

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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ORGANIZERS OF CHARITY.

IT is very doubtful whether there are many brethren, among the number who hear of the grand amounts annually collected on behalf of the three great Masonic Institutions, who have any idea how the bulk of the sums which are subscribed are raised. They may know that at the yearly Festivals the London Lodges sent up a total of so much; that on each occasion some one or other of the Provinces headed the list of country contributions (with a total of £1000, £2000, or upwards), but if we inquire as to the component parts of these totals, or of the grand one of the year—be it £40,000, £45,000, £50,000, or more—they are at a loss to answer; and we believe there are few beyond those who have actually served the office of Steward who can form any idea of the labour represented by “the charity work of a year;” while even among the Stewards themselves there are some who have done little more than hand over the voluntary contributions of the brethren of their own Lodges, supplemented by a gift of their own. There are, indeed, very few who can testify to the amount of hard work and perseverance that is needed—not only just prior to the annual Festivals, but also continuously, week by week, and month by month, to arrive at the results ultimately achieved. Were it possible to analyse the lists of the several Stewards we should find that the body of donors interested in providing the grand total of the year on behalf of our Institutions was indeed very large, the number of names, at a very rough estimate, being considerably over fifteen thousand, while in not a few cases the amounts accredited might be again subdivided, as in the cases of Lodges, a donation of five or ten guineas from one of which might represent a gift from forty or fifty brethren. But it is not only the brethren whose names appear on the respective Stewards’ lists who help to swell the annual totals; there is a great amount of work being carried on by brethren whom we may justly denominate “Organizers of Charity.” Men who are not content when they have contributed as far as they are personally able to do, but who are always at work to secure donations from others. We need not look further than to the rules of the Institutions themselves to learn how the work of these brethren is appreciated, votes being now given to those who, without actually serving the office of Steward, have interested themselves in obtaining sums from their friends; but even this branch does not complete the list of those who are actively working for the good of the less fortunate members of the Craft.

It is now some time since that the first Charity Association—having for its object the securing to each of its members Life Governorships of one or other of the Masonic Institutions by small periodical payments—was started, but at the present time we imagine the brethren who are not acquainted with, or are working for, one or other of the many now established, are in the minority, while the sums raised through these channels forms no insignificant part of each year’s total. It is to the brethren who manage these Associations that the Craft is indebted for no small share of the success which has lately attended the Charities, and too much praise cannot be given to them as a body. We believe it was Bro. Nicholas Wingfield, P.M. 169 and 1155, who originated this scheme of obtaining Life Governorships by ballot, his original Association terminating about 1869, after having met with hearty support among the friends

of the founder in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe. We next hear of the North Eastern Masonic Charitable Association, started in 1870, with Bro. J. J. Wilson P.M. 813, &c., as President, Bro. J. Bellerby P.M. 65, &c Vice President, J. Newton P.M. 174 Treasurer, and James Terry P.M. 228 Hon. Sec. This Association, at its completion, about the end of 1873, showed that a total of £1090 had been contributed to the Institutions through its Stewards. Since then many kindred Associations have been brought to a successful termination, some showing more satisfactory returns as regards amounts; others a falling-off, not on account of any lack of enthusiasm, but because it is not always possible to obtain a membership large enough to realise such a result as was then achieved. It would be useless here to attempt to give any detailed list of the Associations now at work, for their number, both in London and throughout the Provinces, is very great; but in all of them the same good feeling exists, and the same good cause is the one worked for—the raising of money for the benefit of the Masonic Institutions. It must indeed be a pleasure to the pioneers of the movement to watch the progress of the scheme they were so enthusiastically associated with.

We recently recorded the completion of one of these Associations, to-day we chronicle the close of another, and the start of its successor, and so we go on week by week. Indeed, it is seldom but we could record something of interest in connection with this particular branch of practical Freemasonry, the success of which has now been fully established. It is true that the totals raised by each successive Association, so far as comparison has been possible, have shown somewhat of a falling off, but this is not due to any waning of interest in the Associations themselves, but arises from the fact of their being so much more numerous now, and consequently more confined in the circles from which they can enlist supporters. Associations started years ago drew their members from several Lodges and Lodges of Instruction, whereas, at the present day, many of the former, and most of the latter, are working Associations on their own account, and thus it is that most have to look to their own circle only for co-operation.

In the Provinces it is not at all uncommon to find such Associations being conducted in connection with the Provincial Grand Lodge, or under the direction of some of the more prominent officials of the district, and there also we may trace many of the five and ten guinea donations—which go so far to make up the total of the year—to Associations such as we have referred to, and which, with the brethren who conduct them, must ever occupy a prominent position on the list of “Organizers of Charity.”

Another branch of this subject, and one to which attention might well be directed at the present time, is the formation in connection with private Lodges of Benevolent Funds. Funds from which it may be possible to relieve distress among old members without its being necessary to put their case before the world at large. Benevolence which is quietly and quickly administered is, at all times, far to be preferred to that which has to be discussed among comparative strangers, and may be weeks in reaching its recipient, and there can surely be no better method of administering benevolence than by the establishment of Benevolent Funds in connection with our Lodges. We have often seen, during our visits to private Lodges, what it is possible to do where a Charity Fund exists in a Lodge, and the opinion thus formed enables us to recommend

the general adoption of the plan. Here, also, there is room for the active Organizer of Charity, who may make it his particular duty to urge the members, whenever they are able, to add a little to the "invested" money standing to the credit of the Charity Fund, and thus, in a few years, will a total be raised which, in case of need, it will be found very useful to possess. It is not unknown to our readers that there are Lodges in which Charity Funds exist, the accumulations of which have reached, not only hundreds, but also thousands; and when we remember that each of these had a small beginning—perhaps were commenced with a five guinea vote from the Lodge—it behoves us all to set about making a start in our own particular Lodge. There are numerous ways by which these Funds can be augmented, and many ways in which they may be made of use in more extended charity operations than is, perhaps, intended at their formation; but these and their general development can only follow an energetic start. That there is every day a greater call for individual work on behalf of Masonic Charity is becoming more and more apparent, and we hope that our present remarks may induce some few at least to make a start in the work of organization, without which our Charities would soon show a marked diminution, for it is hardly to be expected that the large totals now raised can be continued, unless the circle of operations is further extended, and energetic efforts are made to induce more general support being given than is now the case.

OUR SCHOLASTIC INSTITUTIONS.

THE Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Saturday last at Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Colonel Creaton, Past Grand Treasurer. After the minutes of last Quarterly Court had been read and confirmed, Colonel Creaton was unanimously re-elected as Treasurer. The General Committee were also re-elected.

Bro. Robert Grey then rose to propose the following Motion :—

"That in consideration of the valuable services rendered to the Institution by Bro. Charles Hammerton, Honorary rank, with the privileges attaching thereto, be conferred upon Mrs. Hammerton."

Bro. Grey, in brief but forcible terms, recapitulated the services Bro. Hammerton had rendered to the Institution. The proposition was seconded by Bro. Frank Richardson, and received unanimous assent. Scrutineers for examining the Voting Papers were then appointed, and shortly afterwards the poll was declared open, for the Election of Twenty-Three Girls to the benefits of the Institution. In another page will be found the List of Successful Candidates, we append the names of those who did not succeed. We give also the number of votes credited to each. The lowest candidate on the List of those successful polled 1137 votes.

Unsuccessful Candidates.

No. on List	Name	Forward	Polled	Total
16	Searle, Frances Alice	665	441	1106
14	Bromley, Maude Mary	355	673	1028
12	Betts, Edith Ellen	5	997	1002
8	Wheeler, May Amelia	410	481	891
26	Beilby, Jessie Louisa	—	843	843
23	Wright, Beatrice Elizabeth	—	783	783
25	Hurst, Olive Ann	—	714	714
22	Bush, Florence Wilson	—	680	680
2	Hutchings, Jane Wheeler	431	199	630
11	Heath, Fanny	141	439	580
21	Relph, Florence Eleanor	—	502	502
4	Godfrey, Mabel Harriet	5	132	137

THE Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held on Monday, at Freemasons' Tavern, Brother George Plucknett, who later on was unanimously re-elected Treasurer of the Institution, occupied the chair. The General Committee were re-elected. The following motion, of which notice had been formally given was brought forward by Brother Robert Martin :—

To insert as Section 2 in Law 83, after the word "thereof"—
"A Lodge or Masonic Body may, under similar conditions, place a duly qualified Boy in the Institution, by an annual payment of Fifty Pounds, in lieu of such sum of One Hundred and Seventy-eight Pounds, provided that the Lodge, or Masonic Body, nominating such Boy, shall

give such guarantee for the continuous annual payment of Fifty Pounds during the time such Boy shall remain in the Institution as the General Committee may require."

