mind to visit York and see a Lodge so famous actually at work. He entered into many interesting particulars respecting the Craft in New Zealand, which he said was very prosperous and rapidly gaining ground. The evening passed most happily.

At a general meeting of the Committee of the Southampton Masonic Benevolent Association, held on the 13th inst., the accounts submitted were of a satisfactory character, showing assets of about £1,200. Several grants were made, and the Officers for the year elected, and it was urged by one or two brethren that the aims of the Association, which deals purely with local objects of Masonic charity, should be brought more generally under the notice of the Lodges with the view of increasing the number of annual subscribers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—On my return to town this day I find copy of circular asking for votes in favour of "Edward Bramble Green" for the ensuing election, 16th October, with a note appended stating that, "through inadvertence in the OFFICE the candidate's name was omitted to be placed in the official list."

This is a very serious reflection on myself, and on the office generally, and were I to reply as I feel I should express myself in strong terms on the public circulation of so unwarrantable and baseless a statement, but I forbear.

The petition in behalf of Edward Bramble Green did not reach me until after the closure of the list for the October election,—was accepted by the Committee on Saturday, 4th August, and notice was sent to the representative of the case that the name would be included in the list of candidates for election in April 1884.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G.Std.), V. Patron,
Secretary.

6 Freemasons Hall, W.C.
20th September.

NATIONAL SANITARIUM.—The acquisition of the extensive grounds of the Alexandra Palace by the London Corporation as a public park is at present under consideration, and is said to be favourably regarded—Lord Shaftesbury and other influential persons having urged the expediency of the purchase in the interest of the public at large, and especially in that of the great suburban district on the north of London, now being covered with houses at so rapid a rate. Some demur, we understand, has arisen in regard to the Palace itself, for which it was apprehended no remunerative use could be found, as it has failed as a place of amusement in successive hands, Mr. Bourne, C.E., the Principal of the new College of Practical Engineering at Muswell Hill, suggests that a portion of the Palace building should be converted into a great sanitarium, the residue being devoted to popular amusement and instruction as heretofore; and he reckons that by the introduction of this new feature the total receipts will be so much increased that the scale will be turned in the right direction. Certainly there is no sanitarium in England or in the world such as the Palace thus utilised would constitute. It is heated throughout by hot water pipes so that an equable temperature can easily be maintained throughout the year, while its spacious halls, conservatories, theatres, &c., would afford ample space for valetudinarians to walk about in, and take any exercise suited to their condition, or to mingle with amusements so far as they might feel disposed, enjoying all the while a genial climate without having to go abroad in search of it. The Palace is abundantly supplied with water by a water-works of its own, so that it affords all necessary facilities for hydropathic treatment. But other remedial agencies could also be put in force, and so important an establishment would, it is believed, soon become a great hygienic centre at which all the most effectual expedients of medical art, and the latest discoveries in medical science in this or other countries, would be studied and applied. As the difference between a young animal and an old one is a physical difference there is no reason to doubt that by appropriate physical means this difference may be so far abridged or extinguished as to lead to a great prolongation of life and great increase of health and vigour. This Lord Bacon long ago pointed out, but little progress has been made in the direction he indicated from the want of a fitting scientific establishment in which such research could be conducted. This want would be supplied by the establishment of a great national sanitarium conducted under the most eminent advice of all the medical schools, and putting them, in fact, in competition with one another. The introduction of such a new phalanx of remedial aids would constitute an epoch in the history of the world.

FIRE AT FREEMASONS' HALL!

LARGE photographs of the Temple, taken immediately after the fire, on 4th May (suitable for framing), 5s each; or framed in oak, securely packed, sent to any address in the United Kingdom, carriage paid, on receipt of cheque for 15s. Masters of Lodges should secure this memorial of the old Temple for their Lodge rooms.

W. G. PARKER, Photographer, 40 High Holborn, W.C.
Established 25 years.

DANCING.—To Those Who Have Never Learnt to Dance.—Bro. and Mrs. JACQUES WYNNMANN receive daily, and undertake to teach ladies and gentlemen, who have never had the slightest previous knowledge or instruction, to go through every fashionable ball-dance in a few easy lessons. Private lessons any hour. Morning and evening classes.

PROSPECTUS ON APPLICATION

ACADEMY—74 NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.

