

THE

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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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CHARITIES AND CANDIDATES.

FROM time to time we have discussed various matters in connection with the election of candidates to our several Charitable Institutions. We have not hesitated to express our own views, and we have sought to evoke the opinions of others. Hitherto little earnestness on the part of the brethren has been manifested. It cannot be from lack of interest that so few take an open part in a subject of such vital moment; perhaps the secret lies in the fact that the question is too intricate, and involves issues so important, as to dismay many. It, nevertheless, ought to be confronted in a generous, manly spirit, in order that some system may be established which shall lead to the selection of the fittest objects for relief. Brother C. H. Webb has raised the question in a definite shape; at least we understand him to mean that something like a *quid pro quo* should be given to those who have subscribed to the Charities. His motion, laid before the monthly meeting of the Committee of the Royal Benevolent Institution, held on the 12th ult., proposes that the Board should take into consideration what measures (if any) could be adopted to assist accepted candidates for election, according to the amount of money and length of time they had contributed to the funds of the Institution. In a speech he made on the same occasion, briefly and, perhaps, imperfectly reported, he appears to suggest that the plan adopted by the Builders' Benevolent Institution, of giving ten votes to a candidate for every guinea he subscribed, should be followed. In a letter Bro. Webb subsequently wrote to our contemporary, he says that he hoped to obtain a favourable result to the action he had taken "without resorting to bogus voting, a committee of selection, or ten votes for each guinea subscribed, to all or either of which propositions" he is strongly opposed. It is difficult to reconcile this statement with the terms of his motion, as far as they have as yet appeared in print. It is evident that the brethren who took part in the discussion were of opinion that a definite scheme of the kind implied by Bro. Webb's motion was intended to be proposed. Bro. Charles Lacey is credited with saying, that "the number of candidates was very large, and something should be done to inquire what services they had rendered." Then Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg quoted as an illustration the case of the Royal Medical Benevolent Institution. There it was found that the majority of candidates had never assisted it at all. He is reported to have added: "and what was more, it was found that the fathers of the candidates, although they had been in prosperous circumstances, had not subscribed. The council of the Institution passed a rule establishing a Committee of Examiners, who carefully examined every case, and according to their report the votes were given." We give these quotations as showing what was in the minds of the speakers at the time, and although Bro. Webb seems to discard the idea of a committee of selection, or of giving ten votes for each guinea subscribed, he does not interpret his motion, nor does he say what he really does mean. No doubt, upon the ground of abstract justice, it is right that those who have subscribed to a charity should have the first claim upon its funds. There is an initial

difficulty, however, to be got over, and it must be met before any absolute rule can be adopted. What is meant by contributing to the funds? Are the contributions to come direct from the father of the candidate, or from relatives and friends? If from the former, it would be comparatively easy to formulate a scheme that should be approximately complete. If the latter are to count, then we should like to know how the facts are to be discovered.

Are services rendered to Freemasonry to be taken into account? and are cumulative subscriptions of small amounts to figure in the entire estimate? If not, how is it possible to arrange such a system as shall be uniformly, or in the main, just? We confess we see insuperable difficulties to any plan that shall secure anything like the principle of reciprocity between donors and receivers. We have before pointed out that subscriptions do virtually determine elections now, to a larger extent than, perhaps, is desirable. The richer and the more generous are the friends of a candidate, so, in proportion, are his chances increased, and to such an extent is this system carried out, that we fear many poor and deserving cases are disregarded. If the theory of reciprocity is to be established, it should be adopted in the selection of candidates; but here again we are met with insurmountable difficulties. It would be almost impossible to form a scheme which should determine the selection of candidates for the reasons that we have already advanced, for the facts necessary upon which to base a rule could not be ascertained, and if they could the question of proportion would be as difficult to solve as a Chinese puzzle. Were it possible to arrive at a conclusion, we should not like to be the assessors, and it would not be fair to cast upon any body of men such an onerous and invidious task.

While it may be advanced that the Masonic Charities are subject to the rules that govern all other charities, it should not be forgotten that Freemasonry is based upon the principle of equality. The prince and the beggar, if worthy, stand in the same rank of Brotherhood. Our ritual inculcates the habits of prudence and providence, but it nowhere prescribes a distinction when help is needed. No scrutiny is suggested in the time of adversity except that which is laid down by the laws of the Order and custom. It is enough to know that a brother, or one of his family, is in distress, to engage the active sympathy of those who can help, and the more this leading principle is kept in view the better will it be for the true interests of the Craft. It cannot be intended to visit the sins of the fathers upon the children; such would be the case were the plan established of giving a premium to subscribers. We do not believe that either Bro. Webb or those who agree with him, whatever may be their views, desire to set up any unjust distinction. We are ready to admit that their first wish is to be just to all; at the same time we cannot conceal from ourselves the conclusion that what they suggest, as far as we understand it, would lead to greater evils than now prevail. We fear that many deserving cases are now but imperfectly considered, and sometimes rejected; we do not doubt that there are many anomalies in the present system. In attempting to correct these, however, there would be danger of introducing others of a worse kind. What is needed is a better mode of securing help for those

EPPS'S (GRATEFUL) COCOA.

most in need of it, the better distribution of voting power, so that the really poor shall be selected, and not, as in the case of the boy Herring, for example, whose friends hold a very respectable sum of money in hand belonging to him, and which should be used for his education and support. It cannot for a moment be contended that this boy stands in the same position as one who has no means, even if the father of the former did subscribe to our Charities, and the father of the latter did not. We hold that necessity should be the first test of claim to help. We know that no system would secure perfect justice in that respect, but those who are responsible for the selection of candidates and the method of election, are bound to seek such a result, and to secure the nearest approach to it they can find. We would lessen the difficulties of poor candidates as much as possible, and although wealth must always be a great power in all mundane matters, we would not handicap poverty more than is inevitable, but rather lighten the weight it has to carry in the weary race of life.

LET THE MILL GRIND.

FROM THE VOICE OF MASONRY.

THE report of the Judiciary Committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, as published in the *Voice of Masonry* for September, under the caption "The Mill is Grinding," is itself a profound review of the principal question therein discussed, and opens to the reflective and philosophical mind a wide field of thought as connected with the natural or inherent right as well as imperative duty of Grand Lodges as concerns the welfare and perpetuity of the Craft as an organized, self-sustaining, and self-protecting body.

That the conclusions therein reached will be approved by a large majority of Masons, admits of but little doubt, and that the time has arrived when all Grand Lodges should define clearly what shall be recognized as legitimately pertaining to Masonry, and the extent and limit of such pretensions and practices, is equally patent and necessary. To those minds who have become reasonably proficient in the knowledge of Craft Masonry, its teachings, purposes and spirit, there is serious cause of apprehension in the accretions which year by year are being superimposed upon the foundations and body of our temple, without either our authority or consent, self-styled *higher degrees*, that overshadow and obscure the beautiful and symmetrical proportions of the structure, flimsy Mansard roofs, fanciful frescoes, and superficial decorations intended to dazzle the eye, captivate the fancy, and gratify personal vanity and the taste for display and parade, rather than in any manner to aid in or elaborate the simple and sterling objects, ends and aims of purely Masonic ideas. The professions of loyalty to Masonic principles always enunciated by these toptoftical builders, their pretensions as decorators of the temple, and elaborators of Masonic principles, their recognition of Craft Masonry as the true foundation of the entire superstructure, has in the past been the quieting anodyne which has lulled the Craft into passive or tacit acquiescence in the appropriation of its name and fame as a secure patent and foundation on which to erect and sustain their pretentious chimeras and parasitic inventions. Yet withal, their only actual relationship to Masonry has consisted in the assumption of its name, and in making Masonic membership a prerequisite to admission to its high-toned and multifarious circles, rings and branches. This has been tacitly permitted by Craft Masonry, until to-day it would be far easier to understand thoroughly all the secrets of the Cretan Labyrinth, or the tortuous pathways and concealed recesses of the Roman catacombs than the knowledge to the full extent of the more labyrinthine mazes and lofty pretensions of all that is denominated and claimed as Masonry.

While there is, doubtless, much that may captivate the fancy, dazzle the imagination and gratify vanity in these modern creations of inventive genius, the question presents itself squarely for our consideration, in what respect are they *necessary* as auxiliaries to Masonry? To what if any degree are they elaborative of its designs? Are they a natural and legitimate outgrowth of Masonry on a continually progressive plane, or are they parasites that cling to our Institution as a means of support, and, by their exacting demands upon their membership, and their *higher attractiveness*, seduce them from the active discharge of their duties to the Craft, which, otherwise would be zealously performed, and, as a natural result, cause them to remember Symbolic Masonry only as the rough, unhewn foundation on which *their department of the Temple is erected, and the Sanctum Sanctorum* as only a preparation room in which to receive the finishing touches which qualify them for ascending into the more refined atmosphere of mystic, ineffable and transcendental shadows.

The wisdom of the report before alluded to, and the necessity for it, as well as the subsequent action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, seems clearly conclusive; yet the fifty-two votes that were recorded against the Welch amendment indicate the strength which the heresy had attained, and the necessity for the prompt heroic treatment which it received. It would indeed be a self-evident corollary that, if the membership in all so-called Masonic rites and degrees is limited to Masons; if to be a Symbolic Mason is a prerequisite, then Symbolic Masonry, as represented in Grand Lodges, should have the indefeasible right, and it should also be their sacred duty to define what should and what should not be permitted as Masonic, and to prohibit everything not so permitted under adequate penalties.

The so-called Masonic Rite of Memphis, which was invented in France about the year 1839, by Marconis, who, aided by Moullet,

established Lodges at Paris, Marseilles and Brussels, working this Rite of Memphis, consisting of ninety-one degrees, which, had it ever gained a recognised foothold in America, would now have numbered a hundred, as Yankees would soon have floated it at par. The rite according to the authority of Ragon, and other able writers, was, for the first thirty-three degrees, pirated almost literally from the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and, whatever else it may have been, was a Frenchified travesty upon the now extinct Egyptian Rite of Misraim. The Grand Orient of France refused to recognise the rite as being legitimate, though with the French love of pageantry and scenic effect it is somewhat singular that it was not adopted as a *grande* improvement. A failure on the part of Marconis to secure the approval and endorsement of the Grand Orient, which was recognised as the sovereign Masonic power of the civil government, led to the suppression of his Lodges in 1852, by the operation of civil law. By a persistence worthy of a better cause, he at length in 1862 secured from the Grand Orient a recognition of his system, or rite, as legitimate, but in order to effect it had to renounce his title of Grand Hierophant, and to surrender to the Grand Orient the sole right to confer his rite, he and all other members of his Lodges to renounce all degrees above or beyond that of Master Mason, and to be recognised as such and such only, by the Grand Orient, which thus became the owner, so to speak, of the rite, and immediately pigeon-holed it, and thus as was supposed stamped it out of existence. It will thus be seen that, if it ever acquired a recognition of legitimacy it was done simply to strangle it, and that even if thus rendered legitimate by a recognised Masonic power, it could never be revived without the consent and authority of that power, which has never been given, so that even admitting that it ever had a legal Masonic existence, it is, and has been since 1862, defunct.

It is not the purpose of this paper, however, to make war upon this particular rite or heresy, but to arouse thought upon the rights, powers and duties of Grand Lodges, as to defining what shall be recognized as entitled to wear the name and garb of Masonry, and to draw the lines sharply as to what may or shall be tolerated on the part of so-called Masonic bodies, which have either constitutionally or tacitly been recognized as such.

While the argument is apparently a fair one that Grand Lodges can take no cognizance over any organization which is not subordinate to or more properly coordinately of them; cannot, in short, have a legal knowledge of their existence, and therefore have no power whatever to assume or exercise any control over them, the fact still remains that, as the recognized sovereign powers in all that pertains to Symbolic Masonry, they may determine what shall and what shall not be recognized as Masonic, not only as to so-called degrees, but under the Ancient Constitutions, and their own several organic laws, to determine what rites shall be considered Masonic, and, in their several jurisdictions, what form or system of ritual shall be practised. The last power, however, is an unquestioned one to-day, although a few years since, from 1862 to 1864, it was an open question in Illinois, in which those who, from the result we may assume were schismatics, sought by surreptitious means to subvert the Constitution, and to substitute the Conservators' ritual for the lawful work then in practice, if indeed it went no further than this, which was claimed by its followers, though distrusted by nearly all others. The writer well remembers the advent of a very distinguished brother in the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and the motion which followed, that he be requested to exemplify the work of the Third degree before the Grand Lodge. The Grand Master, Dr. Buck, ruled the motion out of order, and referred to the Constitution, which in express terms prohibited exemplification of work by any others than the Grand Lecturers.

The proposition was renewed in another form, that he be permitted to do so informally. To this the Grand Master replied that he should obey not only the letter but the spirit of the Constitution, and that the motion would not be entertained. But the germ there sown took root, and for two or three years the battle raged. *The Trowel*, then published by Bro. Reynolds, became a two-edged sword, dealing sturdy blows for the integrity of the Grand Lodge, resuming its office of "spreading the cement of brotherly love and affection" only when Conservatism had been openly renounced by those who had attempted to ingraft it upon the old Constitutional stock.