Brother Martin, as representative of West Lancashire, laid clearly before the Governors and Subscribers the motives which actuated the brethren of his Province in this desire to carry their motion. Considerable discussion ensued; an amendment, which, by the way, was accepted by the proposer of the motion, was submitted, but in the end the proposition was negatived by a large majority; those present inclining to the belief that the proposed charge would have a tendency to make the School more of a proprietary character than was desirable. Brother Godson next proposed that Rule 61 be amended so as to read as follows :—

"All Candidates for admission to the Institution (excepting those who before the passing of this Resolution have been placed on the list of accepted Candidates) shall, before admission, be required to pass an examination, or be certified by a competent person as having passed an examination, as follows :—If the Candidate be under the age of nine years at the time of admission, the examination shall be in the First Standard of the Government Education Department; if he be between the ages of nine and ten, he must pass in the Second Standard; and if over the age of ten years, then he must pass an examination equal to the Third Standard of the same."

Here, again, some considerable amount of time was spent in discussion; the result, however, was that Brother Godson carried his point.

Brother Raynham Stuart's Notice of Motion, based on the House and Building Committee's Report, as follows :—

"That this Court do authorise the purchase of the Four Freehold Houses, being Nos. 1 to 4 Lindum Villas, Wood Green, with the Freehold Land attached thereto, being in all upwards of an acre, for the purpose of the New Preparatory School, at a price not exceeding £3,200;
"That a Spacious Hall, available for Divine Service, and for the General Purposes of the Institution, be erected as a separate Building, on the land (the property of the Institution) situate on the west side of the present building, at a cost not exceeding £3,300;
"That the plans and suggestions submitted by the Consulting Surveyor, Bro. Robert Berridge, for the accommodation of Fifty Additional boys in the New Buildings for the Preparatory School, be approved and adopted by this Court, on an estimated outlay of £8,000."
"That it be referred to the House and Building Committee to give effect to these Resolutions."

Received unanimous assent. The formal appointment of Scrutineers was then made, and the Election of Twenty-three Boys as Pupils of the Institution was proceeded with. We refer those interested to our Advertisement Column for the List of Successful Candidates, but we give below the number of votes polled by those who did not succeed on this occasion.

Unsuccessful Candidates.

No. on List	Name	Forward	Polled	Total
34	Besley, James Campbell	161	1509	1670
18	Seagrave, James Pullen	649	549	1199
9	Beaumont, Reginald	390	698	1088
33	Cooper, Charles Bernard	242	828	1070
25	Gishford, William Taylor	147	850	997
26	Barber, Christopher W. G.	77	793	870
47	Matthews, Richard Cephas	—	853	853
29	Gore, James Ambrose	86	610	696
36	Sharland, William F.	219	325	544
50	Harvey, Lewis John T.	—	505	505
3	Gale, Horace	402	16	418
42	Dawson, Stanley Claude	—	349	349
1	Cummings, Charles Brown	110	209	319
53	Knight Samuel William	—	311	311
22	Hildred, Benjamin Meeds	167	116	283
38	Gloster, Harry Percy O. (withdrawn)	245	8	253
28	Allan, John Sinclair B.	5	239	244
31	Warner, Arthur	157	67	224
46	Perkins, Frank	—	202	202
52	Heinke, John Leathart	—	183	183
30	Bailey John Augustus M.	81	74	155
14	Longman, Frederick W.	37	58	95
43	Moore, Arthur	—	37	37
19	Graves, Harry Robert	25	—	25
16	Green, James Murray	16	5	21
45	Mushens, Alfred Thompson	—	10	10
12	Mitchell, Reginald A. L.	8	—	8
51	Manning, Frank Kingsley	—	4	4
24	Crutchett, Albert Edmund	1	2	3
20	Davis, Frederick Teilo	2	—	2

The proceedings, both on Saturday and Monday, closed with the customary votes of thanks to the Chairman and Scrutineers. The lowest successful candidate on the Boys' List polled 1760 votes.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS will be found the best friend to persons afflicted with ulcerations, bad legs, sores, abscesses, fistulas, and other painful and complicated complaints. Printed and very plain directions for the application of the Ointment are wrapped round each pot. Holloway's alterative Pills should be taken throughout the progress of the cure, to maintain the blood in a state of perfect purity, and to prevent the health of the whole body being jeopardised by the local ailments; bad legs, old age's great grievances, are thus readily cured, without confining the patient to bed, or withdrawing from him or her the nutritious diet and generous support so imperatively demanded, when weakening diseases attack advanced years or constitutions evincing premature decrepitude.

UNITED GRAND LODGE

OF

Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of England.

THE LATE DUKE OF ALBANY.

ON Thursday, a Special Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, for the purpose of voting addresses of condolence and sympathy with Her Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Grand Master, and Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, on the much regretted death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, K.G., Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire, Past Grand Warden, and to arrange for their presentation. The Earl of Carnarvon Pro Grand Master presided, Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., acted as Deputy Grand Master, General Brownrigg, C.B., as Past Grand Master. The other Grand offices were filled by the Earl of Milltown Senior Warden, Victor A. Williamson as Junior Warden, Revs. H. G. Morse and W. Oswell Thompson Chaplains, Æneas McIntyre, M.P., Registrar, Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke Secretary, Wendt Secretary for German Correspondence, Gooding and Devonshire Deacons, Sir Albert Woods D.C., Bolton Deputy D.C., Thrupp A.D.C., Lieut.-Colonel Peters Sword Bearer, E. Bowyer Standard Bearer, Cusins Org., Buss Assistant Sec., Littell Pursuivant, and Sadler Tyler. Among the Prov. Grand Masters who were present were Col. Sir Francis Burdett (Surrey), Sir Walter Burrell, Bart., M.P. (Sussex), Sir E. A. H. Lechmere (Worcestershire), Col. J. A. Lloyd-Philipps (South Wales West); while among Past Grand Officers there were the Earl of Onslow and John Havers Wardens; Revs. Bent, Dr. Cox, Woodford, Hill, Dr. Sedgwick, and Martyn Chaplains; Clabon, Rucker, Plucknett, Burney, Hughan, Wheeler, Peirce, Case, Fenn, Philips, Hutton, Richardson, Grey, Scott, Hogg, Gumbleton, Baron, Peter de Lande Long, Dumas, and Bird Deacons; Woodman, Greenwood and Nunn Sword Bearers; Pigott, Lewis-Thomas and Dumas A.D.C.'s; Willing Organist, Cubitt and Wright Pursuivants, Hyde-Clarke Rep. G.L. Columbia, the Marquis of Hertford, Sir Matthew White Ridley, &c. After Grand Lodge had been formally opened, the circular convening the meeting was read, and the Grand Secretary announced that he had received letters from the Earl of Lathom and other distinguished Grand Officers, expressing regret at their inability to attend; also their entire concurrence in the object of the meeting. The Earl of Carnarvon then rose and said:—

BRETHREN,—It becomes my duty to undertake the melancholy task of asking your concurrence in three addresses of sympathy and condolence with Her Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness the Grand Master, and Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany. My words need not be many on such an occasion, for there is but one thought in the minds of us all, and any expression of sympathy with those who are suffering from this untimely and sudden bereavement will readily find an echo with you. From all parts, indeed, of the country, from Parliament, from the courts of quarter sessions from churches, from municipal assemblages, from wherever Englishmen have come together, has gone up a unanimous and very touching sound of sorrow; and now I have to ask Grand Lodge to join them in that same public tribute of deep regret. Brethren, I need scarcely remind you of the part that His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany took in Masonic affairs. When in the University of Oxford, or shortly afterwards, in the Apollo Lodge he became Worshipful Master of that Lodge. He became then afterwards Junior Grand Warden of England in this Grand Lodge, and finally he became the Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire; and, I believe, in each and all of those situations he endeavoured to fulfil the duties that were incumbent upon him, as he certainly took the liveliest and most marked interest in all that concerned the welfare of the Craft. English history has more than once had occasion to lament some young prince cut off in the prime and pride of life, and many students will remember the expressions of national sorrow which those deaths have called forth; but never, I think, has there been greater sorrow felt and manifested than on this particular occasion, and never was there more real cause for it. The life of the Duke of Albany was a short one measured by mere lapse of years; but in that short period he succeeded in making a career for himself, and leaving a mark upon his own generation. He had many difficulties to contend with. He was cut off by constitutional delicacy of health from the profession of arms, and was unable to serve, as does his brother, in the naval service of the Queen. He was hindered all through life by repeated checks and interruptions which arose from feeble health; and yet in spite of all that he made his mark upon his time, and he left in the

minds of his generation an affectionate remembrance of him; and for this reason, that there was no good cause which he was not ready to plead and in which he did not interest himself; and whilst he, from his studious habits and his literary tastes, knew how to throw a certain thoughtful grace around almost everything which he said, more than this, over and above this, you might always detect the feeling of sympathy and the kindness of a true and affectionate heart; and this, I think, it was that gave him this hold upon his contemporaries. He has been cut off in the middle of that career, in the midst of all the promise, and has been taken away, as the best very often are taken away, in youth. Brethren, your sympathies will be, I am satisfied, heartily and freely accorded to those illustrious members of his family who mourn his loss—Her Majesty the Queen, our illustrious Grand Master the Prince of Wales, and the bereaved Widow. To all of these you will, I am sure, join with me in proposing a heartfelt vote of condolence and sympathy. If there be any one thing which could specially deepen your sorrow on this occasion, and could make this vote even more unanimous than I know it will be—it would be the recollection, which must be fresh in your mind, of that touching and noble letter which we saw from the Queen, published only a few days ago. In that letter she has taken, as on former occasions also, her loving subjects into her confidence. The duties of Kings and Queens and Princes in this generation of ours are difficult and delicate, but where they are discharged with the affection of their subjects they become comparatively easy. That affection Her Majesty has in no common degree, and that affection and those marks of loyalty must be her consolation in the midst of this great bereavement. Brethren, I have to ask you to agree to the three addresses, to Her Majesty the Queen, to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master, and Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany.