BRO. JACQUES WYNNMANN WILL BE HAPPY TO TAKE THE MANAGEMENT OF MASONIC BALLS. FIRST-CLASS BANDS PROVIDED.

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.

—101—

SATURDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER.

- 198—Percy Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1541—Alexandra Palace, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1694—Fleetston King's Head, Fenny Bridge Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1679—Henry Muggersidge, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.
 1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement Union Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
 R.A. 176—Cavenc, Albion, Aldersgate Street
 R.A. 1044—Mid-Surrey, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst
 M.M. 14—Prince Edward's, Station Hotel, Stansfield, Todmorden

MONDAY, 24th SEPTEMBER.

- Grand Mark Masters, Masonic Hall, 81 Red Lion Square, W.C.
 22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 79—Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Greenwich
 171—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W. at 8 (Instruction)
 196—Industry, Bell, Carter Lane, Doctors-commons, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Kentford, at 8 (Instruction)
 1475—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street Paddington, at 4 (In.)
 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.)
 1609—Kilburn, 46 South Mallon Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Farrington Hotel, Farrington-street, E.C., at 8 (Inst.)
 1625—Tredgar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burlett-road. (Inst.)
 1693—Kings and, Cock Tavern, Highbury, V., at 9.30 (Instruction)
 1745—Farrington, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
 1829—Shepherds Bush, Athenæum, Goldhawk-road, W.
 191—St. Ambrose Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1201—Eclectic Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead
 62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
 149—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
 392—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge (Instruction)
 399—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1177—Tenby, Tenby, Pembroke
 1149—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham
 M.M.—The Old York, Masonic Hall, Bradford
 M.M. 146—Moore, Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster

TUESDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER.

- 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-blzgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 141—Faith, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 111—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stannay (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Cliff Road, Maida Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 840—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1158—Southern Star, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1341—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington (Instruction)
 1441—Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road
 1448—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jernyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7 (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
 1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1358—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In)
 1602—Sir Hugh Middleton, Queen's Head, Essex Road, N., at 4.30 (In)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30
 R.A. 548—Wellington, White Swan Hotel, Deptford
 24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle, 7.30 (In)
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
 299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
 314—Unions, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1358—Torbar, Town Hall, Plaizton
 1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans
 1566—Ellington, Town Hall, Maidenhead
 1499—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1636—St. Cecilia, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 1675—Antient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 103—Pearlfort, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 124—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham
 R.A. 510—St Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard
 R.A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
 R.A. 815—Blair, Town Hall, Hulme, Manchester
 R.A. 1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 K.T.—Plains of Tabor, Swan Hotel, Colne

WEDNESDAY, 26th SEPTEMBER.

- 15—Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lizard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Horse Shoe Inn, Newington Causeway, at 8. (Inst)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 223—United Strength, Prince Al red, 13 Crownland-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 538—La Tolérance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst)
 720—Panmure, Ballham Hotel, Ballham, at 7 (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Ponnin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 898—Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Poplar
 1056—Victoria, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 1278—Burdett Courts, D k's Head, 9 Whit-chapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
 1284—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1321—Emblematic, Goat and Star, Swallow Street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, at 7 (Instruction)

- 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 9 (Inst)
 1604—Wanderers, Adam and Eva Tavern, Palmer St., Westminster, at 7.30 (In)
 1682—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1791—Creston, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)
 R.A.—Camden, The Boston, Junction Road, Holloway, at 8.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)

- 32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury
 183—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
 721—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
 1039—St John, George Hotel, Lichfield
 1083—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester
 1095—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby (Instruction)
 1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow
 1210—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester
 1261—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
 1284—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
 1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1723—St. George, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, Bolton
 1953—Prudence and Industry, George Hotel, Chard, Somersetshire
 1967—Beacon Court, Ghuznee Fort Hotel, New Brompton, Kent
 R.A. 25—St. Luke's, Freemasons' Hall, Sane St east, Ipswich
 R.A. 326—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough
 R.A. 329—Brotherly Love, Choughs Hotel, Yeovil
 R.A. 606—Segontium, Carnarvon Castle, Carnarvon
 M.M.—Howe, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 M.M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 M.M. 19—Rowke, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester
 M.M. 174—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham

THURSDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER.