If at that time the Grand Lodge of Illinois had the power to determine what was Masonic and what was not, and to compel obedience to its decision, it surely follows that it, and each other Grand Lodge, possesses that power, and with it the correlative duty to exercise it whenever innovation is attempted, or the best interests of the Craft are menaced. The extremely conservative ground taken by the Editor of the *Voice of Masonry*, upon the action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, is well calculated to make the most impulsive mind pause and reflect well before reaching a decision on the question at issue. But, when we go back to 1740 and find the Royal Arch as a complement to the Master's degree, and when also at the union of the two Grand Lodges of England in 1813, we find a clear definition of Masonry as being the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, including the Holy Royal Arch, we may safely assume that we have all of Masonry as then recognized, under the control of the Grand Lodge of England, the Constitutions of which, adopted about 1723, with their several successive amendments, are still regarded as the general organic law of Masonry in America.

If, then, the Grand Lodge of England, at the times mentioned held and exercised supreme control over everything appertaining to Masonry; if, as a part of Symbolic Masonry, the Grand Lodge of England sanctioned and adopted the fabrication of the Royal Arch Degree by Dunckerly as borrowed from Dermott and Ramsay, and elaborated and remodeled by himself; if, indeed, that constituted the whole of Masonry in that epoch, by what right or authority has Masonry been used as a god-mother and sponsor for the hundreds of degrees and rites which are now claimed and popularised as Masonic? And if the Grand Lodge of England had then, in the comparative

youth of Masonry, to draw the line, and say, thus far and no farther, the same right exists to-day in all the American Grand Lodges, subject to the Ancient Landmarks and Constitutions. And, if they possess this right, does it not logically follow that all so-called Masonic degrees not thus recognised, stand as impostors and clandestine organisations, having no claim to Masonic relationship save in the fact that their membership is limited to Masons? The converse of these propositions would seem to be that Grand Lodges should exercise constant vigilance in repressing and branding as clandestine and un-Masonic whatever may come into conflict with pre-existing conditions, or in any manner weaken or diminish the vigour, harmony or usefulness of the Fraternity.

The action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is not a new departure. It is but a repetition of what Illinois has done, and is a healthful sign that the great body of the Craft are loyal to old landmarks and principles.

It is full time that a halt should be called, and the overshadowing and superfluous tinsel decorations stripped from our temple and buried in the Masonic potters' field. The Craft have slumbered quietly, secure in the consciousness of strength, while these encroachments have been going on, tamely submitting to see the sublime funeral ritual appropriated almost literally by one of the so-called higher bodies, and it is indeed time that the Craft should awake to its rights and protect them. If those who claim to be Masons are so wedded to their idols that they prefer the Golden Calf to the Living Word, they must, like the children of Israel, suffer the consequences. There should be in Masonry no "Let Ephraim alone, he is joined to his idols," but the Masonic Ephraim should be made to realise that he must get out of his father's house, and move into one of his own, bearing a different name, if he will not be governed by the rules and regulations of his forefathers."

Nor is this running after strange gods the only evil to be feared. The same love of the sensational, of scenic decoration and dramatic accessions, is gradually working its way, like leaven in a loaf, into Symbolic Masonry; and in the home of the *Voice of Masonry*, and perhaps others of our large cities, rich costumes and dramatic accessories of various kinds are becoming fashionable, and it is not impossible, should this straining after sensational effect be tolerated, that, in course of time, we may find our country Lodges, who cannot afford these expensive outfits, under the necessity of keeping up with the times by employing some Star performer, who has provided himself with the necessary paraphernalia, to visit them and confer the sublime degree in modern theatrical style.

The true idea of these practices was tersely expressed by Past Grand Master Josiah H. Drummond, who, being asked for his views on this subject, replied that he "hoped never to see Masons in any other disguise or costume than that of gentlemen."

In the editorial comment of the *Voice of Masonry* on the Massachusetts question, Bro. Brown says: "We think it forbodes a complete dictatorship over all degrees (Masonic), by Grand Lodges, and in the ultimate, the abolition of all other Grand Bodies," &c. This would seem rather a far-fetched conclusion. Grand Lodges, as a rule, have enough of their own business to attend to, and, being composed of the bone and sinew of the Craft, are possessed of the charity necessary to subdue and keep in check all selfishness or desire for aggrandisement at the expense of the rights of others. Symbolic Masonry, though not quite Quakerism, is never aggressive, seeks only to be let alone, and to protect itself in its legitimate and time-conceded rights, but not to build itself or strengthen itself by the destruction of, or interference with, any other association of men. The foreboding thought, however, may be construed as a virtual admission of the inherent power of G. Lodges to do what is thus vaguely suggested as a remote possibility. There is, however, no desire on the part of Symbolic Masons to abridge the ambitions of the "Jiners," who, from whatever cause, may desire to "jine" all the secret orders in existence, and though it may sometimes sound rather unfraternal to hear the remark, "Oh, he's *only* a Royal Arch," or "*only* a Master Mason," as the case may chance to be, by those who append 32°, or more, to their autographs, yet they can well afford to ignore it, knowing that they are *only* such from their own choice, and from no demerit on their part.

One of the possible contingencies suggested in the Massachusetts report, that of a conflicting allegiance, is hardly probable by any association styling itself Masonic, and the true Mason would hesitate and promptly refuse to take upon himself any obligation which might conflict with paramount or rather pre-existing duties. It is no warfare on Masonic principles, but it is an affirmation of Masonic sovereignty over Masonry; of its power for self protection, and Massachusetts, as the mother Grand Lodge of America, is opportune in setting a wholesale example, to crush effectually those mercenary adventurers who, like Ramsay, Cagliostro, and Marconis, are prostituting the name of Masonry, as a means of personal gain; free lances and freebooters who, though perhaps skilful in the use of their weapons, wield them not from principle but for lucre. There can be no doubt as to the good result. The voice of the Craft, and probably the *Voice of Masonry*, will in due time proclaim, Well done, old Bay State; let the mill grind.

A Convocation of the North London Chapter of Improvement was held on the 10th inst., at the Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, N. Companions Dean M.E.Z., Gregory H., Strugnell J., Radcliffe S.N., Knight P.S. It was resolved, at a late Convocation of this Chapter of Improvement, that a complimentary banquet should be given on Thursday, the 7th February next, to Companion Preceptor T. C. Edmonds. This will take place at the Holborn Restaurant, at seven o'clock punctually. Any Companion desirous of being present will please communicate with Comp. J. E. Sheffield, 67 Grosvenor-road, Highbury New-park, N. Tickets 4s 6d each.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville, London, N.

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Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket-Book for the year 1884. Published for the benefit of the Charity Fund under the sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England, and by command of the M.W. Grand Master. London: Spencer's Masonic Depôt, 23A Great Queen-street, W.C.

THE Calendar Committee of the Board of General Purposes are to be congratulated on the progress they are making in the work of compilation. The roll of Grand Officers since 1814 has been extended in the present issue by the addition of the Pro Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, while that portion of the Calendar which is devoted to the Provinces has been strengthened by the insertion of the list of brethren who since 1717 have held the supreme direction of affairs in the Provinces into which the country is sub-divided. Another improvement is the omission of the magical letters "T.I." from Lodges Nos. 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13, to which they had no claim whatever. Perhaps, in a year or two more the Committee will have mustered up courage enough to insert the dates of constitution, which cannot be very much earlier than 1751, instead of leaving them without dates altogether. The dates in the "Cosmo," as supplied, we believe, by Bro. Hughan, are No. 3—"1755-84," No. 5—"1752," No. 7—"1751," No. 9—"1751," No. 11—"1751," and No. 13—"1761-85." We know there is a difficulty in fixing the dates of constitution of the so-called "Ancient" Lodges, but, according to Bro. Gould, on the 17th July 1751, the Masters of Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7—present Nos. 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13—"were authorised to grant dispensations and warrants, and to act as Grand Master." Though, therefore, the constitutions of these Lodges may, for the sake of convenience, be deemed to "range beyond historical investigation," still, as the Schism did not begin till about the year 1738, and as the genuine "T.I." Lodges, Nos. 2 and 4, are the only ones which work without warrants, further investigations on the part of the Calendar Committee may some day enable them to decide for themselves, if only approximately, when these said Lodges came into being. One other matter deserves to be mentioned. The Committee persist in setting down the days when Lodges meet as "2nd Thursday," "1st Monday," &c., when, as they cannot fail to know, a vast number of Lodges meet only six or seven times in the course of the year; at all events, not regularly every month, as is implied by the entries as now worded. We lay some stress on this point, as brethren rightly look to the Grand Lodge Calendar for accurate information, and, in this particular, it is not forthcoming.

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The Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book for 1884. Fourteenth year of publication: Second Edition. London: George Kenning, 16 and 16A Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields; 1, 2, 3 and 4 Little Britain; 195, 196 and 197 Aldersgate-street, &c., &c., &c.

THE appearance of a fresh issue of this useful, we may venture to correct ourselves and say indispensable, Masonic publication is always most welcome. The information it contains as to the different Masonic bodies at home and abroad is very nearly as complete as it can be made, and, what is of still greater significance, it is surprisingly accurate, considering the great difficulties there are in the way of obtaining accurate returns about Lodges, Chapters, Conclaves, and the like. No new feature has been introduced this year, because so many have been introduced in previous issues that the list of new features must have been pretty well exhausted by this time. But endeavours have been successfully made to strengthen, as far as possible, the value of the "Cosmo" in its character of a guide as to the days and places of meeting of the different Masonic bodies, supreme and subordinate; while, as far as we have had an opportunity of judging, the matter relating to Masonry abroad is, if anything, rather more comprehensive than it was last year. In short, the "Cosmo," retains all its old points of excellence, while it does not materially differ from what it was in 1883, only because there was little, if any, room left for the introduction of material changes, at least in the way of improvement.

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Irish Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the year 1884. Published under the sanction of the Right Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Dublin: Printed by S. Underwood, for the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and to be had at Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth-street.

THE Irish Masonic Calendar is a model of neatness and conciseness as regards the arrangement of its contents and their sub-division among the different bodies which flourish in Ireland in spite of the antagonism with which they are unceasingly confronted. As to the accuracy of the information furnished we are not in a position to say more than that almost every page affords evidence of the care bestowed on the compilation. There appears to be a great amount of unwillingness on the part of Irish Lodges and brethren to allow any of their doings to appear in the Masonic journals of this country. Why this should be the case is an enigma we shall make no attempt to solve. But in the absence of such occasional intelligence, we have no means of testing the value of the particulars stated as to dates, places of meeting, &c. All we can say on this head is, that the details given have every appearance of being trustworthy, while the manner in which they are put together is well worthy of commendation.

Several Lodge reports are unavoidably held over.

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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FREEMASONRY AND THE SAINTS JOHN.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—We in England should absolutely know nothing of the Craft literature of America were it not for your excellent paper. No doubt some brethren on this side of the Atlantic take in the American Masonic publications, but they are kept for private use, and but for the quotations you give now and again they would be caviare to the Fraternity at large. I confess to a liking for the *Keystone*, not because I endorse altogether what it says, but because of the evident earnestness that characterises all its Masonic productions. Take the article on "St. John's Day," printed in your issue of the 29th ult., for example. A proper distinction is there drawn between fact and tradition, and while fact alone is held up as determining matters of history and practice, an affection is nevertheless displayed for tradition. The editor seems that he would fain cling to the belief that both St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist were Freemasons. If it is not so, why does he refer to Masonic symbolism and the sun, to the zodiacal connection between "Cancer" and St. John the Baptist, and "Capricorn" and St. John the Evangelist? He appears to me to wish that the reasons given why the Craft should honour both Saints' days were true; it is quite certain that the editor of the *Keystone*, if called upon to judge of the sanity of any one who should boldly assert as fact what tradition affirms, he would either observe that excellent motto—"Silence," or very mildly rebuke the enthusiast.