Bro. W. W. Beach, Provincial Grand Master Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, in seconding the motion, said:—

In the absence of the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, I have the pleasure of seconding these resolutions. After the sentiments which the Pro Grand Master has so eloquently expressed it is unnecessary to say much. All Englishmen mourn the loss of the Duke of Albany, cut off in the prime of life, with such bright promise for the future. He identified himself with many of the pursuits of Englishmen; he gave up much time to literary pursuits; and also in the cause of charity he showed himself an eloquent advocate and assistant. But if Englishmen generally have cause to mourn his loss, we, as Freemasons, have a double reason for doing so. He took the most active interest in the welfare of our ancient Fraternity from the moment he was initiated into Freemasonry. He served an office in the Apollo Lodge, and speedily became its Master; and none can testify better than I am able to do to the duties which devolve upon the Master of that Lodge—how necessary it is for him to make himself acquainted with the active working of the Craft, and to practise all those offices which were necessary for an able and accomplished Master of a Lodge to possess. He then rose to higher distinction, but he never relinquished that active interest in the welfare of the Craft which at the moment of his initiation he seemed to have contracted. Brethren, we need not entertain a doubt that if he had been spared to us he would have achieved further distinction, and given greater promise for the future. But we must lament his loss, and if we do so, those who are so nearly and dearly connected with him must do so in a double, nay in a tenfold degree; and therefore it is with the greatest gratification that I have the honour of seconding the motion that an address of condolence be presented to the Queen, one to the Grand Master, and one to the Duchess of Albany.

Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke Grand Secretary, having read the addresses, the propositions that they be severally presented was carried *nem con.* The Earl of Carnarvon said the Prince of Wales would sign and present the addresses to the Queen and the Duchess of Albany, and he (the Earl of Carnarvon) would sign and present the address to the Prince of Wales. Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

PROFESSIONAL MEN IN AUSTRALIA.—It can never be too strongly insisted upon, that professional men, as a rule, cannot get on so well in Australia as in Europe. Members of the legal profession are numerous in New South Wales, and it is necessary to success that they should have some knowledge of the land system of the Colony. For hard working medical men, content to bide their time, there are plenty of openings in the country districts, and surgeons accustomed to practice in the mining or rural districts would have no difficulty in forming a connection. Schoolmasters possessing the requisite qualifications can readily obtain employment under the Department of Public Instruction, but there are comparatively few chances for those accustomed only to the work of classical education. Clerks, book-keepers, shop assistants, and the like are not required. These form a large proportion of the unemployed in Sydney, as do the unskilled labourers. Agricultural workers and their families can always obtain employment, as can domestic servants, but farm managers, bailiffs, and superintendents have to learn much before they are competent to undertake the charge of Colonial farms. Persons practically acquainted with the working of reapers and binders and other agricultural machinery can do well, as can almost any one having a knowledge of the principles of scientific farming.

J. E. SHAND & Co., Wine Merchants (Experts and Valuers). Well fermented old Wines and matured Spirits. 2 Albert Mansions, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

SYMBOLS.

MODERN divisions of Masonry are symbolic of the divisions of the workmen at the temple of Solomon—the apprentices, workmen and masters, who were variously denominated burden-bearers, builders and masters of the work. In the Masonic Fraternity these are merely symbolisms; for practically they are only degrees representing these ancient facts, and as soon as the Third degree is reached all are Masters upon a common level. In early practical Masonry they were carried out as facts. The symbolism gives us good ideas of the facts of real life in the divisions of the work of the human family, showing the natural divisions of labour according to the laws of nature. Throughout the whole history of the human race we find a lower strata of people, who, from indolence in early life, from force of circumstances or some natural disposition of mind, are destined through life to bear the heavy burdens for the rest. The second class, from natural inclination, developed by some unknown law of mind, cling to mechanism and trade in their various branches, while others, also guided by the law of taste, select the higher callings or professions, and in a certain sense become the leaders of human society and thought. Were this not the fact, all employment would be of equal grade, and all men must of necessity be each his own labourer and mechanic in all things pertaining to human industry. This being the case, everything would be of rude construction, because no man would have time, opportunity or disposition to bring anything to perfection, but this law of the sub-division of labour allows full development in each branch of human industry, so that mechanism, art, science and literature, are constantly approaching a character of perfection which is very admirable. Without this law the human family would be to-day where it was thousands of years ago. But, with it, see the improvement in, and the high character of, thought; the power of steam, the universality of commerce, the railroad bands uniting different sections of a vast nation, the electric wires binding nations, the perfection and beauty of mechanism in every department, the unfolding mines of mineral wealth, and so throughout all the work of the human family. In this symbolism, then, we are not confined merely to Freemasonry, but by it are led to behold one of the most beautiful symmetrical laws of the Divine mind. This law of God is so well developed that it must continue as long as time lasts. It is not, however, a matter of necessity that the burden bearers should always be destined to poverty, for that is, to a certain extent, the result of a species of tyranny exercised over the burden bearer by the higher classes, which may, in time, be so removed as to place the lower classes in a higher degree of personal comfort. The symbolism goes still further than this general classification of the employments of men; for each employment has sub-divisions in its lower, middle, and higher classes of workmen. There is not a band of railroad labourers but has men who are leaders, and so through all occupations to the highest grade of thinkers and writers, each man being relegated to that class of workers for which his industry or ability has qualified him. This symbolism of grades may be safely carried to an almost boundless extent, and is certainly the most important of the symbolisms of the Fraternity, the rest being merely adjuncts or helps to develop or beautify. It is of the greater importance because of its being taken from the only architectural structure ever made on earth under the direct superintendence of the Divine mind. Carried still further, it may very well represent also the divisions of the temple, in the courts for the people, that for the priests, and the holier place for the dwelling of the Shekinar; then in a still higher sense the dwellers in the heavens, though this, perhaps, had better be reserved for the symbolism of the temple itself. It leads also to the thought that there is a necessity for preparation for whatever occupation may be chosen in life, and that he who is thoroughly prepared will best succeed in his undertaking. No man should enter these degrees without that preparation, nor should he pass through this life without a preparation for that which is to come.

Mackey's work on "The Symbolism of Freemasonry" takes up the general issues and the main points without delineating the minor points or parts; while the "Manuals of the Lodge" and "Guides" generalize a great deal and leave some of the parts of direct symbolism untouched. We do not propose to correct any of the arguments of these works, nor perhaps introduce new thoughts, but, being

aware of the fact that only a few of our readers are possessors of these works, to bring to view as far as possible the delineation of the minor points of our symbolism. We are aware, however, that there is no regular rule for symbolic interpretation, and that the same line of interpretation is not followed by all writers, hence most writers are guided by their own imaginations as to the deductions from symbolic instruction. The usual Masonic deductions are, however, generally very consistent with the character of the symbol and will be followed as nearly as may be accordant with our object, and we will draw such other lessons as may be harmonious with the symbol and of value to the reader.

The divestment being the very first step in Masonry very naturally leads to the thought of our entrance into the world, and, at the beginning of manhood, into the active operations of life. "Naked came I into the world," says one of the sacred writers, and in most cases the young man enters life devoid of capital, and is expected by industry, perseverance and tact to arise to wealth or position. We enter life in the helpless condition of infancy, ignorant of life's simplest necessity, but kind and loving hands are ready to prepare for the immediate exigencies of life, and we are altogether dependent upon the kind offices of these kindly hands, and upon God, for the very necessities of life; so the youth entering upon life is also dependent upon the kind offices of others. Though man is often said to "hew or carve" his own way through life, yet he could not do that but for others. He may be said to "start at the bottom of the ladder," yet the ladder rests upon the doings of those who have gone before him. Others have been labouring in the same line of work for ages before he was born, and he only begins to build where they left off. In fact, therefore, the youth of to-day begins life upon a much higher plane than his ancestry of a few generations. If every man began really at the bottom of the ladder, man would pass through all time without any visible improvement.

The divestment signifies that we need internal and not external qualifications, and therefore we are taught that we begin our Masonic life as we begin the real life, or that of our future occupation. We are to pay a proper respect to the teachings and to the guiding hand of those who have gone this way before us; their words, counsel and direction are to be our leaders and helpers. As the mother or father in childhood were our dearest friends, so the friendly Mason is never to betray us, but upon the contrary will ever be at our side. When helpless he can help, in trouble he can relieve, in perplexity he can explain. The consideration is not, then, "how naked and helpless I am," but being naked and helpless, where can I find the needed aid.