- General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 445—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 704—Candle, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Cock Tavern, St. Martin's-court, Ludgate-hill, at 6.30 (Inst)
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1185—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1227—Upton, Swan, Bethnal Green-road, near Shoreditch, at 8 (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, W.C.
 1563—The City of Westminster, Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, W.
 1614—Covent Garden, Constitution, Bedford-street, W.C., at 7.45 (Instruction)
 1658—Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Connaught, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 8 (Inst.)
 1816—Victoria Park, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park Road
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 157—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Cannonbury Tavern, Cannonbury Place, at 8. (Inst.)
 M.M. 118—Northumberland, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street

- 51—Angel, Three Cups, Colchester
 79—Imperial George, Ascheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire
 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 296—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
 343—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal
 807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
 935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
 1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer Street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, nr Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1540—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple street, Newcastle
 1892—Wallington, King's Arms Hotel, Carshalton. (Instruction)
 R.A. 57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull
 R.A. 279—Fortitude, Freemasons' Hall, Halford Street, Leicester
 R.A. 292—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 303—Benevolent, Holland's Road East, Teignmouth
 R.A. 394—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Albion Terrace, Southampton
 R.A. 413—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Broughbury, Peterborough
 R.A. 732—Royal Sussex, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 R.A. 1037—Portland, Masonic Hall, Portland, Dorset
 M.M. 32—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 M.M. 31—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 K.T. 8—Plains of Mamre, Bull Hotel, Burnley

FRIDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER.

- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc.)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8 (In.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 973—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1154—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1293—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1465—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddleton, Agricultural Hall, N.
 1612—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 R.A. 65—Prosperity Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall St.
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 453—Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 410—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton
 1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion, Barnet
 1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1621—Castle, Crown Hotel, Bridgnorth

1712—St. John, Freemasons Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
 1821—Atlingworth, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 R.A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster
 R.A. 471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock Street, Newport, Monmouthshire
 R.A. 597—Loyalty, Masonic Buildings, Hall Street, St. Helens
 R.A. 945—Abey, Abbey Council Chambers, Abingdon
 R.A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 K.T. 20—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 20th 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)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Fimbo, at 7 (Instruction)
 Social Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 1462—Wharfedale, Rose and Crown Hotel Penistone

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

—:—

STAR IN THE EAST LODGE, No. 650.

AT the monthly meeting of this Lodge, on the 11th inst., Bro. Harry G. Everard S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Richard Cowes Prov. G.S.W. for his able and genial presidency over the Lodge affairs during the past year; and it was unanimously agreed to present him with a P.M.'s jewel at the installation Festival next month.

SPHINX LODGE, No. 1329.

ON Saturday afternoon last, the brethren of the above Lodge assembled at the Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, for the purpose of transacting important business. There were present Bros. G. S. Mansell W.M., A. Middleman S.W., J. C. Bradley acting J.W., John Herniman Secretary, J. J. Brinton S.D., G. W. Marsden jun., J.D., Albert Hall Organist, H. Forbes and C. Gooding Stewards, R. J. Voisey I.G.; there were also present Bros. J. R. Richard Immediate Past Master; G. Bickerton, Perceval, Nairne M.C., B. R. Bryant, and G. P. Britton P.M.'s. Also Bros. T. A. Thornhill, A. Ramage, E. C. Davis, D. D. Mercer, J. N. Turney, R. Irvin, R. T. White, E. T. Jones, T. Arnold, C. Wilson, C. F. Cuckle, W. Andrews, H. Chabot, J. G. White, T. E. Heller, W. L. Permewan, J. E. Knox, A. Partridge, and C. Lyre. The visitors were Bros. Bull P.M. Mount Lebanon Lodge 73, A. Bradley Royal Leopold P.M. 1669, J. Lightfoot the Selwyn 1901, and W. Tilling J.D. St. James's 765. The Lodge having been opened in due form by the W.M., the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. B. R. Bryant P.M. then occupied the chair and raised Bro. A. Partridge to the sublime degree of Master Mason. This solemn and impressive ceremony was conducted in a manner that elicited much commendation. On its conclusion the choice of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, Bro. A. Middlemas being elected as Master, J. C. Reynolds sen. Treas., and B. Harrison Tyler. The next business was to appoint an Audit Committee. This opened up some discussion, but eventually Bros. Webb, Woodward, and Turney were unanimously elected. These brethren will act conjointly with the Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge as heretofore, and on the same conditions. The sum of five pounds was next allotted to the retiring W.M. as a contribution to one of the Masonic Charities. A proposition was made that a Past Master's jewel should, as on previous occasions, be presented to the W.M. vacating the chair. This was opposed on the part of several brethren, for reasons assigned by them without any mental reservation whatsoever. In the end, however, the brethren who opposed were not in sufficient force to carry their point. After some other matters had been disposed of, Lodge was closed in due form, much to the relief of all the brethren, who adjourned to an adjoining room, in which Bro. C. G. Slawson, of 786 Old Kent-road, had provided a capital repast, which was served in his usual style of excellence. The W.M. of the Lodge presided, and the loyal and fraternal toasts were given and pledged. The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