In dealing with facts, the editor in question is loyal to the patron saints. In that respect America generally is with him, at least so far as one of them is concerned—St. John the Evangelist. He rebukes the English and Scotch brethren for deserting the Saints John for St. George and St. Andrew, preferring, as he says, "patriotism" to "primitive practice." If I might venture into the realm of speculation, I would suggest that it is just possible that patriotism had little, if anything, to do with the change. We are reminded in the article I am quoting from that "the Grand Lodge of England was revived on St. John the Baptist's Day, 24th June 1717," afterwards changed to "St. John the Evangelist's Day, 27th December." When the transfer of allegiance to St. George took place, we are not informed, but with regard to St. Andrew, we are told that "The Festival of St. John the Baptist was kept by the Grand Lodge of Scotland until 1737, when the annual election was changed to St. Andrew's Day." I am not at present concerned with Scotland, but with England, and it does appear that those who contend for the specific and dogmatic character of Freemasonry, prior to the Constitutions of Anderson, may have better grounds for their belief than many writers on Masonic history yield to them. Nothing would be more natural—having changed the religious character of the body—than to obliterate the names which personified the old faith. Bro. Hughan, in his "Memorials of the Masonic Union," says, "The precise origin of the secession of 1730-52 has not yet been exactly ascertained, but we may safely assume that the disagreement which arose was mainly fostered by the Operatives, in whose practical minds the institution of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons on a cosmopolitan basis was evidently regarded as directly opposed to their ancient customs and privileges." I gather from this that the Operatives objected to being absorbed into the more Speculative body, and thus lose their identity. But in the next sentence Bro. Hughan seems to furnish the key by which the conduct of the Operatives is to be explained. He says: "The struggle for supremacy commenced in earnest on the Festival of St. John the Baptist, 1723, when the election of the learned natural philosopher, Dr. Desaguliers, as Deputy Grand Master, met with opposition, forty-two adverse votes being registered out of a total of eighty-five." The authority to Anderson to revise and complete the history and regulations of the existing old Constitutions was granted by Grand Lodge on the 29th September 1721, and he finished his work in 1723, just about the time, as Bro. Hughan says, "the struggle for supremacy commenced in earnest." It is a fact beyond dispute that men cling to faith in religion long after they have sacrificed everything else; it is the last stronghold to yield, and I am inclined to think that the change made by Anderson in the religious basis of the Order had more than anything else to do with the struggle that culminated finally in 1813. It is significant also to notice that another edition of the Constitutions appeared in 1738, when the Schism, which began nearly twenty years before, took a more active and defiant form, and resulted in the establishment of another Grand Lodge a few years later.

Although the fundamental principles of Craft Masonry are the same all over the world, it is quite clear that the American brethren attach a Christian character to it, such as does not exist in England. They adhere to St. John's Day, and their Masonic literature abounds in allusions to Christ and the religious faith of Christianity. On the occasion of the Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held on St. John's Day, 27th December 1832, a poem was recited, entitled, "Through Death to Life," in which occurs the following verse:—

"You have heard these tales, shall I tell you one—
A greater and better than all?—
Have you heard of Him whom the heavens adore;
Before whom the hosts of them fall?"

How He left the choirs and anthems above,
For earth in its wailings and woes,
To suffer the shame and pain of the Cross,
And die for the life of his foes?
O Prince of the noble! O Sufferer divine!
What sorrow and sacrifice equal to thine!"

Such an incident would be almost impossible in England, and were it to happen, no doubt it would give rise to much hot blood, because of the essential Theistic character of the Craft, which is here observed in letter as well as in spirit.

While speaking of St. John's Day and America, I may just mention a very interesting ceremony that took place in St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Providence, on the occasion of their 125th anniversary, held on the 27th December 1882. To celebrate the event a gold medal had been struck, and, judging from the engravings I have seen of it, it must be a very elegant memento. On one side of it there are the faces of the two Saints John, and inscribed round the border are the words—"Saint John's Lodge, Number One, Providence, 1757." On the other side are the arms of the Lodge, bearing the motto—"Suivez raison," with the inscription around—"One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Anniversary, 1882." On this occasion, too, an elegant altar was erected, the brethren also returned to the old custom of wearing silver chain collars, to which were attached the jewels of their several offices. I have referred to these matters to show with what reverence our brethren in America venerate the names of the two Saints John. From what I have said in a previous part of my letter, I infer that the religious character of the Craft has undergone considerable changes, and that it is quite possible, nay, even probable, that, owing to those changes, much of the difficulty that arose in the revival period from 1717 onwards is to be attributed. I offer the foregoing scattered thoughts for what they are worth, merely observing that I approach the subject with an open mind, and with, I trust, that respect which is due to those of my brethren who are entitled to speak with authority on all matters pertaining to the Craft.

Yours humbly and fraternally,

INQUIRER.

BRO. YARKER'S HISTORY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Considering that Bro. Yarker offers himself as an authority in Masonic History, it is astonishing how many and inexcusable are the mistakes into which he falls. He began by stating that Grand Master Payne was censured by Grand Lodge for attending Schismatic Lodges. It turned out that it was not Bro. Payne, but Bro. Sayer, whom he intended. Then Bro. Sadler pointed out that Bro. Sayer was not guilty of the charge of attending such Lodges, and now—that is, in his letter which appeared last week in your columns—he writes: "I might have strengthened my last letter by referring to the 1765 List of Lodges of the 'Ancient' Lodges. These may be found printed in the 'Freemason's Magazine and Masonic Mirror,' 19th June 1896. In it there are two Lodges dating prior to 1721, as follows;—

"1. Queens Arms, St. Pauls Churchyard, Second Wednesday. Constituted Time Immemorial. Every fourth Wednesday there is a Masters' Lodge. It is also the West India and American Lodge."

"2. Horn, Westminster, second Thursday."

It is a great pity that Bro. Yarker does not carry his researches a little below the surface. Had he done so in this instance, he could hardly have failed to discover, and that without the slightest difficulty, that though the list he refers to is certainly headed "Ancient Lodges," it refers to the "regular" Lodges holding under the 1717 Grand Lodge, not to the "Schismatic" Lodges. If this is not made sufficiently clear by the explanatory note which immediately follows the title—"A New and Correct List of all the English Regular Lodges in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, according to their seniority and constitution. By order of the Grand Master. Brought down to April 19th, 1765"—it is so by the internal evidence afforded by the List itself, as well as by a few other circumstances with which an exponent of Masonic History may reasonably be expected to be acquainted. For instance, the 98 Lodges of the said list published on 19th June 1869, as aforesaid, and the 21 Lodges—to No. 119 inclusive—which appear in the "Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror" for the week following—are dated from "Time Immemorial" down to October 1740, while, according to the statement made by Bro. Gould in his "Atholl Lodges"—see page 5 of his work under Lodge No. 8, now No. 15—"the Warrant of No. 8 seems to have been the first issued by the 'Ancients,' and was signed by the Masters of Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 6, in 1751." At all events, as the date commonly assigned for the commencement of the Schism is about the year 1738, it is clear that by far the greatest number of these 119 Lodges, having been warranted before that year, cannot possibly have belonged to the "Schismatic" or so-called "Ancient" Grand Lodge. Then it does not need a pair of spectacles to discover that the Lodges Nos. 1 and 2, noted by Bro. Yarker, are present Nos. 2 and 4, both Time Immemorial, and the survivors of the "Four Old Lodges" which founded the Grand Lodge of 1717. Again, if it were possible there could be any doubts as to this list being one of "Regular" Lodges, as it is described, and not a list of "Schismatic" Lodges, the names of very many of the places at which they met would show this, as they are to be found in other "Regular" Lodge lists; and though in one or two instances it may have happened that a "Regular" and a "Schismatic" Lodge met at one and the same place, it is most improbable that this should have been the case in dozens of instances. Moreover, according to Gould, the so-called "Ancients" did not publish a list of Lodges till 1807, while the "Regulars" published annual lists from an early date—some time before there was a Grand Master to order the publication of a list of "Schismatic" Lodges.

However, I have stated enough for my purpose, which is to show that Bro. Yarker might have avoided this further error into which he has fallen.

In the long letter which Bro. Yarker sent you after I had reviewed his lecture, he was pleased to ridicule a statement of mine that the "Ancient" Masons were really "Modern," and the "Moderns" "Ancients." As the term "Ancient" appears to have been again used by Brother Yarker to indicate what he supposes to be the "Schismatic" Lodges, let me fortify myself by the following extract from the preface to Bro. Gould's "Atholl Lodges":—"The junior of these two bodies"—that is, "the Grand Lodges established respectively in 1717 and 1753"—"originated in the secession of numerous brethren about 1738, from the parent Grand Lodge of English Masonry, which they averred had adopted new plans and departed from the old landmarks. The Schismatics, therefore, in reverting (as they alleged) to the 'old forms,' arrogated to themselves the title of 'Ancient' Masons, bestowing upon their rivals the odious appellation of 'Moderns,' and by those distinctive epithets they have since been generally described." I must apologise for laying so much stress on what is in fact part of the A B C of Masonic History, but though I have declined to enter into any controversy with Bro. Yarker, I could not stand idly by while he was floundering about in a sea of difficulties, although they were mostly of his own creation, without lending him a helping hand. So you must accept my good nature as my apology for again troubling you.

Fraternally,

REVIEWER OF BRO. YARKER'S LECTURE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The very friendly spirit in which Bro. Yarker replied to my former communication with reference to Anthony Sayer has induced me to ask permission to trespass still further on your valuable space. I presume that, like myself, Bro. Yarker is a seeker after Masonic light and truth, if so he will doubtless see the justice of the following remarks.

The earlier history of Speculative Masonry is obscured by many clouds of doubt and uncertainty. I consider it, therefore, a duty we owe to each other to endeavour to contribute a ray of light, however faint, towards making clear that which has been for years, and still is, a fruitful source of contention amongst certain members of our Order. Yet it behoves us to act with great caution, to be certain of our ground, and not to publish to the world as positive facts what should be merely expressions of opinion, lest by repeating and thereby propagating the errors of former writers, we add to the density of, instead of throwing light on, some of the most interesting events in the history of our grand old Craft. I have no doubt it was some such thoughts as are expressed in the foregoing sentences that prompted me to seek for further information as to our old Grand Master's offence, for, from the confidence with which Bro. Yarker made his assertions, I had a hope, a faint one I admit, that he was in possession of important information not known to the generality of Masonic historians. I very much regret that it is not in my power to furnish him with a copy of the document referred to in the Grand Lodge minutes of 1730, and quite agree with him that its production would settle the question, but I fear there is no such paper now in existence, for I am inclined to think it was destroyed, if not at the time the complaint was disposed of, very shortly afterwards. I will now, as briefly as possible, inform Bro. Yarker what other interpretation I can put upon the minute besides that given by himself. Having taken into consideration the wording of the complaint as well as the decision of the Grand Lodge, and the surrounding circumstances, I am inclined to think that the offence was committed either in, or had some reference to his own Lodge, for you will observe that the complaint was made by the then Master and Wardens, and why the word *irregularities*? I should imagine that to attend a spurious or unrecognised Lodge would have been spoken of as an irregularity. Again, had that been the offence, I feel sure it would have been mentioned in plain terms, for irregular Lodges are mentioned in the Grand Lodge Proceedings about that period, and one at least petitioned to be received, and was received, into the list of the regular Lodges. Why, then, this mystery? Why is the nature of the charge not entered in the Grand Lodge book? Bearing in mind how scrupulous our old brethren were in all matters pertaining to the ritual, I can come to no other conclusion than that the charge had some relation to the ceremonies; hence the objection to writing it in the Grand Lodge book. However, the offence could not have been a very serious one, or the result would have been different. Of course, all this is mere conjecture, and must be taken for what it is worth. Now for a few facts! Bro. Yarker says, "I might have strengthened my last letter by referring to the 1765 List of Lodges of the 'Ancient' Masons." But why the inverted commas? Is it a freak of the devil (of course I mean the "printer's devil"), or Bro. Yarker's own doing? I find, on referring to the magazine he mentions, that the List is simply headed "Ancient Lodges,"* and is neither more nor less than a list of the regular Lodges under the English Constitution, probably taken from Cole's engraved List for the year 1766, and has nothing whatever to do with the self-styled "Ancient" Masons. How referring to this List could possibly strengthen Bro. Yarker's last letter is a perfect puzzle to me, so I will "give it up" and wait for "more light;" but as Bro. Yarker mentions two Lodges, I presume he wishes us to understand that they were two of the oldest so-called "Ancient" Lodges. If so, I may as well mention a fact which I imagined was well known to every one having the smallest pretensions to an acquaintance with Masonic history. Nos. 1 and 2 of 1765 are now No. 2 (Lodge of Antiquity), and No. 4 Royal Somerset Lodge, neither of which has ever been on the "List of 'Ancient' Lodges." Fearing to trespass

further on your good nature, I reluctantly bid adieu to this most interesting subject, and beg to subscribe myself,

Yours fraternally,

H. SADLER.

* I append a copy of the heading referred to, which I have extracted from the Magazine itself.—H. S.

ANCIENT LODGES.

A New and Correct List of all the English Regular Lodges in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, according to their seniority and constitution. By order of the Grand Master. Brought down to April 19th, 1765.

THE SECRETARY OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As I had no wish to trespass too much on your valuable space, there were one or two points connected with the increased salary of the Secretary of the Girls' School which I thought might safely be held over, at all events for the present. However, I find "I.P.M." has referred to them more or less directly, and perhaps, therefore, you will kindly allow me to complete my say.