Standing upon the portals of the Lodge upon whose mysteries the candidate is about entering, he is upon ground sacred to those who have gone before him, and about to be born into a new world to him—to enter upon a great change as to his moral responsibilities among men. New features of life are to be developed. New associations are to be formed. Lessons are to be learned in a new school. It should, therefore, be a sacred place to him, though not in a divine sense.

The sacred character of this new feature of life is by some made to compare with that wonderful portion of the life of Moses when he stood near the burning bush and God said to him, "Put off thy shoes from thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." This allusion answers well for a symbol, but it is not to be construed that the Lodge is to be regarded as sacred as the place where Moses stood. The symbol, however, is that of the binding character and nature of a contract. Anciently the plucking off the shoe signifies that each was for ever bound by the contract then and there made, the contractors being aware of all each was to receive, but here one party knows all while the other agrees to an implicit faith in the word and honour of those who have gone before him. He learns, therefore, to trust the word of trustworthy men and to keep secret all that is Masonically unfolded to him. He is not to tread with unhallowed feet the precincts of the place made dear to many hearts who have gone that way before him. The half-shod situation teaches sincerity of intentions and reverence for good and holy things, as it did to Moses; that we are, while passing through degrees so solemn, in the presence of an All Seeing Eye, which takes cognizance of all our actions and demands an account of them at our hands.

The hoodwink leads us into another branch of thought. Though physically unable to behold what is taking place around us, we are to be made aware that he who holds our hand is our friend, and that as long as we follow his leading no danger can possibly occur to us. We must trust him as such. Under his guidance we will be led into that which is for our greatest good. For the time being the guide is not only a leader but a controller of our actions. We are not always our own guide. Many times we are blind to our best interests, but the kind counsel of a trusted friend, if properly followed, will lead to the enhancement of our welfare. The child follows the direction of parents, the soldier the command of his general, the Christian the commands or mysterious directions of his God, none knowing the result of his passage through the dark and mysterious path, but a faithful adherence to this leadership is best for the follower. If at any time during these leadings the follower were to claim the light, and assert what he might consider his prerogative, the result might be disastrous to his best interest. A wise follower, therefore, considers, "My guide is in the full enjoyment of the light and results to which he wishes to bring me; I will, therefore, follow, and in due time all that he now enjoys will be mine." It is not always best for us to know the reason of our blindness, but in due time there comes a revelation of all the reasons of these mysterious things.

The cable-tow properly signifies to draw, or lead. At first it seems to have been used as a means of drawing or controlling, and may symbolize the binding covenant by which Masons are united and while it reminds us of the passage, "I drew with the cords of a man, with bands of love,"—Hosea xi. 4, it may not be drawn therefrom. Had there been a refusal upon the part of the candidate to submit to any of the forms of initiation it would have been easy to have led him away.

Combined, the last two symbols are those of secrecy, and involve the thought that all the candidate is now to learn of Freemasonry is to be secretly kept in his heart, and that all things Masonically committed to his mental care are to be as inviolable as if only within his own breast. They both teach, also, that during this period of time he is altogether in the hands of others, to whom for the time being he has entirely committed himself, having surrendered his will and rights; and having thus committed these important matters they will be returned to him in their full value, so soon as he has become united to the Brotherhood by the tie that binds them together. He is not to forget that through life he is many times led by circumstances, and sometimes by a kind special providence, in paths he knows not, and that in such circumstances he is quietly to submit until the time comes for the development of the reasons of the leading.

The door of the Lodge signifies asking for entrance into a state of mind or knowledge which we do not possess. "Ask and ye shall receive; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you," for all within a door are thought to be in possession of certain comforts which are desirable to him without; but a total stranger, having no right to any of these comforts, cannot expect to gain admittance; but his guide, a friend, who has access to the household and a right to its privileges, and whose knock is understood and who will vouch for the fidelity of his friend, has the right of introducing and extending the hospitality of the home. The door cannot be opened except by the door keeper, at the order of the leader of the house, and then only at the call or knock of one fully authorized to demand admittance, hence is a perfect barrier to any one not acquainted with the rules of the home. It signifies obstructions in the pathway of the traveller, who is upon a road hedged in by impassable and immovable barriers, and who finds his only means of exit from his surroundings through a movable barrier which, though thoroughly secured, has a means of removing with the only requirement of asking. It teaches, that all through life there are barriers in the way of progress, which can only be removed by patience, industry, perseverance and faith; that though we may many times be surrounded by barriers which seem inaccessible and immovable, yet to the faithful ones there will always be provided some avenue of escape, and that though we may be unable to discover the means of delivery from our enthrallment, a kind friend may be near at hand to lend us aid. Sometimes human help fails, but God is always at hand to help, requiring only our trust and confidence in Him.

Music in its enlivening power will always give confi-

dence, even in the darkest hour of man's adversity. It will drive away the clouds of gloom and despair. When fear, in any surroundings, has seized a man, the charms of music will quiet it and inspire confidence. If led by cords and in blindness, if fear takes hold of the heart, it dispels, and warns him that there is no approach of danger. Under its inspiring influence he is always ready to proceed. It is, in subdued tones, the attendant of sorrow; in louder accents the companion of joy. It teaches that all through life there should be cheerfulness and joy in the heart, a looking upon the bright side of life and casting away the gloom, and that however dark the future, no man should give way to dismal forebodings. Looking upon the bright or musical side will furnish joy and happiness to many a life, when otherwise it would be continual sorrow.

—Voice of Masonry.

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.

—:0:—

SUMMER FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to suggest, with reference to the letter you published from "RUSTICUS" in your issue of the 12th instant, that if the Lodge of which he is a member converted their banquet into a light supper, having previously arranged that the regular business of the Lodge should be contracted within the narrowest limits consistent with order and propriety, the two or three hour's enjoyment of the fresh air during the approaching summer season would become an agreeable possibility, while the period thus occupied might be still further extended if the speeches were dispensed with altogether. I feel that, in offering this suggestion, I may be proposing a course which the sticklers for routine proceedings will object to, or which, having regard to the Lodge arrangements and other circumstances, such as distance to be travelled out and home again, the train or omnibus service, &c. &c., may not be found suitable, but as your correspondent states none of these particulars, he must take my proposition for what it is worth. At all events, from what he says as to the experiment having been successfully tried in one form, I imagine there should be no great difficulty in combining duty and pleasure in such a manner as to satisfy each without detriment to either.

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

X. Y. Z.

THE OLD STORY, WITH ADDITIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your number of 8th March contains two American articles, the first is headed "The Old and the New," in which the writer says:—

"When Christ came the religion of the Pharisees was overrunning the Jewish Empire. As wild poisonous vines will take possession of a noble fruit tree, and will year after year make the tree's blossom and leaves and fruit grow less and less, so as to make room everywhere for the luxuriant but sickening verdure of the usurper, so the simple truths of religion are often silently approached and entwined and strangled by creeping plants whose blossoms yield no fruit and whose leaves are full of poison. Thus the valuable doctrines which had beautifully grown in the times between Moses and Isaiah had at last become entangled with the weeds of Phariseism, and what had been a garden was becoming a wilderness. This was the crisis which called into new life the 'repentance' of John and the 'regeneration' of Jesus, and all that eloquence which overflowed from the Sermon on the Mount into the Gospels and letters of the Apostles," &c.

The above nonsensical remarks would have been in the right place if introduced into a sermon, or if written for a purely Christian paper. But these notions are entirely out of place in a Masonic paper. For what have we, as Masons, to do with either Christianity or Phariseism? and who is able to decide whether Christianity or Phariseism is the true religion? or whether either of them is a true religion? If Masonry means a union of the good and true of all religions, then I maintain that it is simply impertinent, on the part of any Mason either to magnify his own creed, or to depreciate the creed of another, either in a Lodge, or in a Masonic paper. If Phariseism is a tree filled with nothing but "sickening verdure and poisonous leaves," then Jews should never have been permitted to get into a Masonic Lodge; and if, on the other hand, there are good and true men among the followers of the Pharisees, then the Pharisee tree cannot be altogether covered "with sickening verdure and poisonous leaves." I believe Phariseism is not without faults, but who can point out a religious-ism that is free from faults. But if the writer of this nonsense had read, in the October number 1868 of

the Quarterly Review, the article on the Talmud, by Emaue Deutsch, or if he had read Renan's life of Christ, he would have learned that the character of the Pharisees was very much misrepresented by the writers of the Gospels, that instead of the Jews having degenerated at the time when Christ was born they were really more religious, more sincerely God-fearing, moral, just, and humane, than their ancestors had been during the period between Moses and Isaiah. But assuming, for the sake of argument, that all the Pharisees to which the Gospels refer were really nothing but humbugs and hypocrites, even then it seems to me simply ridiculous for an American Masonic luminary to point the finger of scorn at the hypocrisy of the Pharisees, while he is himself participating and approving of the humbug and hypocrisy practised in American Masonic Lodges.