SUB-URBAN LODGE, No. 1702.

AN emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 7th instant, at Bro. C. Veal's charmingly situated hostelry, the Abercorn Arms Hotel, Great Stanmore, Middlesex, under the presidency of Brother J. F. Hepburn W.M., supported by Bros. C. S. Buck S.W., F. Eckstein P.M. 1196 J.W., J. Tickle P.M. P.Z. P.P.G.R. Middlesex Treasurer, J. Hill Secretary, F. J. Tyler S.D., C. Hawksley I.P.M., A. F. Roberts P.M. P.G.D.C. Middlesex, W. Buck P.M., and a number of Brethren and Visitors. A successful ballot having been taken for Mr. Richard Coffee, the W.M. initiated him, in a very impressive manner. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, who on this occasion were accompanied by a number of ladies, then proceeded to enjoy themselves by driving through the charming scenery for which Stanmore is celebrated, and on their return the W.M., by the kind invitation of Brother Godson, conducted a large party through the delightful and historic mansion and grounds of Bentley Priory, which being situated some 500 or 600 feet above the level of the sea commands some of the finest views to be obtained near London. After the party had partaken of a substantial banquet, the usual loyal toasts were given, during which Brothers C. S. Buck and C. Veal contributed considerably to the enjoyment of the evening by some excellent songs. The Brethren and Visitors then returned to town, after spending a very enjoyable day.

Justice Lodge of Instruction, No. 147.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 20th inst., at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford. Present—Bros. Good W.M., J. W. Freeman S.W., Banks J.W., Speight P.M. Secretary, Pitt S.D., H. C. Freeman J.D., Williams I.G., Hutobings P.M. Preceptor; also G. Bolton P.M. After preliminaries, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Brother Williams personating the candidate. The Lodge was then resumed to the first degree, and after some formal business was disposed of, closed in due form.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—Held at the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., on Saturday, 15th instant. Present—Bros. Lorkin W.M., Bird S.W., Powell J.W., Fenner acting Sec., Ferrar S.D., Marks I.G.; also Bro. Brasted, and others. Lodge was opened in regular form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was opened in the second degree; Brother Brasted offered himself as candidate for raising, and was examined and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Brasted being the candidate. The W.M. worked the first, second, and third sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was closed in the third and second degrees. Bro Bird was elected W.W. for the next meeting. Lodge was then closed and adjourned.

Brethren are again requested to note that our esteemed Bro. Jas. Terry, P.P.G.S.W. Norths and Hunts, has kindly consented to rehearse the ceremonies of Consecration and Installation in the Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198, this (Saturday) evening at 7 o'clock, at the Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, Islington, N. Bro. R. W. Galer, the energetic Secretary of this Lodge of Instruction, trusts that a numerous attendance of members, and other brethren in the Craft, will do honour to the occasion. A hearty Masonic welcome will be given to all.

Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425.—A meeting took place on Monday the 17th inst., at the Fountains Abbey Hotel, 111 Praed-street, Paddington, W. Present—Bros. Mote W.M., Mickelburgh S.W., Perdu J.W., Lawrence S.D., Wickens J.D., Green I.G., Read P.M. Preceptor, Dehane W.M. 1543 Secretary, Spiegel P.M. W.S.; also Bros. Death, Rodet, Smith, Rhind, Morse, Chapman, Hardy, Craig, Robinson, Wadham, Captain Nicols, and Fowler. Lodge opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremonies of initiation and passing were rehearsed, Brother Hardy being candidate. Lodge called off, and the brethren were instructed by Bro. Read P.M. 511 in entry drill. Lodge called on. The Lodge votes for girls were unanimously voted to the widow of Brother G. W. West P.M. 1287, who used to be a regular attendant. Brother Mickelburgh P.M. 1425 was elected W.M. for next Lodge meeting. Lodge was closed and adjourned to Monday 24th August, after which meeting there will be a ballot. The Ceremonies of Consecration and Installation will be rehearsed on Monday the 15th October by Brother J. Terry P.P.G.J.W. Herts, Secretary R.M.B.I.

Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge of Instruction, 1602.—The meetings of the above Lodge of Instruction, formerly held at the Crown and Woolpack, St. John-street-road, will be resumed on Tuesday, 25th September, at the Queen's Head, Essex-road (three doors from Packington-street), and every subsequent Tuesday, at 8.30 p.m. On Tuesday, 2nd October, the ceremonies of Consecration and Installation will be rehearsed by Bro. James Terry P.M. 228, 1271, 1366, P.P.S.G.W. Norths and Hunts. Bro. Terry's well-known ability will, we trust, cause a large assemblage of brethren, all of whom will receive a hearty welcome. Brethren will please attend in clothing upon this occasion.

Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693.—Held at the Canonbury Tavern, on Monday last. Present—Bros. Dixie W.M., Weeden S.W., Rhodes J.W., Trewinnard Preceptor, Percy S.D., Clark J.D., Marks I.G., Collingridge Secretary, and a numerous attendance of brethren. The Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge opened in second degree; Brother Jones, as candidate for raising, answered the usual questions. Lodge opened in third, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed in excellent style by Bro. Dixie. Lodge was closed in the 3rd and 2nd degrees. Brother Longhurst informed the brethren that having other uses for the room, he was compelled to terminate his engagement with this Lodge of Instruction. It was then arranged to go to Brother Baker's, the Cock Tavern, Highbury, where the brethren will meet on Monday, 24th inst. Brother Weeden is the W.M. elect for the evening.

Perseverance Lodge, No. 1643.—On Wednesday, 12th inst., a meeting of this Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Ellison House, Hebburn Quay, when there was a numerous attendance of members and visitors. Lodge was opened by the W.M., Brother G. Hardy, assisted by Bros. J. M. McCulloch P.M., P.P.G.J.W. acting I.P.M., S. Chadwick S.W., C. W. Newlands J.W., E. Pittuck Sec., &c. Lodge having been passed and raised to the third degree, Bros. Marley and Johnson, after having proved their proficiency, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, by Brother George Hardy W.M. There being no other business, Lodge was closed.

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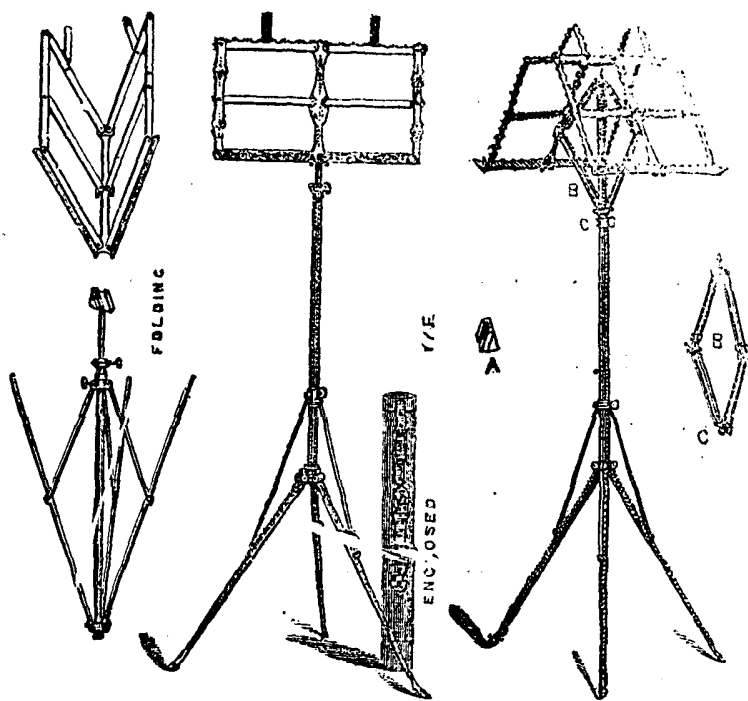
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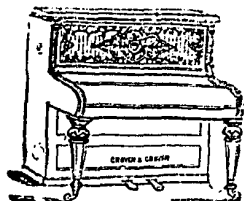
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