In your contemporary's account of the Committee meeting, Bro. Massey is reported to have expressed regret that Bro. Hedges's salary "had not been made the same as the salaries of the Secretaries of the other Institutions." Now, Bro. Massey is one of those men whom, as a rule, I should be inclined to hold up as models of sound common sense, and in order to account for this passing eccentricity of speech, I have no alternative but to suppose either that he has been misreported, or that, this being the season for paying people compliments, he employed this style of language for the purpose of paying Bro. Secretary a greater compliment than usual. The known accuracy of your contemporary forbids the former, while, as to the latter, Brother Richardson, who was present, "took the remark" quite seriously, and "hoped it would be so shortly." I am glad that "I.P.M." has noted this, and still more glad that he and I are pretty much of the same mind as to the groundlessness of Bro. Massey's regret. I believe Bro. Terry has been Secretary of the Benevolent Institution about twice as long a time as Bro. Hedges has of the Girls' School, and that Bro. Binckes's service as Secretary of the Boys' School is about double that of Bro. Terry's in respect of the R.M.B.I. Yet Bro. Massey regrets they are not all three in receipt of the same amount of salary, and Bro. Richardson hopes the time is not far distant when they will be. Now, as "I.P.M." points out, there is, quite apart from the question of merit, the question of length of service, and this latter he considers "should be taken into consideration in adjusting salaries." To this, as a bare proposition, no reasonable objection can be taken, and it follows, therefore, that if Bro. Hedges, with five and a half years' service, is worth £500 a year, Bro. Terry, with eleven years', must be worth £1,000, and Bro. Binckes, with twice eleven years', £2,000. On the other hand, if Bros. Binckes and Terry, with their respective years of service, are not assigned the salaries I have stated, it follows that the proposal to give Bro. Hedges £500 at present must be—to put it very gently—just a little premature. But perhaps I ought to apologise to the Girls' School Committee for thinking the vulgar "Cocker" of my youthful days is an arithmetical authority worth following.

As to the question of relative merit, it is admitted by every one to be a most delicate one to discuss, and I have already stated my reasons for not touching upon it. But perhaps I may be permitted to point out, as a not unreasonable argument, that, if the merits of all three Secretaries are equal—which, *quâ* merit at least, is the only ground for fixing their salaries at the same figure—then Bro. Hedges has achieved as great distinction in five years and a half as Bro. Terry has in eleven, and Bro. Binckes in twice eleven years. But if A achieves in one year what it takes B and C two and four years respectively to achieve, he must be the best man of the three. Therefore, their merits are not all equal, and they do not deserve equal salaries. But by the proposition they are all equal, so that it follows they must be both equal and not equal, which is absurd. I shall no doubt be told this is very silly, and I dare say it seems so, but the silliness is not of my fashioning; it results from the suggestions of others who would pay all three Secretaries equally, without giving a thought to the questions of merit and length of service.

There is only one other matter that need be considered. The members of a body corporate are responsible collectively, but not individually or personally, for its actions. May I venture to ask if it is at all likely there would be the same liberal disbursement of the moneys entrusted to its care, if a means could be contrived by which each member of the said body should be held responsible for his individual acts?

Fraternally yours,

NEGOTII NON INEXPERTS.

The following is the list of dinners that have been held at Freemasons' Tavern during the week:—

7th January—Lodge of Joppa, Old Kings' Arm Chapter, Robert Burns Lodge, Grand Master's Lodge. 8th—St. James's Union Lodge, Urban Lodge, Cadogan Lodge, Philanthropic Ball; 9th—Enoch Lodge, Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society; 10th—Kilburn Lodge Ball, Caledonian Society, Lodge of Regularity, Polish Lodge, Pilgrims Lodge, St. George's (Royal Arch) Chapter; 11th—London Caithness Ball, Bedford Lodge, Britannic Chapter, Eclectic Lodge; 12th—Metropolitan Rate Collectors.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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LODGE OF JOPPA, No. 188.

THIS Lodge held its installation meeting on Monday, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C. The Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. I. Benjamin, who was supported by P.M.'s Bros. L. Alexander, M. L. Alexander, H. M. Levy, A. J. Dodson, L. M. Myers, R. Baker, S. Hickman, L. Lazarus, E. P. Albert (Secretary), Obed Roberts, &c., and a large number of the members of the Lodge, whilst amongst those who signed the book as Visitors were the following:—Bros. L. M. Lazarus P.G.W. Wilts, W. H. Welshman 599, B. Kauffmann J.D. 1732, W. H. Baker P.M. 180, John Mason 1567 P.P.S.G.D. Middlesex, H. M. Harris P.M. 205, John Maclean P.M. 1319, M. Hart P.M. and Tr. 1502, A. E. Slatterly W.M. 185, A. Endean 9, H. Massey P.M. 619 and 1928, N. Valentine 1017, W. W. Morgan S.W. 211, H. Aarons P.M. 1668, G. A. Fletcher P.M. 180, I. P. Cohen P.M. 205, W. J. Blunt 1100, Beer 180, &c. After the formal reading and confirmation of the minutes of last meeting, the ballot was taken and declared clear for Mr. Meyer Frank, who had for his sponsors Bros. P. Isaac and J. Davis. The candidate was then introduced, and Bro. Benjamin initiated him into the mysteries of the first degree in an eminently satisfactory manner. The J.W. of the past year, Bro. George Bean, was then presented as the W.M. elect, and Bro. M. Alexander P.M., who had taken the chair for the purpose, conducted the installation ceremony. On the return of the Board of Installed Masters, the new W.M. appointed and invested the Officers, as follow:—Bros. Martin S.W., Dewsnap J.W., J. S. Lyon Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. Secretary, Walls S.D., J. Lion J.D., Hicks I.G., Dodson P.M. M.C., Van Noorden Organist, Goddard P.M. Tyler. Brother M. Alexander then delivered the several addresses, and in a manner that reflected much credit upon him. Several matters were then discussed, and after routine work Lodge was closed. A capital banquet was provided by the lessees of the Tavern, it was served by Bros. Dawkins and M. Silver, and gave general satisfaction. On the removal of the cloth, the customary toasts were briefly introduced by the W.M. Bro. E. P. Albert responded for the Grand Officers, and Brother L. Alexander gave his usual financial statement as to what was being done to maintain the Benevolent Fund, which is so interesting a feature in connection with the Joppa Lodge. Brother L. Alexander announced that the Initiate had subscribed 21s, and Bro. Lyon, the Junior Deacon, had also signified his intention to present a similar amount. Then came the toast of the Initiate, and this compliment having been acknowledged, Brother Benjamin proposed the health of the W.M. He felt he was justified in calling this the toast of the evening. He had had the honour of being initiated with Bro. Bean, and he felt the new W.M. of the Lodge of Joppa would fully uphold the prestige it had been credited with for so many years. The brethren would look forward to each coming meeting with pleasure, and might feel assured the proceedings would be conducted with satisfaction to one and all. In replying the W.M. thanked Brother Benjamin and the brethren. He could hardly find words to express himself. He could, however, assure them he would strive to the best of his ability, and trusted he might receive at the end of his year of office the same hearty acknowledgments from the brethren. In speaking to the toast of the I.P.M., the W.M. said Bro. Benjamin, by his courtesy and attention to duty, had won the goodwill and respect of the Lodge. He (Bro. Bean) had great pleasure in placing on his breast the Past Master's jewel, which he trusted he might live long to wear. Bro. John Maclean here favoured the company with a capital recitation, and then Bro. Benjamin acknowledged the honour done him, assuring the brethren he should ever prize the jewel they had presented him with. For the Visitors Bros. Staley of the Tranquillity, Harris of the Israel, Aarons of the Samson, and M. Hart P.M. and Treasurer of 1502 replied; the latter brother stating that the members of his Lodge, the Israel, of Liverpool, were endeavouring to follow in the footsteps of the Joppa brethren as regards their Benevolent Fund. He was proud to say they already had a sum of about £400 to its credit. Several other toasts followed, and in each case suitable response was made. It was a late hour before the Tyler gave the parting toast and the brethren separated. The following selection of music, under the direction of Bro. P. E. Van Noorden (Organist of the Lodge), was performed:—"God Save the Queen;" "God bless the Prince of Wales;" Song, "The Sailor's Story," Henry Smart—Miss Clara Myers; Song, "An Evening Song," Blumenthal—Mr. Charles Murton; Song, "When the heart is young," Buck—Miss Effie Chapuy, R.A.M.; Song, "Hybrius the Cretan," Elliott—Bro. Henry Prenton; Quartette, "Auld lang syne;" Duet, Violin and Piano, "7th concerto," De Beriot—Mr. Basil Althaus and Mr. Walter Van Noorden; Song, "The mower and the lass," M. Wellings—Miss Clara Myers; Song, "Let me like a soldier fall," Wallace—Mr. Charles Murton; Song, "Esmeralda, Leoy"—Miss Effie Chapuy; New Song, "The Sergeant's Wife," Behrend—Bro. Henry Prenton. The entire arrangements reflected great credit on Bro. Van Noorden.

ST. MICHAEL'S LODGE, No. 211.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, when there was a very large attendance of the members. The Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Fred. J. Hentsch, who was supported by Bros. W. W. Morgan S.W., T. H. Peirce J.W., W. Radcliffe P.M. Secretary, H. Martin S.D., E. Thring J.D., Thomas Crapper I.G., Alfred Withers P.M. M.C., A. Green P.M. W.S.; Past Masters Usher Bach, Dr. John Waters, &c. Visitors—Bros. Martin W.M. 1320 S.W. 188, Stunt J.W. 1320, and Lister 1320. After the minutes of last meeting had been read, confirmed, and signed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Philip James King, who was proposed by Bro. Martin S.D., seconded

by Bro. Burr, and for Mr. Joseph Parsons, proposed by Bro. Martin S.D., seconded by Bro. Aires; the result in each case was in favour of the candidate. Bro. Hartley, who was initiated at the last meeting, was then examined as to the proficiency he had made, and having fully sustained his claim for advancement, was entrusted. In due course, the Lodge was advanced, and Bro. Hartley was re-admitted and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. Charles Greenwood jun., P.M. 410 Past Prov. Grand Registrar, and Past Prov. Grand Secretary Surrey, was elected a joining member. The two candidates named above, Messrs. King and Parsons, were then introduced and separately initiated by the W.M., who conducted each of the ceremonies in a careful and perfect manner. The choice of a Worshipful Master for the year resulted in favour of Bro. W. W. Morgan S.W., who was unanimously elected to fill that office amid the hearty congratulations of those present. Bro. Charles Greenwood P.M. Past Grand Sword Bearer was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Speight P.M. Tyler. After routine work, Lodge was closed, and the brethren with their Visitors partook of refreshments.

WELLINGTON LODGE, No. 548.

ON Tuesday evening there was a large muster of the brethren of the above Lodge and visitors on the occasion of the installation of Bro. A. Holmes, the W.M. elect, which took place at the White Swan Hotel, High-street, Deptford. Bro. W. G. Batchelor, the retiring W.M., occupied the Master's chair, and he was supported by the following Officers and brethren: A. Holmes S.W., G. Newell J.W., J. J. West Treasurer, E. J. Bumstead Secretary, W. P. Catterson S.D., H. Carman J.D., G. Kitson I.G., W. Jones M.C., F. Hurdle A.D.C., J. Youlden W.S.; P.M.'s Wakefield, Saegart, Wintle, W. E. Brooks, Mugee, S. P. Catterson, W. Fieldson; C. Churchill, W. J. Barnes, Lepper, J. W. Cox, J. Hugo, F. Hancock, F. J. Fallor, Geo. and T. E. Musto, J. Moore, C. J. Sheppard, W. F. Lait, J. Tappenden, A. J. Brown, B. Avery, P. Ravenshaw, R. W. Moss, H. Collett, B. T. Arlidge, J. Simmonds, G. B. Robbins, T. W. Siddall, H. Mills. The visitors included Bros. Ralph Gooding, M.D., 1 G.S.D., G. Young 28, R. P. Aitkin 55 P.P.G.R. Kent, Dowsett P.M. 79, F. Couldery P.M. 79, H. Wintle and George Porter I.G. 140, H. Strickland 169, B. P. Holditch 172, Herbage W.M. 177, E. Riechelmann P.M. 515, Morton Graham W.M. and E. Ayling P.M. 975, E. Massey P.M. 1279, H. Russell Wakefield 1301, H. E. Anderson 1507, C. Ledger P.M. 1564, G. S. Gardner 1607, J. W. Moorman J.W. 1638, O. Finch 1641, E. Booth 1695, C. Atkins 1790, J. Lowe and W. F. Dennant P.M. 1924, W. Youlden P.M. 1638 and 1981, G. Gardner 177 and J.W. 2012. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed, the auditors' report and balance sheet were received and adopted. They showed that the Lodge was in a good financial condition, owing, in a great measure, to the excellent management of the Secretary, Bro. Bumstead. Bros. J. H. Cox and J. B. Vandenheede were then raised to the third degree by the W.M., who afterwards proceeded to instal his successor. It has become a regular custom with this Lodge for the retiring W.M. to perform this interesting ceremony, which is only departed from when circumstances prevent a brother from qualifying himself for that important duty. The result hitherto has been most satisfactory, and never more so than on Tuesday evening. Bro. Batchelor began with a surprise, and he ended with one. He opened and closed the Board of Installed Masters, we presume according to ancient custom, but as we have never seen it done before, nor had any of the older and more experienced brethren around us, we cannot speak with authority. The ceremony, brief as it was, certainly added spirit to the service, and gave no little pleasure to the large body of Past Masters forming the Board. Departing from the regular order in recording the proceedings, we may say that the W.M. installed Bro. Holmes in a very skilful manner, and subsequently he surprised his intimate friends by the delivery of the addresses. They were given with fine effect, and merited and obtained high encomiums from many of the visitors. His colleagues and the whole of the brethren of the Lodge present shared in the testimony of praise. Bro. Batchelor displayed a perfect acquaintance with the ritual, which he delivered with force and dignity. A very handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to the retiring W.M. after he had completed his duties and year of office. The new W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. Newell S.W., W. P. Catterson J.W., Carman S.D., G. Kitson J.D., Jones I.G., Hurdle M.C., J. Youlden A.M.C., Hancock W.S. Bro. J. J. West was duly reappointed Treasurer, and Bro. Bumstead Secretary. Bro. Goddard was again elected Tyler. After the Lodge had been formally closed, the brethren adjourned to a banquet prepared by Bro. Morgan, and served in his well-known style. The W.M. took to the duties of host very kindly, and proposed the several toasts in few but suitable terms. The Queen and the Craft was followed by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the W.M. observing that the Craft had flourished under H.R.H.'s care, and that he was the best Grand Master the Fraternity ever had. The Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master's (Earl of Carnarvon) health was heartily drunk, and in reply to the next toast—the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, and the rest of the Grand Officers present and past—Bro. Ralph Gooding G.S.D. expressed the pleasure it gave him to respond to so important a toast. Of the Grand Master he would not say much; his services and the lustre he had shed over the Craft were well known. Those who had had the distinguished honour of attending Grand Lodge must have observed the able, courteous, and gentlemanly demeanour of the Pro Grand Master. His experience and tact had enabled Grand Lodge to pass through various phases of difficulty. One of the grandest meetings that ever took place in Grand Lodge was that held on the occasion of the last Quarterly Communication, when the Earl of Carnarvon presided, the business of which could not have been better done had the W.M. been in the chair. After paying a tribute of praise to the business qualifications of the Earl of Lathom,