The second article is headed "Light of Ages." One brief specimen from this will suffice for my purpose. Referring to the marriage at Cana, in the fourth Gospel, the writer informs us that—

"The miracle at Cana is an allegory of the sun producing the juice of the grape from water through the usual course of nature."

This Masonic luminary thus rambles through all ages, histories, and mysteries, perverting the meaning of every writer, in order to prove that the Gospels, the Apocalypse, the Egyptian mysteries, Homer's Iliad, the monks of Thibet, the priests of Hindostan, of Samothrace, of Eleusis, of Rome, of China, &c., were all either Masonic or Freemasons. Now, with all due respect to the admirers of that kind of stuff, I ask whether such a commentator on history and the Christian Scriptures does not justify the sneers and ridicule heaped upon the Masonic Fraternity, as well as the abuse we receive from the Catholic and some of the Protestant churches?

In conclusion, I sincerely thank you for republishing the said articles, because they furnish additional evidence to what I have repeatedly asserted, viz., that Masonry in America is a mere mongrel.

Fraternally yours,

JACOB NORTON.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

—:O:—

ST. MARYLEBONE LODGE, No. 1305.

THE annual meeting of this influential Lodge was held on Wednesday, 23rd inst., at the Langham Hotel, Bro. Edward White in the chair. The business was the installation of Bro. Frank C. Mouffet as Worshipful Master; to raise Bro. Walter Smith; and to initiate Mr. Richard Wright and Mr. James M. Hastie. The W.M. having completed the ceremony of raising, Bro. W. Smith proceeded to instal Bro. Frank C. Mouffet as W.M. for the succeeding year. This ceremony he conducted in a most impressive and earnest manner. Bro. Frank C. Mouffet W.M. elect then proceeded to the appointment of Officers, viz., Bros. Hill S.W., Halliday J.W., Smith S.D., Durrans J.D., J. L. Baker Secretary, Chaplin Treasurer, Spurgin I.G., Kift as Organist. The Tyler was re-elected. The next feature of the day's proceedings was the initiation of Mr. R. Wright and Mr. J. M. Hastie, and in performing the ceremony the Worshipful Master followed well in the footsteps of his predecessor P.M. White, and gave earnest of the way in which the ceremonies would be carried out during the ensuing year. A vote of thanks having been passed to the Anditors, the brethren adjourned to banquet, and in the interval of the toasts a selection of music, under the direction of Bro. Kift, was performed, the artistes being Madame Adeline Paget, Miss Pauline Featherby, Bros. James Kift and Egbert Roberts. The musical programme was a grand success, the ladies especially delighting all with their fine rendering of the songs. A handsome jewel, unanimously voted, was presented to P.M. White, not the first he has deservedly won by his services to Masonry. Bro. Mouffet, in his reply to the toast of the Worshipful Master, expressed a hope that he might succeed in a measure in emulating the impressive manner in which Bro. P.M. White had conducted the ceremonies. He would do his best to make his year of office a prosperous and pleasant one. Several distinguished visitors were present.

EBORACUM LODGE, No. 1611.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held at York, on Monday, the 14th inst., when there were present:—Bros. J. Blenkin W.M.; P.M.'s T. B. Whytehead, J. S. Cumberland, G. Balmford, J. T. Seller, C. G. Padel; Sir F. Milner, Bart., S.W., and many Officers and brethren. At the conclusion of the business of the evening, Bro. J. Blenkin W.M. moved and Bro. Sir F. G. Milner, Bart., M.P., seconded the following resolution, which was carried unanimously: "That the Worshipful Master, Officers and Brethren of the Eboracum Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1611, desire to express the grief experienced by them in the loss of their Royal Brother the late Duke of Albany, Past Grand Warden, and to convey to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, their heartfelt sympathies in the deep affliction they have sustained, together with the hope that the Grand Architect of the Universe may console and support them in their bereavement." It was ordered that copies of the resolution be forwarded to Her Majesty the Queen and the Duchess of Albany, as well as the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England.

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No. 65.—Held at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall Street, on Tuesday, 22nd instant. Present:—Bros. Rich W.M., Haynes S.W., Mann J.W., Dyson S.D., Stafford J.D., Mitchell I.G., Moss Preceptor, Walker Secretary; Bros. Daniel, Brown, Roberts, Webb, Weil, Buggins

Ferry, Gildersleeve, Maidwell. After preliminaries, Brother Weil, having answered questions, was duly passed to the degree of F.C., Bro. Stafford was elected a member of this Lodge of Instruction. Lodge having been closed, the brethren proceeded to form a Second Prosperity Charity Association. Before proceeding, however, Bro. Brown P.M. and Hon. Secretary to the first, read particulars as to the result of the first Association. In the four years the Association had paid into the Charities, as follows:—Benevolent Institution £341 5s; Boys School £189; Girls School £183 15s. This amount had been raised with the small amount of £5 5s 6d for working expenses. It was then proposed and seconded that another Association be formed, to be called the Second Prosperity Charity Association, with the following Officers:—Bros. C. J. Rich W.M. 65 President, G. Schadler I.P.M. 65 Vice-President, John Roberts P.M. 65 Treas., W. Walker J.W. 65 (32 Laurence Lane, E.C.) Hon. Secretary. Committee—D. Moss 1275, G. T. Brown P.M. and P.Z. 65, C. Daniel P.M. 65, Stafford 65, Sainte 193, Weil, T. J. Maidwell P.M. 27, Terry Secretary R.M.B.I., W. C. Bush P.M. 185, A. Mitchell 65, J. Gildersleeve 193, Buggins 65. Sixty-four brethren at once gave their names as members, and £12 15s 6d was placed in the hands of the Treasurer. The first ballot was taken for £10 10s, Bro. C. J. Coe 65 being successful in securing the prize.

New Concord Lodge of Instruction, No. 813.—The usual meeting of the above Lodge was held on Wednesday last, at the Jolly Farmers Tavern, Southgate Road. Brother A. Ferrar presided, supported by Bros. Weeden S.W., Dixie J.W., Cusworth P.M. Preceptor, Perl Secretary, Smith S.D., Marks I.G., Turner, and others. The usual preliminaries having been observed in opening, Lodge was advanced to the second degree, and Bro. Perl proved himself efficient to be raised, and was entrusted. Lodge opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Brother Turner being the candidate. Lodge was resumed, and Bro. Turner acted as candidate to be passed. Bro. Weeden was elected to preside at the ensuing meeting. A Committee was afterwards formed to take into consideration the propriety of removing the Lodge of Instruction. A motion to consider this matter having already been made, the discussion will take place next week. Brethren interested will kindly accept this intimation to attend, if convenient, so that the Lodge may benefit by the free expression of opinions.

Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693.—At the Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., on Monday, 21st instant. Lodge was opened, and after the minutes of last meeting had been read and confirmed, Bro. Bellis I.P.M. 1901, who took the chair, with Bro. Hopper 1677, was elected a member. Bro. Turner 1693 will occupy the chair on Monday, 28th April. Masonic business being ended, the members and visitors (nearly fifty) adjourned to supper, which was excellently served by Bro. Baker. A few toasts were honoured. The harmony of the evening was much assisted by Bros. Collings Org. 1693, Townley, Akehurst, Baines, Woodman, Probert, Lusk, Baker, Hawkins; and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Bro. Isaac Chairman, Bro. Forge Vice-Chairman.

New Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1695.—At the weekly meeting, on Tuesday, the 22nd instant, at Hornsey Wood Tavern, Present—Bros. Giller W.M., Gush Preceptor, Hale S.W., Mercer J.W., Berry Secretary, Moons S.D., Oldis I.G.; also Bros. Hubbard, Derry, Knights, Fenner and Gribbell. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. After Lodge had been advanced, the first section of the third lecture was worked by Bro. Gush, after which the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The second and third sections of the lecture were then worked by Bro. Fenner. Lodge was then closed in second and third degrees, and Bros. Hubbard and Derry elected members. Bro. Berry was then elected W.M. for the ensuing week. All business being ended, the Lodge was closed, and adjourned to Tuesday evening, at eight o'clock.

AUSTRALIAN FORESTS.—"The Official Directory and Year Book of Australia," issued by Mr. George Robertson, the well-known Australian publisher, contains a large amount of practical information, and from it we learn that forests of mighty proportions, and offering many valuable descriptions of wood, add their quota to the natural products of New South Wales, and, year by year, new characteristics and properties of them become discovered and developed, tending always to their increased commercial advantage. Foremost amongst the indigenous trees is the eucalyptus, or gum-tree, having about fifty varieties in all, yielding a most valuable wood for various purposes, not the least of which are its febrifuge properties. In the Northern parts of the Colony the cedar-tree is to be found flourishing on the eastern side of the Great Range, and is the most valuable timber, as well as that in greatest demand, in the country. Sheltering fig-trees of different kinds are of abundant growth, the fruit being poor and insipid, whilst an almost endless variety of ferns of all sizes are to be met with in every gully and sheltered nook at the mountain's foot. The flowering plants of New South Wales exceed those of the whole of Europe, and number some 10,000. The acacia, or wattle, with its fragrant yellow blossom, has about 300 different varieties.