Bro. Gooding referred to able services rendered by the executive, and alluded to the labours of the Grand Registrar, the Grand Secretary, and Sir John Monckton. As for himself and the other Officers, they felt proud of the able way in which they had been led, and he spoke for all when he said they were prepared to sacrifice all glorification for the welfare of the Craft. He looked back to the time when he was an ardent student in the local Lodges of Instruction, and was proud of being their representative, if they would allow him to say so, at Grand Lodge. Bro. Gooding concluded by expressing the delight he felt at witnessing the work in the Lodge, and said the brethren had got an able Worshipful Master and an experienced and skilled Immediate Past Master. In response to the toast of his health, the Worshipful Master said that he had always endeavoured to carry out the duties of the respective offices he had held in the Lodge. From the night of initiation he had taken a warm interest in Lodges of Instruction. To them he owed much, and he advised all the brethren, especially those who desired office, to attend them. Bro. Batchelor had been the means of introducing more members into the Lodge during his year of office than had been known for years, and as these brethren were fresh to Masonry, now was a good opportunity for them to join Lodges of Instruction, a very excellent one being held in connection with the Lodge and under its name in that very room. After alluding to the casual visits of some brethren, which the W. Master desired should be more frequent, he proposed the toast of the Visitors, coupling therewith the names of Bros. Riechelman (who had rendered such efficient service as Organist and accompanist during the evening), Herbage, Ayling, and Wakefield. The replies were complimentary to the I.P.M. and to the hospitality of the W.M. and the Lodge. Rev. Bro. Wakefield was particularly happy in his remarks. Bro. W. Youlden, a P.M. of the Wellington Lodge, but who resigned owing to the inconvenience of attending, also responded to the toast. The other toasts were the Installing Master, the Past Masters, the Officers of the Lodge, concluding with the Tyler. Bros. W. Kitson, Carman, Dowsett, Saegart and Bumstead contributed to the pleasure of the brethren by songs and recitations.

CARNARVON LODGE, No. 804.

At a meeting of the above, held at Havant, on the 1st inst., interesting presentations were made to two well-known and zealous Freemasons, Bros. Hillman and Francis, Past Masters, the gift to the former consisting of a massive spirit-stand with handsome cut glass bottles, and the latter receiving two valuable jewels, subscribed for in each case by the members of the Lodge. The Worshipful Master in making the presentation remarked that the Lodge had now entered upon its 25th year of existence, having been consecrated in 1859, and that the present occasion, therefore, seemed fitting for the recognition by the Lodge of the great merits and high Masonic qualities of the two brethren above alluded to. Bro. Hillman, now a P.P.G.S.B. Hants and I.W., was the third member initiated in the Lodge, and three years later he filled the chair. His zeal and ability had always been much appreciated, and his good counsel was always at the service of the brethren. Brother Francis, who had greatly distinguished himself in a neighbouring Province as well, being Provincial Senior Grand Deacon of Sussex, joined the Carnarvon Lodge some years after Brother Hillman, and was installed its Master ten years ago. He had been Secretary for many years, and had always performed the duties of that office in a thoroughly efficient manner, besides rendering most valuable assistance to the Lodge in other ways. The two recipients feelingly responded, in suitable terms, and Lodge was closed. Amongst the members present, besides Bros. Hillman and Francis, were Bros. T. D. Askew W.M., J. Collings S.W., H. Smith-Parsons J.W., H. T. Kimber Immediate P.M., Elverston P.M., Dart P.M., Martin-Green P.M. Prov. G.J.W. Hants and Isle of Wight; also Bros. Bascombe, Watson, Hill, Tuck, Sprigings, Coldrey, Jones, Langford, Pannell, Whiteman, Corke, Courtier, and others. The Visitors were Bros. Mark E. Frost P.M. Prov. G.S.W. Hants and Isle of Wight, H. W. Townsend P.M. P.P.G.D. Hants and Isle of Wight, Eugene E. Street P.M. 56, A. R. Holbrook P.M. 309, W. M. Outridge W.M. 487, C. Travess W.M. 1428, J. G. Niven W.M. 1776, Cunningham, Buck, P. H. Emanuel, Naylor, Jackson, Coleman, Arlidge, Westaway, and others. All were subsequently hospitably entertained by the Lodge.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE, No. 1642.

NUMEROUSLY attended meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday evening, at Ladbroke Hall, Ladbroke-grove, Notting Hill, under the gavel of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Frederick Charlwood Frye. He was supported by Bros. J. Bartle S.W., J. Woodmason J.W., W. J. Murlis P.M. Secretary, S. J. Parkhouse P.M. Treasurer, W. W. Buckland S.D., J. H. Wood J.D., H. Hart I.G., F. Delevante Organist, W. F. Heck Steward; S. Smout I.P.M., P.M.'s George Penn, E. M. Lander, C. D. Reade. The members in attendance were Bros. E. Rogers, F. E. Pocock, M.D., J. S. Adkins, R. D. Crane, W. Linsdell, S. K. Bennett, J. French; H. Foskett, H. Holmes, W. R. Hatton, W. Binns, W. H. Wadham, G. W. Wilkinson, P. Taylor, W. Heath, H. J. Green, J. Flood, C. Ransoms, G. A. Williams, C. D. Cosland, J. Whittlesea. The Visitors who responded to the numerous invitations were Bros. H. A. and J. Blyth 25, G. Davis P.M. 167, J. N. Frye P.J.W. 195, P. W. Rantz P.S.W. 230, J. E. C. Bodley P.P.G. Sec. Oxon. 10 357, W. Fieldson P.M. 548, R. H. Jackson W.M., S. J. Humfress I.G. and T. Fisher 733, J. J. Thomas I.G. 753, Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., 834, A. N. Gilbey 859, R. Fletcher 901, Alex. Ross Organist 1223, J. Gillingham S.W. 1238, J. Cooper 1475, Sir Arthur Verney (Mayor of Wycombe) 1501, H. Gold and W. B. Lethbridge P.M. 1615, W. R. Stephens 1897. The pedestals were dressed with candles, emblematically and handsomely painted by hand, the gift of the W.M. By a simple arrangement these candles can be surmounted by others for use, thus leaving the painted ones as perpetual ornaments of the Lodge. Bro. Richard Truine was raised

to the third degree, after which Mr. F. R. Ellis and Mr. Alfred Gilbey were impressively initiated by the W.M. Fifty guineas was voted to be placed on the Steward's list representing the Lodge at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Bro. S. Smout jun. I.P.M. had undertaken the office of Steward, and during the evening he announced that his list had already reached the total of one hundred guineas. A banquet followed the completion of business, succeeded by toasts and an excellent programme of music arranged by Bro. Delevante the Organist in which Miss Delevante, and Bros. H. Parkin and James Badd, took part. Although the brethren were somewhat late in sitting down to the banquet, the business was got through in a very pleasant way and at a reasonable hour. The toasts of Her Majesty the Queen and the Craft, and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., were respectively honoured. In proposing the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon Pro G.M., the W.M. observed that they always made this a special toast, as the Lodge was named after his Lordship, and he asked for it a special fire, which was given right heartily. Having drunk to the health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom and the rest of the Grand Officers present and past, the I.P.M., Bro. Smout, proposed the Worshipful Master, and in doing so, he referred to the quiet way in which the W.M. discharged his duties, which was alike pleasurable and satisfactory. After thanking the brethren for the warmth of their recognition, the W.M. proposed the Initiates. He said both of them were intimate friends of his, and he believed their fathers were members of the Craft. It had given him great pleasure to introduce them, and trusted that they would see no reason to regret the step they had taken. Bro. Gilbey, in reply, alluded to his connection with a firm, several members of which were Freemasons, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to be found numbered among so great an Order. Bro. Ellis also replied. The W.M. then proposed the Visitors, and said he was specially honoured with the presence of several distinguished brethren. He was sure all would be glad to see Bro. Sir C. Dilke among them, and he took it as a great compliment to himself to see him there. Then there were Sir A. Verney, Bro. Lethbridge, and Bro. Bodley, whose names he (the W.M.) desired to couple with the toast. It was received with enthusiasm, and in reply Bro. Sir C. Dilke said he had to thank the brethren of the Lodge for several opportunities they had afforded him of being present. That was the fourth time he had been entertained by them, and he had come back from his short holiday a day earlier in order to accept their invitation. The Lodge ought to congratulate itself upon having such a succession of excellent Masters, among whom he was glad to number his friend the present W.M. After remarking upon the "metal" of the initiates, and humorously referring especially to Bro. A. Gilbey, Bro. Sir C. Dilke concluded by again thanking the brethren for the warm and kind reception they had given him. Bro. Sir Arthur Verney, in his reply, alluded to the excellent qualities of the Lodge, and Bro. Lethbridge spoke of the rapid progress of the Lodge and of the noble work it had done in the cause of the Charities. Bro. Bodley elected to reply in a song, entitled "That first found out a Mason's heart," the words of which and the manner in which it was rendered gave great pleasure to the brethren. The concluding toasts were the Treasurer, Secretary, and Past Masters, the Masonic Charities, the Officers, and the Tyler's. Bro. Murlis, the Secretary, who had been most assiduous throughout the evening, gave some very interesting particulars with regard to the work done on behalf of the Charities, and said the Lodge were Vice-Presidents of the several Institutions in connection with the Order. Bro. Smout I.P.M. alluded to the Girl's School, which he said was doing excellent work. The money collected for that Institution was well spent, and he felt it a great honour in having been selected to represent the Lodge on the occasion of the next Festival. All the money that could be collected together was needed. The brethren had already given to such an extent that it seemed almost too much to ask for more. He should not press them, but content himself with stating the facts.

ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1780.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Southampton, on the 1st instant. The brethren present were W. Berry P.M., T. Walton S.W., I. Ireland J.W., J. Stevens Treasurer, A. Algar Sec., A. Bailey S.D., G. Heathcote J.D., W. Foster I.G., &c. Visitors—W. Hickman Deputy Prov. G.M. Hants and Isle of Wight, W. Vincent P.M. Prov. Grand Sd. Bearer Middlesex, J. S. Pierce P.M. Prov. G.D.C. Hants, J. Harle P.M. Prov. G.O. Hants, Rev. A. L. Argent Bell Prov. G. Chap. Hants, D. O. Hobbs W.M. 1461, W. F. Mayoss 1112, Rev. S. Scott, S. S. Pearce P. Prov. G.D.C. Hants, H. P. Aslatt P.M. 394 P.P.G. Deacon Hants, J. Robertson W.M. 130, J. Patstone W.M. 359, H. Lashmore W.M. 394, A. Brown S.W. 1461, J. Parkinson P.M. 1112, &c. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Berry I.P.M. opened the Lodge, and after the minutes of the last meeting had been confirmed, proceeded in his usual careful manner to initiate two brethren, and pass a third to the second degree. The chair of K.S. was then assumed by Worshipful Bro. Hickman Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Hants, who proceeded at once to instal the W.M. elect, Bro. T. Walton (one of the first initiates of the Lodge), in the presence of a Board of nearly twenty Past Masters, &c., by whom this ceremony was much appreciated, it being rendered in the impressive and dignified manner for which Bro. Hickman is so justly celebrated. After the admission of the brethren, and they had saluted the W.M., Bro. Walton gave a specimen of his ability and knowledge of the work of the Craft by investing his Officers, and explaining their duties in a manner seldom heard. The customary addresses were then delivered by Bro. Hickman, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, where, after dinner, the usual Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to, thus pleasantly finishing an evening thoroughly enjoyable to all, and auguring well for the future prosperity of this flourishing young Lodge.

TESTIMONIAL TO BRO. W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D.

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THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ZETLAND,
 Provincial Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire.

VICE-PRESIDENT:
J. DERBY ALLCROFT Grand Treasurer.

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GEORGE KENNING P.G.D. Middlesex.

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Royal Masonic Institution for Boys,
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

Patron:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London, on Monday, the 14th day of January 1884, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution; to receive the recommendation of the General Committee for the adoption of a list of Fifty-four Candidates, from which Twenty-three Boys shall be elected at the Quarterly General Court, to be held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, 21st of April 1884, and

To consider the following Notices of Motion:—

- By Brother C. H. WEBB, L.G., &c.,
- 1st. "That the resolution of the Quarterly Court, in April last, be rescinded, so far as it relates to the candidate F. A. Herring."
- 2nd. "That F. A. Herring be ineligible for the benefits of this Institution (except by purchase), and that his election in October last be declared void."
- 3rd. Subject to the above being carried, "That the highest unsuccessful Candidate at the election in October last, be declared duly elected."
- 4th. "That the General Committee have power to place to the credit of every accepted Fatherless Candidate, at each election, any number of votes, not exceeding the number the father was entitled to at the time of his death, multiplied by the number of years he had been so qualified."

By Brother C. F. MATIER, V.P. :—
 To add to the Law adopted at the Quarterly Court in October last, approving the new qualification of 'Patron,'—"a Lady—or a Lewis being a Minor—contributing one hundred guineas, in one or more payments of not less than five guineas each, shall be a Patron with Eighty Votes at all Elections of Boys."

"A Lodge, Chapter, or Society shall enjoy the like privileges on completion of the payment, under similar circumstances, of four hundred guineas."

By Brother R. W. STEWART, V.P. :—
 "That the word Friday be substituted in the second line of Law 36 for the word 'Saturday.'"

The chair will be taken at Four o'clock p.m. precisely.
 By order,
FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G. Std.)
 Vice-Patron, Secretary.
 OFFICES—6 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.
 5th January 1884.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF ALBANY, K.G.
 R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF OXFORDSHIRE,
 Has most kindly consented to preside at
THE EIGHTY-SIXTH
ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,
 TO BE HELD IN JUNE 1884.

The services of Brethren willing to act as Stewards are earnestly solicited and will be gratefully acknowledged.

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 Thurloe Place, S.W.

SECOND APPLICATION, April 1884.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.
 THE favour of the VOTES and INTEREST of the Governors and Subscribers is earnestly solicited on behalf of
LIONEL BLENKINSOP J. MANBY,
 AGED 9 YEARS.

The Candidate's father, Bro. JOHN G. MANBY, was initiated in the Sincerity Lodge, No. 292, Liverpool, in 1859, and on his removal to London joined Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145, and the Chapter, and continued to be a subscribing member of the same until his death, which took place in January 1883. He leaves a widow and four young children very inadequately provided for.
 Proxies will be thankfully received by the widow, Mrs. MANBY, Ashwick Cottage, Oakhill, Bath.

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ROYAL
MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION
FOR
AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS,
CROYDON.

—:0:—
Patron and President:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

—:0:—

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

OF THIS INSTITUTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON

TUESDAY, 26TH FEBRUARY 1884,

AT

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON,

UPON WHICH OCCASION

JOHN DERBY ALLCROFT, Esq.

V.W. GRAND TREASURER, VICE-PATRON AND TREASURER OF
THE INSTITUTION,

has been pleased to signify his intention of presiding.

Brethren are earnestly invited to accept the Office of Steward upon this occasion, and they will greatly oblige by forwarding their Names and Masonic Rank, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

It is fraternally hoped that upon this occasion Brethren will use their influence to obtain donations towards the funds of the Institution, owing to the large number of Candidates seeking admission, and the few vacancies.

JAMES TERRY, P.Prov. G.S.W. Norths and Hunts,
Secretary.

4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

PORTRAITS! PORTRAITS! PORTRAITS!

—:0:—

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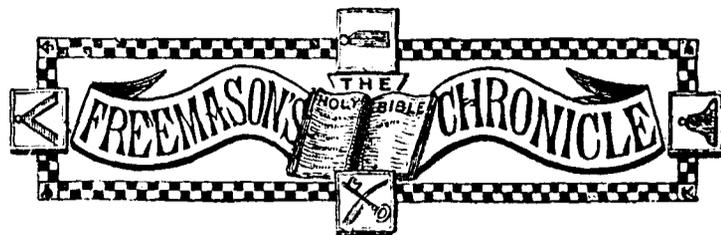
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RANDOM NOTES AND REFLECTIONS.

AN elaborate account was given in the *Times* on the 13th November last of the new ball room at Sandringham, the Norfolk residence of our Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, which was opened for the first time on the preceding Friday night. We cannot describe the beauty and richness of this new addition to the Hall, and if we could find space for it the news would now be out of date in these times of rapid history making. There are one or two features, however, connected with the room that are worthy of notice. According to the *Times*, the floor is of oak, with a simple parquet bordering. Writing to that journal, Mr. Charles Steinitz, of the London Parquetry Works, Camberwell, pointed out, that the whole of the floor, although having the appearance of simple oak, "is in reality a parquetry floor, especially made for dancing," and was supplied by him, as well as other work of the same kind used in the building. It is satisfactory to notice that several local firms were engaged in the erection of the new wing, among them being that old and highly respected firm Messrs. Barnard, Bishops and Barnard, who are celebrated for their artistic productions in metals. We know that some of the members of the firm are the brothers of Tubal Cain and belong to the Craft, as doubtless do others who were concerned in the erection and decoration of the new ball room.

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It is pleasant to record the doings of our Grand Master apart from his labours as the great ruler of the Craft. We know the value of his services to the Order, and they are apparent in other departments of life. No reasonable person begrudges the Prince of Wales those enjoyments which to a few narrow minds appear unworthy of one occupying his high station, and by a still more diminished number as immoral. He is the arbiter of his own tastes, and the fact that he is the idol of all classes, proves how well he orders his pleasures and his work. Few men work harder than the Prince of Wales, and none are better disposed in favour of encouraging trade, especially among local firms and persons. We do not say that the same feeling that actuates him with regard to these operates in all cases of those who are Freemasons, but it is not unfair to assume that he favours such whenever he can.

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It is only a few years since that the Prince of Wales barely escaped from the jaws of death, owing to the attack of a disease contracted at Sandringham, occasioned, it was believed, by bad drainage. Never was the loyalty of the people more deeply or painfully stirred than during the period when the Prince hovered between life and death. The bulletins were awaited with anxious hearts, and when the welcome news came that the crisis had passed, there was relief throughout the land, and general rejoicing marked the day set apart for thanksgiving. We are not surprised, therefore, to find, that when H.R.H. resolved to build a new wing at Sandringham, his first care should be as to drainage and ventilation. It is only a fortnight ago that we recorded the high praise bestowed by Col. Leach, R.E., upon Bro. Thomas Crapper, of the firm of Crapper and Co., of Chelsea, for the excellent way in which he had carried out certain drainage works at the Royal Masonic School for Girls, Battersea. The testimony of Col. Leach, under whose superintendence the works had been carried out, was complete and emphatic, and was cordially accepted by the General Committee. It is not, perhaps, generally known that Messrs. Crapper carried out the lighting, heating, ventilating, and sanitary arrangements recently at Sandringham. It is, nevertheless, true, and worthy of record, for it shows that the firm have made a high reputation in these most essential departments of a building. We congratulate Bro. Crapper upon the success he has attained, and trust that the reputation already earned as a sanitary engineer may not only be maintained but strengthened in the future.

Complaints are often made to us of what is termed injustice on the part of Masters of Lodges in passing over the claims of candidates for office. A case is before us in which a brother, holding a minor office, has been denied promotion, while one below him has been advanced over his head. If the facts as stated be true, and we have no reason to doubt them, then evidently an injustice has been done. We repeat, however, what we have before stated, that the Master of a Lodge is all-powerful. He is often placed in a most difficult position, and can only decide rival claims according to the facts before him. Where he honestly weighs these, and acts in conformity therewith, no fault can be found with him. Even if he does not do so, obedience or retirement are the only courses open to an objector. No Master, who values the peace and prosperity of his Lodge, would pursue an irregular course. If he is led to commit an act of injustice, disputes and rancour are sure to follow, and we need not say what the end will be. A Master, with all his privileges and authority, should never forget his representative moral character, and if he hopes to gain the lasting esteem of the brethren, he must act with courtesy and justice. His personal likes and dislikes must be subject to the demands of right, and, in obedience to his oath, he must discharge the duties of his office impartially. If he does not, the praise of his flatterers will soon be turned into contempt, and the just and injured will despise him. In Masonry, as in everything else, there is only one way—to do right and fear not.

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We have several Lodges that owe their origin to the Volunteer movement, and most likely the number will grow. They cannot boast the age of Lodge No. 620, Ireland, said to be the first Volunteer Lodge, whose warrant bears date 4th September 1783, and the centenary of which was celebrated at Dublin last year. The brethren used to attend in full uniform up to 1844, to the beating of the drums and the music of the regimental march. Some of the original regalia are still in possession of the Lodge and used on certain occasions. The drums are beaten when the W.M. elect is installed, and when the W.M.'s health is proposed the regimental march is played. It is a matter of interest to notice that the shamrock is absent from the decorations on colours and drums, which are otherwise ornamented with roses, oak leaves, and thistles.

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Although the Volunteer Lodges of this country have not yet attained any great age, they are nevertheless a useful and powerful section of the Brotherhood. They are growing, too. A short time ago we chronicled the consecration of the Queen's, and we believe the time is not far distant when the Artists' Corps will ask to have a Lodge associated with it. We should say that a capital Lodge might be formed out of the material this body affords. Rich in talent, and holding social positions of no mean order, they would assemble around them many who would do honour to the higher and deeper meanings of the Order, while at the same time they would strengthen and develop all those social and charitable ties which belong to the Craft in general. We should be glad to welcome the news that a warrant had been applied for and granted, and be pleased to chronicle the advent of the Artists' Lodge.

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A new Lodge, of a distinctive city character, under the title of St. Bololph, and numbered 2020 on the roll, was consecrated on the 4th instant, at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate Street, by Brother Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Æ. J. McIntyre, Q.C., M.P., Grand Registrar as S.W., Sir John B. Monckton P.G.D. President of the Board of General Purposes as J.W., Rev. C. W. Arnold P.G.C. Deputy Prov. Grand Master Surrey as Chaplain, Frank Richardson P.G.D. as Director of Ceremonies, Edgar Bowyer G. Std. Bearer as I.G. Some distinguished guests were present, including Bros. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor Alderman R. N. Fowler G.S.W. Wilts, Sir Francis Truscott P.G.W., Rev. Canon Townshend Grand Chaplain Nova Scotia, F. Crockford P.M. 515 P.P.G.R. Malta, &c. Brother Arnold delivered a brief oration, in which he dealt with the origin of guilds, their influence, and the charitable work they accomplished. He alluded particularly to the City Guilds, which were originally founded in the interests of trade, and had since become "great centres of union to the citizens." The City was an appropriate home for Masonry, for what citizen was not proud of Wren, the great architect? whose

grand work reared its lofty head in their midst. Nowhere was the great principle of relief better understood than in the City, "whose chief rulers take the lead in relieving distress of any kind throughout the world." At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration, Brother Col. Clerke installed Brother Alderman John Staples as W.M. of the Lodge. The following brethren were then duly invested:—P. F. R. Saillard S.W., Thomas Benskin J.W., H. S. Legg Treasurer, W. Lake Secretary, H. H. Wells S.D., B. Norman J.D., the other appointments standing over until the next meeting. A banquet followed, which gave great satisfaction to all present. The toasts were of the usual character, but some of the speeches had reference to matters other than those that can be rightly described as Masonic. The gathering was large and genial, and the work, thus happily begun, bids fair to prosper.

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Brother Col. Shadwell Clerke's services were again in requisition, on the 8th inst., when he consecrated the Haven College, at the Lyric Hall, Ealing. On this occasion he was assisted by Bros. E. E. Wendt, D.C.L., Grand Secretary for German Correspondence S.W., C. C. Dumas P.G.A.D.C. J.W., Rev. J. S. Studholme Brownrigg P.G. Chaplain Deputy Prov. G.M. Berks and Bucks Chaplain, Frank Richardson P.G.D. Director of Ceremonies, H. H. Riach P.M. 1118. A goodly number of Visitors were present, and after completing the consecration of the Lodge, Bro. Clerke installed Bro. James Fisher P.M. P.Z. 540 Worshipful Master, who then invested his Officers as follow:—Bros. P. A. Latham P. Prov. G.R. Oxon P.M. P.Z. 1118 S.W., A. Strong P.M. 1118 J.W., R. F. Sandeman Secretary, C. O. Barker S.D., Von Dadelszen J.D., Nelson I.G. A banquet succeeded, with the usual toasts and fraternal exchanges of greeting.