FIRE AT FREEMASONS' HALL!

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

W. G. PARKER, Photographer, 40 High Holborn, W.C.
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MASONIC RELICS OF DR. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

ALTHOUGH it has been one hundred and fifty-three years since Dr. Benjamin Franklin was made a Mason, in the city of Philadelphia, and ninety-four years since he died, in the same city, some of the relics illustrating his Masonic career are still extant. One of his descendants, Bro. A. D. Bache, Paymaster U.S.N., of this city, possesses some valued ones, and his brother, Dr. T. Hewson Bache, recently had others. On Saturday last, Bro. Bache did us the favour to show us Franklin's "Masonic Trowel." It came to Bro. Bache through General Hartman Bache and Bro. B. F. Bache, Franklin's grandson, who accompanied him to France, and by whom he was educated abroad. This trowel has the Franklin crest upon it, and was long supposed to be a fish knife. It is of solid silver, has an ebony handle, and is extremely interesting. Its owner, Paymaster Bache (who was made a Mason in Yokohama Lodge, No. 1092, Japan, in 1869), rightly values it highly. A few years ago Dr. T. Hewson Bache, of Philadelphia, possessed Franklin's Masonic Apron, which he received from Dr. Fox. He kept it for a long period in one of his book-cases, behind the books, but upon looking for it several years ago, it had disappeared. He supposes it to have been stolen. Both of these Masonic relics were of primary importance, and one of them, fortunately, still remains. Bro. Bache also showed us a peculiar and characteristic portrait of Dr. Franklin, being the copy presented to him while he was in France on Feb. 14, 1780. Its design is original and striking. It represents Diogenes with his lantern, which he holds over a medallion-framed portrait of Franklin. Underneath is the Latin inscription, *Stupete Gentes, reperit virum Diogenes*—"Be astonished, O ye nations, Diogenes finds a man;" and also beneath that "Benjamin Franklin, Ministre Plenipotentiaire a la Cour de France pour la Republique des provinces de l'Amerique Septentrionale."

In this connection, we may mention the Stevens collection of Franklin's papers, recently sold by Henry Stevens, of Vermont, to the U.S. Government for 35,000 dollars, and now in the Department of State at Washington, and about to be edited, in part, by Edward Everett Hale, who will give new details, gathered from them, concerning Franklin's career in France. So novel and valuable are these papers that it has been said that their discovery requires that the history of the American Revolution should be written anew, so far as regards the policy and action of the governments of France and England towards this country, and the secret history of the war. These papers were found in an old tailor's shop, in St. James's, London, in 1840. The finder kept them in his possession for some ten years, offering them for sale successively to the British Museum, to Lord Palmerston, and to successive American Ministers to the Court of St. James. Mr. Abbott Lawrence put him in correspondence with Mr. Henry Stephens, who purchased the collection in 1851. It included 2938 documents, 2310 of them having never been printed, and all of which are of primary importance. Mr. Theodore F. Dwight, Librarian of the State Department at Washington, reported to James G. Blaine, Sec. of State, upon their historical value, whereupon Secretary Blaine recommended Congress to appropriate the amount necessary for their purchase, £7,000, which was done, and the unique collection is now the property of the U.S. Government, the purchase having been consummated in London, July 11th, 1881. We have before us, by the courtesy of Bro. A. D. Bache, the full official catalogue of this Stevens collection of the Franklin papers. It covers one hundred closely printed pages. We have reason to believe that they may contain some references to Masonic events, for Franklin was present in the Lodge of the Nine Sister Muses, Paris, when Voltaire was made a Mason; afterwards officiated as one of the officers of the Lodge of Sorrow, held in his honour, and was elected an honorary member of a Lodge in Rouen. We observe that there is in the collection a printed copy of the Eulogy on Franklin delivered by Bro. William Smith, D.D. (who was Grand Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania), before the American Philosophical Society and both Houses of Congress, at Philadelphia, in March, 1791; the original draft of Dr. Franklin's letter to General Washington, introducing Gen. Lafayette (all of whom were Masons); and a printed copy of the Pro-

ceedings in the House of Representatives of the United States, on the presentation of the sword of Washington and the staff of Franklin, Feb. 7, 1843. The government of the United States may well be proud of the possession of this unique collection of historical papers, almost miraculously preserved from destruction, and when they are completely examined, edited and published, we think it more than likely there may be discovered some interesting and valuable references to Dr. Franklin's career as a Freemason while in France, and also in Pennsylvania.—*Keystone.*

The Grand Festival will take place on Wednesday next. Several important changes will be made with regard to what are considered the permanent offices, but we have no desire to forestal the appointments, by giving details. Doubtless those who are anxious for enlightenment on this point will find no difficulty in gratifying their curiosity. For ourselves we are content to await the result, which will be officially declared at so short an interval.

At the North London Chapter of Improvement, on Thursday last, at the Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, Comps. Hubbard filled the chair of Z., Strugnell H., Knight J., Foster Shaw P.S., Radcliffe S.N. The ceremony was carefully rehearsed.

FUNERALS.

Bros. W. K. L. & G. A. HUTTON,
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MAY ELECTION 1884.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal
Masonic Benevolent Institution.

YOUR VOTES and INTEREST are earnestly solicited on behalf of

WILLIAM HENRY MAIN,
AGED 64 YEARS.

W. H. MAIN was initiated in 1861 in New Concord Lodge, No. 813, served all offices; joined the Fitzroy Lodge in 1863; was exalted in New Concord Chapter, 813; served as Steward for the Benevolent Institution in 1872, and is a Life Governor of all the Charities. Owing to defective sight and rheumatism he is unable to follow his business as a decorator, and is dependent upon his relatives for maintenance.

The case is strongly recommended by:

THE NEW CONCORD LODGE, 813.	Bro. H. T. TIDDEMAN W.M. 813,
Bro. JNO. BERTRAM P.M. 742, 813, P.Z.	50 Finsbury Square.
25, V.P. Institution, Newport Villa,	Bro. R. R. HARPER P.M. 813, 86 Clifton
Upper Norwood, S.E.	Street, Finsbury.
Bro. J. LINZELL P.M. 754, 1237, 1579,	Bro. J. SMITH W.M. 193, 21 Russia
P.P.G.D.C. Middlesex, P.Z. 1237,	Lane, Victoria Park.
Talbot House, Tottenham.	Bro. A. TRANTER, 55 Medland Street,
Bro. J. W. LONG P.M. 569, 212, P.Z. 22,	Ratcliff.
31 Finsbury Square.	Bro. H. PITCHER 860, 2 and 3 Warwick
Bro. H. J. GABB P.M. 813, P.Z. 813,	Lane, City.
28 Holywell Row, Finsbury.	Bro. F. W. SWALES 813, 61 Spencer
Bro. T. HAMMOND P.M. 212, 232 Cable	Road, Herne Hill.
Street, E.	Bro. S. S. PHILLIPS P.M. 173, 10 Baker
Bro. H. COCKING, 31 Camden Square.	Street, Portman Square.

By whom Proxies will be thankfully received, and by the Petitioner, 9 Little Trinity Lane, E.C.

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It acts like a charm in Diarrhoea, and is the only known Specific in Cholera and Dysentery.

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It rapidly relieves pain from whatever cause, allays the irritation of Fever, soothes and strengthens the system under exhaustive diseases, restores the deranged functions, stimulates healthy action of the secretions of the body, gives quiet and refreshing sleep, and marvellously prolongs life. It may be taken by old and young at all hours and times.

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On WEDNESDAY, the 21st MAY next,

UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF THE
RIGHT HON. THE LORD BROOKE, M.P.

R.W. PROV. GRAND MASTER ESSEX.

W. Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Essex, President
of the Board of Stewards.

W. Bro. BURDETT-COUTTS, W.M. 2030, Treasurer.

W. Bro. CHARLES HAMMERTON, Chairman of Ladies' Stewards.

* * Brethren willing to serve the office of Steward are *very greatly*
needed; they will much oblige by forwarding their names as *early* as
possible to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information
required.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

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The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

MRS. MANBY gratefully thanks the Governors and Subscribers
of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys by whose kind exertions her son,
Lionel Blenkinsop J. Manby,

was returned No. 13 on the List of SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES at the Election on
Monday last.

Ashwick Cottage, Oakhill, Bath.

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; sub-
sequently District Grand Chaplain Westland; and District Grand Treasurer
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Votes thankfully received by

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Grand Patroness:
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

AT A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT OF THIS INSTITUTION, held at Freemasons' Tavern, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., on Saturday, 19th April 1884,

Colonel J. CREATON, Treasurer of the Institution, in the Chair.

After the General Business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the Election, by ballot, of 23 Girls into the Institution, from a list of 35 APPROVED CANDIDATES, when the following were declared duly ELECTED:—

No. on List		Votes	No. on Poll
5	Mary Tanner	2427	1
7	Florence Alice Weber	1905	2
6	Florence Ann Motion	1765	3
21	Rose Ethel Vowels	1760	4
19	Lucy Harrison	1677	5
34	Fanny Margaret White	1660	6
15	Beatrice Mary High	1633	7
24	Marion Bloomfield	1623	8
10	Eleanor Alice Johnstone	1531	9
13	Amy M. Owen	1410	10
18	Emily J. Hall	1402	11
33	Marion A. Warner	1358	12
1	Minnie Woodward	1356	13
9	Hilda J. Lyon	1289	14
32	Lilian E. Thomas	1287	15
29	Rose L. Haworth	1285	16
17	Emily Pinder	1267	17
20	Edith D. Canon	1252	18
27	Lilian C. Fruh	1234	19
35	Mabel H. Wood	1217	20
30	Louisa H. Pincombe	1154	21
28	Kate J. Gooch	1144	22
3	Annie L. Ochsenbein	1137	23

The numbers of votes recorded for unsuccessful Candidates can be obtained on application at the Secretary's Office, and will be duly carried forward at the next Election, if eligible.

F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary.

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

Grand Patron:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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

AT A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers, held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Monday, the 21st day of April 1884,

W. Bro. GEORGE PLUCKNETT (P.G.D.), V. Pres., Treasurer, in the chair.

A ballot took place for 23 Boys, from an approved list of 53 Candidates, reduced to 52 by the withdrawal of No. 35, Gloster Harry Percy Owen.

The following were declared to be the successful Candidates:—

No. on Poll	No. on List		Votes
1	27	Blount, Arthur	2911
2	5	Williams, A. F.	2764
3	44	Haigh, C.	2426
4	6	Pratt, Alfred	2360
5	11	Coleman, F. F.	2295
6	15	Hooker, H. W.	2253
7	23	Whiting, R. H.	2241
8	49	M'Gill, D. F. G.	2228
9	40	Green, E. Bramble	2220
10	35	Canty, W. G.	2212
11	39	Gibson, J. W.	2210
12	4	Delafons, R. W.	2184
13	32	Manby, L. B. J.	2106
14	21	Habgood, W. G.	2029
15	13	Pawsey, T. E.	2094
16	2	Douglas, F. C. A.	2091
17	7	Howe, John	2089
18	37	Anderson, E. H.	2083
19	8	Shaw, John	2034
20	17	Lillywhite, W. J. M.	2032
21	41	D'Oyley, J.	2002
22	10	Walters, J. E.	1839
23	48	Jones, H. P.	1760

Lists of Candidates (successful and unsuccessful), with full particulars of polling, &c., may be had on application at the Office. Votes of unsuccessful candidates will be carried to the credit of those qualified for election, in October next.

FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G. Std.)
Vice-Patron, Secretary.

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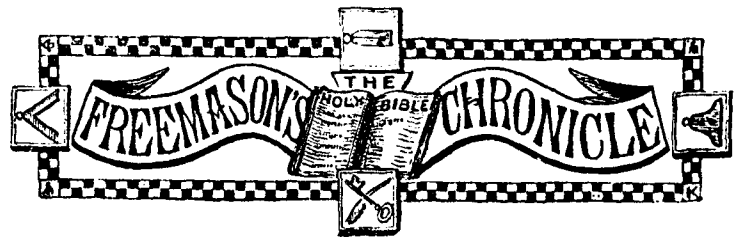
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PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LEICESTER-SHIRE AND RUTLAND.

A SPECIAL meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday, 16th April, for the purpose of adopting an Address of Condolence on the occasion of the lamented death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, K.G. Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master for Oxfordshire, P.G.W., &c. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened at half-past two o'clock by the Right Honourable the Earl Ferrers, Prov. Grand Master, who was supported by Right Worshipful Bro. W. Kelly P.P.G.M. and Bros. G. Toller jun. D.P.G.M. P.G.S.B. England, J. T. Thorp Prov. S.G.W., W. S. Allen Prov. J.G.W., the Rev. A. P. Dawson Prov. Grand Chaplain, A. H. Burgess Prov. Grand Registrar, S. S. Partridge Prov. Grand Secretary, S. Cleaver Prov. G.S.D., F. Griffith Prov. Grand Superintendent of Works, J. Young Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies, C. Gurden Prov. Grand Assistant Director of Ceremonies, T. B. Laxton Prov. Grand Organist, B. Wood Provincial Grand Pursuivant, R. R. Cole Grand Assistant Pursuivant, and Bros. C. Oliver, J. E. Benzeley and J. B. Fowler Prov. Grand Stewards; also Bros. Rev. W. Langley P.M. 50 1130 W.M. 2028, C. E. Stretton and M. J. Walker P.P. Grand Wardens, the Rev. C. Henton Wood P.P.G.C., F. J. Baines P.P.G.S.D., R. Michie W.M. 279, W. Wilkinson W.M. 1007, R. S. Toller W.M. 1560, and many others, including Bros. C. H. Cromwell Marsh 199, Dover, and Frederick Nicholls 1950, Kent, as Visitors. The Roll of Lodges and of Provincial Grand Officers having been called over and duly responded to, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master called upon the Provincial Grand Secretary to read the draft of an Address of Condolence which had been prepared in the following terms:—

TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c. &c. &c.
MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER OF ANTIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

We, the Provincial Grand Master, the Past Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the present and past Provincial Grand Officers and other members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland, in open Lodge assembled, beg leave to offer through you, Most Worshipful Grand Master, to all the members of the Royal Family, the expression of our profound regret and tender sympathy in this season of bereavement.

To Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, we beg you, Sir, to present our loyal homage, and to assure Her Majesty that in our several homes is deeply felt the shadow of the irreparable loss caused by the decease of her son, and that at such a time as this the heart of England beats in union with her own.

To your Widowed Sister, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, we beg you, of your goodness to say, that beyond the immediate circle of the Royal Family, the late Prince Leopold is mourned by none more truly than by the Brethren of the Order he adorned, and in which he deservedly ranked so high.

To you, MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER, and to the Royal Princes, your brothers, now absent on foreign service, we, your humble but true brethren of the Craft, respectfully offer our fraternal support in deepest sympathy since we feel that a Freemason is never so truly "brother to a Prince" as when his Prince is stricken with one of the sorrows of our common humanity—the loss of an estimable and dearly-loved brother.

To ALL YOUR ROYAL HOUSE we tender the support of our prayers, that He who cares for the fatherless and the widow may have you ever in His holy keeping, and that after happy and honoured lives on earth, you may be re-united in the home beyond the grave; there "to shine as the stars for ever and ever."

FERRERS Provincial Grand Master.

WM. KELLY Past Provincial Grand Master.

G. TOLLER JUN. Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

S. S. PARTRIDGE Provincial Grand Secretary.

Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

16th April 1884.

The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master said, that as the head of the Craft in this Province, it was right and fitting that he should move the adoption of the address which had just been read. The language of the address was very happily selected, and he felt sure that in a suitable manner it expressed the feelings of the brethren, and conveyed everything that they could wish to say on so mournful an occasion. After making appropriate allusion to the interest evinced by the late Prince Leopold in all Masonic matters, and to the admirable manner in which His Royal Highness had fulfilled the many great and onerous duties of his high rank and distinguished position, and particularly to the eminent manner in which he cultivated and encouraged the liberal arts and sciences, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master concluded by proposing that the address should be adopted and presented to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Most Worshipful Grand Master. Bro. Toller, in seconding the adoption of the address, fully agreed with the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master in his remarks respecting the language contained in the address, and also as to the great loss sustained in the sudden and lamented decease of the Duke of Albany, who, had he lived, would undoubtedly have been called to even

higher Masonic rank, and who in his short life had, by his amiable and courteous manner, with his many good and excellent qualities, already taken a deep hold upon the affections of the people.

The resolution, on being formally submitted, was unanimously approved, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

MARK MASONRY.

—:O:—

THE MOVEABLE GRAND LODGE AT YORK.