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There was a full attendance of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on Wednesday afternoon, at the Freemasons' Hall, when Bro. Col. Creaton P.G. Treasurer presided. The death of three male and three female annuitants was announced. The Warden's report recorded the receipt of presents that had been received for the New Year's entertainment, and votes of thanks were voted to the donors. Bro. Webb's motion for considering what could be done to assist candidates for the Institution who had at one time been subscribers, was referred to a committee. In reply to a question put by Bro. Moore, Bro. Terry said it was customary to invite those to be present who contributed money and other good things towards the New Year's entertainment. The brethren who attended helped to wait upon the old people, and when they had finished it was usual for the servers to have a cut off a joint and a glass of wine. The old people lost nothing by the arrangement. Bro. Moore was satisfied, and said it was as well to have the matter cleared up. Nine male and five female candidates were placed on the list for May next, one was deferred, and one refused. At present there are 82 widows and 44 men for election, and only 17 vacancies. After this melancholy statement, the proceedings were brought to a close.

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The "Old Folks" in connection with the East Lancashire Systematic Education and Benevolent Institution were entertained at a dinner, given in the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on the 2nd inst. Many well-known brethren, with their wives and daughters, were present on the occasion, whose efforts to please the old members of the Craft and widows were highly appreciated. The guests partook of a capital dinner, during which a telegram was received from Bro. James Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, stating that at the same time a number of the inmates and annuitants of the Institution at Croydon were being entertained within its walls, who desired to send their hearty good wishes to the annuitants of East Lancashire. A reply was telegraphed off at once, reciprocating the kind feeling. After dinner there were songs and recitations, and the evening altogether was a great success.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Though good health is preferable to high honour, how regardless people often are of the former—how covetous of the latter! Many suffer their strength to drain away ere maturity is reached, through ignorance of the ability afforded by these incomparable Pills of checking the first untoward systems of derangement, and reinstating order without interfering in the least with their pleasure or pursuits. To the young especially it is important to maintain the highest digestive efficiency, without which the growth is stunted, and the muscles become lax, the frame feeble, and the mind slothful. The removal of indigestion by these Pills is so easy that none save the most thoughtless would permit it to sap the spring of life.

CONSTRUCTIONS OF MASONIC LAW IN ARKANSAS.

AT the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, held in November last, several decisions made by Grand Master Logan H. Roots were reported by him to Grand Lodge. These decisions would be good law in Massachusetts, except that the latter does not require a year's residence, as in Decision 15. In the case of demit, Decision 20, the vote of the Lodge severs membership in Massachusetts; the certificate is only evidence of it. With these comments, we present the decisions as reported:—

During the past year there has devolved upon me the rendering of numerous decisions, a very large portion of which have, however, been natural deductions from existing approved edicts of this jurisdiction, or the announcement of ancient landmarks, so well understood as to be unworthy of the time which it would require for the Grand Lodge to consider the same. And in selecting these decisions, which it seems to me as proper to present to be either "affirmed or reversed," they do not as a rule appear to me as matters involving either such great questions of morality or other principles of momentous importance, so much as that they were decisions rendered in cases which, at the same time, seemed to be of very considerable importance. Those reported for your consideration are as follows:

1. There is no change of venue in Masonic trials.
2. A suspended Mason may be tried for a new offence.
3. The Tyler is the proper officer to serve all Masonic notices.
4. The Worshipful Master cannot, for the conduct of a trial, appoint a prosecutor from another Lodge.
5. In considering the question of residence, the father's residence decides the residence of the minor sons, absent at school.
6. The domicile of a Lodge, when changed by the authority of the Grand Lodge, changes the territorial jurisdiction.
7. The Seal of the Lodge should be used only by the Secretary, and by him only under the direction of the Lodge, or for attesting the Lodge proceedings.
8. A Lodge can, at a regular meeting, change the time for installation of the officers from one St. John's day to the other St. John's day.
9. A candidate is always the material of the Lodge to which he first applies, and by which he is first elected, if at the time of his election he resides in its jurisdiction.
10. Applications for affiliation, as well as initiation, should be reported by a committee who has the matter under investigation, from one regular meeting to another.
11. No person can be made a Mason, nor a brother advanced, while any member of the Lodge, or any considerable number of members of any other Lodge interpose objection.
12. Unless jurisdiction has been waived, the balloting for a candidate by a Lodge, in whose jurisdiction the candidate does not reside, is not to be considered of any valid force in any direction whatsoever.
13. A Worshipful Master is not required to take more than three degrees; yet it is proper to understand that beneficial lessons taught in the Past Masters' Degree may aid in properly governing a Lodge.
14. The proficiency of an applicant for advancement should be passed upon by open inquiry made by the Worshipful Master, and must by the Lodge be accepted as satisfactory before balloting for advancement.
15. Upon a report of a committee that an applicant for Masonry has not resided within the State for one year, further proceedings should be delayed, and no ballot undertaken until the full accomplishment of one year's residence within the jurisdiction.
16. An applicant, a resident of the State for more than one year, need not have resided within the jurisdiction of the Lodge twelve months, if he is well recommended by the Fraternity where he has resided.
17. The public Grand honours (not funeral honours), should be given by the raising of the hands above and a little in front of the head, and clapping them three times together, and then letting them fall to the side—repeating this action twice, that is, in all, bringing the hands together three times. (!!! !!! !!!).
18. A Mason and a worthy man who had been a member of a defunct Lodge, who was and persistently had been without delay, doing all possible to affiliate at the time of his death, should not be refused Masonic burial, merely because the failure of others to do their duty delayed his affiliation.
19. The full payment of dues restores without any further action a Mason who is under suspension simply for non-payment of dues; but in the restoration of a Mason who has been indefinitely suspended for un-Masonic conduct, the Lodge should definitely state whether or not it shall be incumbent upon him to pay dues for the period of his suspension.
20. A vote authorising the granting of a demit does not constitute a dimittal. If, therefore, a brother who has been voted a demit, desires to remain a member of the same Lodge, the Lodge at any time previous to the actual issuance of the demit, can by a simple vote continue the brother a member. But after the demit has been actually executed and delivered, the brother cannot become a member of the Lodge without a regular application and affiliation.—*Liberal Freemason.*

The General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys met on Saturday, at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of Bro. Edgar Bowyer, G. Standard Bearer. Amongst those who attended were Bros. Adlard, Matier, J. L. Mather, Massey, Belton, Marshall, C.C., Williams, Tyrrell, Dr. Morris (Head Master), Gladwell, Moon, Dewar, Gillard, Webb, Lane, Saunders, Venn, F. Binckes (Secretary). After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, and of the House Committee of the 21st ult. for information, Bro. Binckes reported the purchase of £1000 Four per Cent. India Stock on 28th ult. for £1033 15s. It was thereupon resolved to purchase a further £1500 Stock, making a total of £13,500 invested on account of the Preparatory School Special Building Fund. It was also resolved to purchase £520 Stock for the General Fund. Five petitions were examined, and the candidates placed on the list for the election next April. Grants of £5 each were made for outfits to two former pupils of the Institution. The number of candidates for next election was declared to be 54, and the vacancies 23. Notices of motion for the Quarterly Court next Monday were then received. These will be found fully detailed in another column. The usual vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

The members of the Prosperity Lodge, No. 65, held their annual ball at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Wednesday, the 9th inst. The arrangements, which were complete in every particular, were carried out by the W.M., Bro. George Schadler, who was assisted by a very able committee, consisting of Bros. Ruse, Edridge, Buggins, Mattin, Stafford, and Dibleman. During supper, which was served in the Pillar Room, the usual loyal toasts were proposed. The W.M., in speaking to the Visitors, hoped they had all enjoyed themselves; a friend of the W.M.'s replied, and then the W.M. proposed the toast of the Ladies, which was received with acclamation. The name of Bro. J. Wood was associated with the toast, and he responded in a very neat and appropriate speech, after which the company adjourned to the ball room to complete the programme of twenty-six dances. The music was admirably rendered by Bro. Sibold's Mansion House Band. Bro. Bentley Haynes kindly acted as M.C. for the occasion; he was assisted by Bros. Richard Ruse, Walker, and Dyson.

The Great Northern Lodge of Instruction is held at the Berwick Arms, Berwick Street, W., every Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock. Brother W. Cleghorn P.M. 1287 is the Preceptor.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—At Bro. Langdale's, the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., on the 5th inst., Bros. Gribbell W.M., Dixie S.W., Gellen J.W., Weeden S.D., Ashton J.D., Turner I.G., Percy Preceptor, and Galer Sec.; also Bros. Bullock, Ferrar, O'Donnell, Love, Harding, Mackay, Gildersleve, Woolveridge, and Langdale. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Woolveridge offered himself as candidate, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed. Bro. Dixie was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, No. 382.—The next meeting of this Lodge of Instruction will take place on Monday 14th inst., at the Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge, at 8 o'clock p.m. Brother H. E. Tucker P.M. 1612 has kindly promised to preside, and will rehearse the ceremonies of the three degrees. Brother W. Coombes is the Preceptor of this Lodge of Instruction.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—On Friday, 4th inst., at Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, Bros. C. E. Botley W.M., A. Turner S.W., J. L. Sherring J.W., J. J. Gunner S.D., F. Botley I.G., P.M. Andrews Preceptor. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Gunner candidate. Bro. Turner was elected W.M. for next meeting, and Lodge was closed in harmony, and adjourned till Friday, the 11th instant, at 8 p.m.

Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693.—A meeting was held on Monday last, at Brother Baker's, Cock Tavern, Highbury. Present—Bros. Treadwell W.M., Western S.W., Godolphin J.W., Collingridge Secretary, Bagnall S.D., Powell J.D., Forge acting Preceptor, Turner I.G., and other brethren. After the customary formalities, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Brother Collingridge candidate. Lodge was called off and on. Bro. Western was elected to fill the chair on Monday, the 14th inst. A vote of thanks was accorded to Brother Treadwell, and Lodge was closed in due form.

DANCING.—To Those Who Have Never Learnt to Dance.—Bro. and Mrs. JACQUES WYNMANN 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 WYNMANN 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.

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SATURDAY, 12th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12
 176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1323—Granite, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1426—The Great City, Cannon Street Hotel
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1686—Paxton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1743—Perseverance, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1839—Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
 M.M. 211—Hammersmith, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street W, Hammersmith
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 R.A. 1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court
 R.C. 43—Eureka, Masonic Rooms, Pavilion, Brighton

MONDAY, 14th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 5—St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 29—St. Albans, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 58—Felicity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street
 59—Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 90—St. John, Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 186—Industry, Bell, Carter-lane, Doctors-commons, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 193—Confidence, Anderton's Fleet-street, E.C.
 518—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 1237—Enfield, Market-place, Enfield
 1366—Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate
 1426—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington, at 8 (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.)
 1571—Leopold, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Fox and Hounds, Putney, at 8. (Instruction)
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Clarence Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C. at 7 (Inst.)
 1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel Mile End Road, corner of Burdett Road. (Inst.)
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1806—Bromley St. Leonard, Vestry Hall, Bow-road, Bromley
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1537—St. Peter Westminster, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth
 104—St. John, Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport
 151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
 240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields
 262—Salopian, the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury
 292—Sincerity, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
 297—Witham, New Masonic Hall, Lincoln
 302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebdon Bridge
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham
 481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 502—Rectitude, Town Hall, Rugby
 587—Howe, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 599—Druids of Love and Liberty, Masonic Hall, Redruth
 665—Montague, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis
 721—Independence, Masonic Chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
 797—Hanley, Hanley Hall, Dartmouth
 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury
 893—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall
 949—Williamson, St. Stephen School, Monkwearmouth, Durham
 1021—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Custom House Buildings, Barrow-in-Furness
 1069—United Brothers, Castle Hotel, Southsea
 1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 1253—Travellers, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
 1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1436—Sandgate, Masonic Hall, Sandgate
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
 1474—Israel, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham
 1477—Sir Watkin, Masonic Hall, Mold
 1592—Abbey, Suffolk Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds
 1611—Eboracum, Queen's Hotel, Micklegate, York
 1618—Handlyside, Zetland Hotel, Saltburn-by-Sea
 1790—Old England, Masonic Hall, New Thornton Heath
 1861—Claremont, School-room, Esher, Surrey
 R.A. 148—Elias Ashmole, Chapter Rooms, Warrington
 R.A. 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
 R.A. 379—Tynte, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath
 R.A. 1258—Kennard, Masonic Hall, George Street, Pontypool
 M.M. 9—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, South Molton, Devon
 K.T. 52—Richard de Vernon, Dudley Arms Hotel, Dudley
 R.C.—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool

TUESDAY, 15th JANUARY.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 65—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
 95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 141—Faith, Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's Gate, St. James's Park Station, at 8. (Instruction)
 162—Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 194—St. Paul, Cannon-street Hotel,
 435—Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 704—Camden, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 857—St. Mark, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 860—Dalbousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pcwall-road, Dalston at 8 (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1321—Emblematic, Rose, Jermyn Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)

1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge
 1446—Mount Edgcombe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1479—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
 1510—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1553—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In)
 1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Meddleton, Queen's Head, Essex Road, N., at 8.30 (In)
 1895—New Finsbury Park, London Tavern, Fenchurch Street
 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. 26—Castle Chapter of Harmony, 8 Air Street, Regent Street, W.
 R.A. 46—Old Union, The Albion, Aldersgate Street, E.C.
 R.A. 890—Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 R.A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1604—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 M.M. 238—Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.

126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 243—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 373—Socrates, George Hotel, High-street, Huntingdon
 384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
 402—Royal Sussex, George the Fourth, Nottingham
 403—Hertford, Town Hall, Hertford
 414—Union, Masonic Hall, Reading
 418—Menturia, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley
 448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 469—Light, Great Western Hotel, Birmingham
 510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
 651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 779—Ferrers and Ivanhoe, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 960—Buto, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
 1006—Trecullow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall
 1052—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1089—De Shurland, Fountain Hotel, Sheerness.
 1113—Anglesea, Bull Hotel, Llangefni
 1276—Warren, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead, Cheshire
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable
 1473—Booth, 146 Berry-street, Rootle, at 6 (Instruction)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool
 1726—Gordon, Assembly Room, Bognor
 1744—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton
 1941—St. Augustine's, Shrewsbury Arms Hotel, Rugeley
 R.A. 41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath
 R.A. 829—High Cross, Bull Inn, Dartford
 R.A. 970—St. Anne's, Masonic Hall, East Looe, Cornwall
 R.A. 1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 M.M.—York, Masonic Hall, Duncombe Street, York
 M.M. 266—Amherst, Masonic Hall, Sandgate
 R.C. 54—Albion, Concert Hall, St. Leonards-on-Sea

WEDNESDAY, 16th JANUARY.

General Committee Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 Grand Stewards, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 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)
 140—St. George, Trafalgar Tavern, Greenwich
 174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 190—Oak, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 228—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crownndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In)
 598—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst)
 619—Beadon, Greyhound, Dulwich
 700—Nelson, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 913—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 882—Whittington, Red Lion, Ponnin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, 25 Charterhouse Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 969—Maybury, Inns of Court Hotel, W.C.
 1044—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Wandsworth
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Duke's Head, 70 Whitechapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1349—Friars, London Tavern, Fenchurch Street
 1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Gleggall Road, Cubitt Town
 1445—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, at 7 (Instruction)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1507—Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst)
 1604—Wanderers, Adam and Eve Tavern, Palmer St., Westminster, at 7.30 (In)
 1682—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Waltham-st., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1673—Langton, Viaduct Hotel, Holborn
 1677—Crusaders, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-lar., 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. 141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 R.A. 192—Lion and Lamb, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 R.A. 1598—Ley Spring, Red Lion, Leytonstone
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)
 M.M. 181—Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Town Hall, Shoreditch
 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance
 175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W
 178—Antiquity Royal Hotel, Wigan
 200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough
 210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton
 246—Royal Union, Freemasons Hall, Cheltenham.
 271—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Nowchurch, near Manchester
 290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 325—St. John's Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 342—Royal Sussex, Freemasons' Hall, 79 Commercial Road, Landport
 363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
 429—Sincerity, Angel Inn, Northwich, Cheshire
 451—Sutherland, Town Hall, Burslem
 537—Zetland, 9 Hamilton-street, Birkenhead.
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw
 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury
 592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 693—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire
 750—Friendship, Freemason' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton
 758—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
 816—Roid, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 874—Holmesdale, Royal Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells

- 889—Dobie, Griffin Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames
 938—Grosvenor, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 962—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
 1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Driffield, Yorks
 1088—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 1120—St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale
 1161—De Grey and Ripon, Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester
 1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
 1248—Holte, Holte Hotel, Aston
 1301—Brighthouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighthouse
 1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton
 1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
 1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull
 1536—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead
 1634—Starkie, Railway Hotel, Ramsbottom
 R.A. 76—Economy, Masonic Hall, Parchment Street, Winchester
 R.A. 86—Lebanon, Masonic Hall, Prescott
 R.A. 240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields
 R.A. 323—Charity, Florist Hotel, Stockport
 R.A. 344—Beauty, Bull's Head, Radcliffe
 R.A. 371—Nicholson, Freemasons' Hall, Eaglefield Street, Maryford
 R.A. 417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester
 R.A. 539—Vernon, Dragon Hotel, High Street, Walsall
 R.A. 580—Unity, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
 R.A. 632—Harmony, Trowbridge
 R.A. 731—Truth, Masonic Hall, Gower Street, Derby
 R.A. 1060—Marmion, Masonic Rooms, Tamworth
 R.A. 1323—Talbot, Mackworth Hotel, Swansea
 R.A. 1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M. 135—Hotspur, Freemasons' Hall, Clayport-street, Alawick

THURSDAY, 17th JANUARY.

- 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 23—Globe, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 55—Constitutional, Inns of Court Hotel, Fleet-street, W.C.
 63—St. Mary, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 169—Temperance, White Swan, High-street, Deptford
 179—Manchester, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 181—Universal, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 1130—South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood
 1153—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)
 1278—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park
 1287—Great Northern, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1321—Emblematic, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 1399—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1613—Cripplegate, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 1614—Covent Garden, Cranbourne, 1 Up. St. Martin's Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1623—West Smithfield, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1681—Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Instruct.)
 1728—Temple Bar, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich.
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1963—Duke of Albany, Masonic Hall, Shaftesbury Park, Lavender Hill
 R.A. 217—Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 R.A. 733—Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 834—Andrew, Bell and Anchor Hotel, Hammersmith Road
 R.A. 1216—Macdonald, Head-quarters 1st Surrey Rifles, Camberwell
 R.A. 1471—North London, Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, at 8.30 (Inst.)
 42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
 56—Howard, High-street, Arundel
 98—St. Martin, Town Hall, Burslem
 100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor, Great Yarmouth
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
 268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street, Ashton-under-Lvno
 343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston
 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn
 367—Probity and Freedom, Red Lion Inn, Smallbridge
 432—Abbey, Newdegate Arms, Nuneaton
 523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester
 600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
 605—Combermere, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead
 671—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial Street, Batley
 1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford
 1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1209—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool
 1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon
 1432—Fitzalan, Wynstay Arms, Oswestry
 1512—Hemming, Red Lion Hotel, Hampton
 1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1672—St. Margaret's, St. Mark's School, Surbiton
 1692—Wallington, Public Hall, Carshalton
 R.A. 116—Cana, Swan Hotel, Colne, Lancashire
 R.A. 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 R.A. 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 283—Wisdom, Swan Inn, Haslingden
 R.A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge
 R.A. 327—St. John's, Lion and Lamb, Wigton
 R.A. 330—Regularity, Crown Hotel, King Street, Penrith
 R.A. 546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Longton, Staffordshire
 R.A. 913—Pattison, Lord Ralgaan Tavern, Plumstead
 R.A. 1324—Okeover, Mar Hotel, Ripley, Derby
 M.M.—Canynoges, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol

FRIDAY, 18th JANUARY.

- House Committee Boys' School, Wood Green, at 4
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruct.)
 143—Middlesex, Albion, Aldersgate-street.
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 201—Jordan, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruct.)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8 (In.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)

- 833—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1118—University, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1154—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1293—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1704—Anchor, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 1962—London Rifle Brigade, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 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)
 M.M. 176—Era, 81 Red Lion Square, W.C.
 K.T. 43—Kemeys Tynte, 33 Golden Square, W.

- 127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate
 152—Virtuo, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 271—Royal Clarence, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 347—Noah's Ark, Wagon and Horses Hotel, Tipton
 453—Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket
 541—De Lorraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme
 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Easthorpe, Mirfield
 1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1644—Alma Mater, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1773—Albert Victor, Town Hall, Pendleton
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
 R.A. 31—Bertha, Masonic Hall, St. Peter's Street, Canterbury
 R.A. 414—Union, Masonic Hall, Greyfriars Road, Reading
 R.A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield
 R.A. 622—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Winborne
 R.A. 712—St. James's, Masonic Hall, Rosemary Lane, Louth
 R.A. 837—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 R.A. 1010—Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship Street, Hull
 M.M. 65—West Lancashire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 K.T.—De Funaival, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

SATURDAY, 19th JANUARY.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 715—Panmure, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Mare-street, Hackney
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1732—King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 1767—Kensington, Courtyard Hotel, Earl's Court, S.W.
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 R.A. 142—St. Thomas's, Cannon Street Hotel
 R.A. 1572—Carnarvon, Albion, Aldersgate Street
 M.M. 205—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Twickenham
 1556—Addiscombe, Harewood House, High Street, Croydon.
 1697—Musgrave, Angel and Crown Hotel, Staines
 1897—Citadel, Railway Hotel, Harrow
 R.A. 68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Hampton
 M.M. 14—Prince Edward's, Station Hotel, Stansfield, Todmorden

NORTH LONDON MASONIC BENEVOLENT BALL.

THOSE Craftsmen who have been so zealously working during the last few weeks to make this gathering a success cannot possibly have been otherwise than satisfied with the result achieved on Tuesday last. The Myddelton Hall, though by no means a pretentious building, had been wisely secured for the occasion, as it had been decided by the promoters the event should be looked upon purely as a local one. The arrangements made by the Ball Committee—viz. Bro. C. Hammond (Treasurer) 1820, 147, Bro. E. Woodman (Secretary) 1950, Bros. S. Price 1288, H. Sprake 813, J. Baker 1471, C. Dearing 1602, G. F. Snook 1693, H. Huggins 1288, H. Harding 1471—were admirably carried out. The Veteran M.C., Bro. T. Meekham, had given the Committee the full benefit of his experience, but, in consequence of an accident, which we trust will not turn out to be of a serious character, was at the last moment compelled to absent himself. His place, however, was ably filled by Bro. R. P. Forge W.M. 619, P.M. 1950. The musical arrangements were directed by Bro. J. A. Collings Org, 1693. This brother, though but a young Mason, has made his mark, and is favourably spoken of as evidencing great musical ability, which has already been recognised at our Masonic gatherings. Bro. Collings had carefully selected his musical programme, which we give in detail:—1, Quadrille, Patience; 2, Valse, Mia Cara; 3, Lancers, Rip Van Winkle; 4, Scottische, Royal; 5, Quadrille, Fun of the Fair; 6, Polka, Tont a La Joie; 7, Caledonians, Cameronians; 8, Valse, My Queen; 9, Quadrille, Vanity Fair; 10, Scottische, Veteran M.C.—specially composed; 11, Lancers, Fun and Frolic; 12, Valse and Galop, Dream Faces and Rink; 13, Valse, Grand Lodge; 14, Lancers, Carmen; 15, Highland, Prince Charlie; 16, Quadrille, United Masonic; 17, Polka, British Patrol—Dedicated to the City Quadrille Assemblies; 18, Caledonians, Borderers; 19, Valse, Ehren on the Rhine; 20, Quadrille, Merry Dnchess; 21, Scottische, Happy Moments; 22, Lancers, Iolanthe; 23, Redowa, 24, Ceres; Galop, Prestissimo. As will be seen, this selection, which was carefully played by the band—the cornet playing of Mr. Kottann being especially admired—had a decided Masonic turn, and the effect of this was added to by the regalia, clothing, &c., of the brethren who attended. Bro. Collings' arrangement of the music for the Quadrille—the "United Masonic," shewed excellent judgment, and was most enthusiastically applauded. Taken altogether, this was one of the most enjoyable assemblies we have taken part in.

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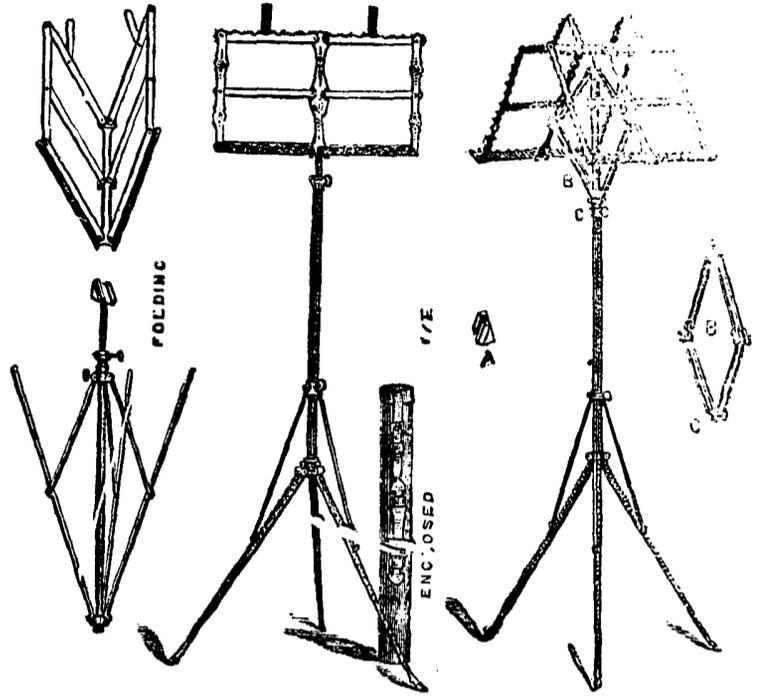
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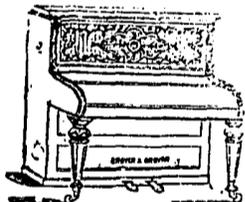
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