PREPARATIONS for the Moveable Grand Lodge at York on the 9th May are progressing rapidly. At a meeting of the Committee of the Province of North and East Yorkshire, held at York a few days ago, at which the Provincial Grand Master, Brother J. W. Woodall, presided, a local executive was appointed, consisting of Bros. T. B. Whytehead P.M. Prov. G. Sec., J. S. Cumberland P.M. Prov. G.D.C., and J. Todd P.M. Prov. G. Treasurer, and a general plan of the arrangements for the day was unanimously approved. The Grand Mark Master Mason, Lord Henniker, having signified his intention of opening Grand Lodge at three o'clock p.m., the brethren will be summoned for two o'clock p.m., and Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened in the Assembly Rooms, Blake Street, at 2.30, and the Provincial Grand Master will proceed to move a vote of condolence on the death of the Duke of Albany. At three o'clock p.m. the Grand Lodge will enter in procession, and after the usual formalities will be opened in ample form. The principal business will be the constitution and consecration of the Streanshalh Lodge, No. 337, a warrant for which has been granted to be held at Whitby, and the installation of its W.M. designate, Bro. W. H. Marwood. Streanshalh, or Stoneshalh, is the old Saxon name of Whitby, so called, says Bede, from a watch-tower which stood on the cliff. The name afterwards became Whiteby or Whitby, meaning, no doubt, White Town. At 5.30 a collation will be held in the great hall of the Art Exhibition, at which the Grand Master will preside, and at 8 o'clock there will be a vocal and instrumental concert to which all Master Masons and ladies introduced by them will be admitted at a trifling charge. In the Art Exhibition are several valuable collections of pictures, &c., and these galleries will be open to the brethren without any extra charge. There is every prospect of a large muster of members of the Mark Degree, and should the weather prove fine we anticipate for those who are present a most enjoyable day. We may add that for those who care to see something of York and its interesting antiquities, and who reach that city in good time, provision will be made for their access to the Minster, the Philosophical Societies' Gardens, the City Walls, the Masonic Hall, and other places of interest, and Bro. T. B. Whytehead's services will be at the disposal of those who wish to be introduced to the Masonic archæology of "Alma Mater Latomorum."

The consecration of the Davison Lodge of Mark Master Masons was fixed to take place yesterday, at the Masonic Hall, 8a Red Lion Square; the Right Worshipful Brother Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart. (Prov. G.M.M.M. Middlesex and Surrey) officiating as Consecrating Officer, assisted by V.W. Brother F. Davison (Grand Treasurer and Deputy of the same Province), V.W. Rev. Ambrose Hall (P.G. Chaplain), and other Grand and Provincial Grand Officers. We hope to give a detailed report of the proceedings in our next issue. The Officers designate were Henry Faija W.M., James Inglis S.W., Robert A. Meyer J.W., and W. H. Gimingham Secretary.

YORK LODGE (T.I.)

A MEETING of this Lodge was held at York on the 15th inst., at which there were present:—Bros. J. S. Cumberland P.M. as W.M., G. Balmford P.M., T. B. Whytehead P.M., C. G. Padel P.M., J. T. Seller S.W., A. T. B. Turner J.W., F. Smith M.O., G. Simpson S.O., W. B. Dyson J.O., W. Lackenby S.D., H. C. Pickersgill J.D., G. Lamb I.G., J. A. Banks Reg., and several brethren. The Lodge having been opened it was announced that the Prov. Grand Master of N. and E. Yorkshire asked admittance. A deputation was formed, and the Prov. Grand Master was introduced and saluted. Ballots were taken for Bros. B. L. Mills, of the Kilwinning Mark Lodge,

No. 56 (S.C.), and for Bro. W. Brown, of 111, as joining members; also for the following candidates:—Bros. J. Blenkin W.M. 1611, Major McGachen P.M. 1991, S. J. Dalton 1611, and W. Stephenson 1611, and these brethren were elected. Bros. Blenkin, McGachen, and Stephenson were duly advanced; after which the election took place of a brother to serve on the Provincial Committee for the reception of the Grand Mark Lodge on the 9th May, in York, and this resulted in the selection of the W.M., Bro. M. Millington, who was absent through indisposition. Bro. T. B. Whytehead P.G.M.O. then moved, "That this Lodge desires to place on record an expression of its heartfelt sorrow at the loss of the late Duke of Albany Past Grand Master of England, and to convey to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and to the Duchess of Albany its sincere sympathy in their severe affliction, together with an assurance of its heartfelt prayer that the Grand Overseer of the Universe may console and support them in the great trial under which they have been overwhelmed." This was seconded by Bro. J. S. Cumberland, Grand Steward, and carried. After the close of the Lodge the brethren supped together at the Exhibition Hotel, where an excellent repast had been provided by Bro. Churchill.

CONSTANTINE LODGE, No. 145.

THE Annual Festival of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 17th April, and passed off most successfully. The proceedings commenced with the admission of six candidates into the degree, after which Bro. Lewin P.G.S.D. East Anglia was, for the second year, installed as W.M., the ceremony being impressively performed by Bro. the Rev. E. H. Crate I.P.M. Grand Chaplain England. The W.M. then invested his Officers for the ensuing year, as under:—Bros. the Rev. E. H. Crate Grand Chaplain England I.P.M., Eustace S.W., Mills J.W., Clowes M.O., Snelgar S.O., Bailey J.O., Rev. W. Morgan Jones Chaplain, Cole Treasurer, Ralling P.M.M. J.G.D. England Secretary, Rix P.M.M. Registrar, Eustace S.D., Sowman J.D., Amos Org., Renshaw I.G., Munson Tyler. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Master for his kindness and ability in performing the ceremony of the day. Later in the evening the brethren dined together at the George Hotel, under the presidency of the W.M., when the usual Mark toasts were drunk. An interesting feature of the evening's proceedings was the presentation of a gold P.M.'s jewel to the W.M. on the occasion of his commencing his second year of office. The presentation was made in felicitous terms by the I.P.M. Bro. the Rev. E. H. Crate, who alluded to the earnest and efficient manner in which the W.M. had carried out his duties, and the respect in which he was held by the brethren, as evidenced by the fact that all the members had subscribed for the jewel. The W.M., who was completely taken by surprise, in feeling terms, returned thanks for the gift, which he said he should ever value most highly. He felt great interest in Mark Masonry generally, and in the Constantine Lodge particularly, and he trusted that they should be able to work together in the coming year with the same success as they had done in the past.

BRO. JOHN PROBERT'S CONCERT AT MYDDELTON HALL.

THIS entertainment took place on Thursday evening, and resulted in a most satisfactory manner. The lady vocalists were Miss Ambler, Miss Woodhatch, Miss Elsie Joel, Madame Jenny Pratt, and Miss Eve Lynn; while Mr. Sackville Evans and Mr. W. H. Brereton aided Bro. Probert in carrying out a well-considered programme. The demands on our space will not permit us to give full details, but we cannot let the opportunity pass without complimenting Miss Elsie Joel on the artistic way in which she rendered "Sing, Sweet Bird;" Madame Jenny Pratt, always a popular Vocalist, sang "Il Segreto," and "The Skipper and his Boy;" for the latter receiving an enthusiastic encore. Miss Ambler sang with good effect "The Old Love and the New," and also distinguished herself in the several part songs. Miss Eve Lynn must also be commended. Mr. Brereton contributed two songs, "The Brave Light," and "The Sea King," both of which suited his voice to a nicety. Bro. Probert, though suffering from hoarseness, ably acquitted himself. His contributions were "The Distant Shore," "I arise from Dreams of Thee," a very pretty serenade; and "Oft in the Still Night;" the latter in response to a vociferous demand for an encore. Mr. Robert Barker proved himself an accomplished performer on the harp; he played two solos, "Autumn," and "Echoes of a Waterfall," and met with a most favourable reception from his audience. If we have omitted to mention the other performers, the excuse we urged above must be our plea for craving the indulgence of our readers. Mr. H. J. Stark, Mus. Bac., and Mr. D. Beardwell, A.R.A.M., were the conductors.

MASONIC LECTURE.

"KNOBS AND EXCRESCENCES."

BRO. JAMES STEVENS P.M. P.Z. is open to accept invitations for the delivery of this Lecture in METROPOLITAN or PROVINCIAL LODGES, or LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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In Memoriam.

—:—

BRO. WILLIAM GOMM.

It is only within the last few hours that the announcement of the death of this esteemed Craftsman has reached us. Bro. William Gomm, P.M. of the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 780, and for the past three or four years its Treasurer, departed this life, after a short illness, on the 29th ultimo. Our worthy brother was a man of simple tastes, but he possessed a warm heart, and was ever ready to help those in distress. Of ample means, he never refused to listen to an appeal properly authenticated; and merely asked for a guarantee that the applicant was deserving of his assistance. Those who knew him best fully realised this, and knew beforehand they would never appeal in vain. We tender to the members of his family our deep sympathy in the loss they have sustained.

BRO. DONALD M. DEWAR,

ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY OF THE MARK GRAND LODGE.

IT is with sincere regret that we announce the very unexpected death, on Wednesday, the 23rd instant, of Brother Donald M. Dewar, the much-respected Assistant Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, &c. Bro. Dewar had been only absent from his post during some two or three days, when the sad intelligence of his decease became known, and, as a matter of course, even those who knew him but slightly were as much grieved as surprised at the unlooked for announcement. Our late Brother, during the five or six years he had held the important and responsible office of Mark Assistant Grand Secretary, had so endeared himself to all who came in contact with him, officially or otherwise, by the uniform kindness and courtesy of his demeanour, that we are convinced every one, on hearing of his death, will feel as though he had sustained some great family bereavement. But the sorrow will be greatest in those branches of Freemasonry of which he had been for so long one of the brightest ornaments. Bro. Dewar had worked most assiduously, and it will be no detracting from the merits of others who had worked with him that he had rendered almost incalculable service to the Mark and other Degrees, and that a considerable share of their present prosperity was due to his zeal, energy, and ability. He had taken a leading part in all the principal events which grace their history during the past few years, and very great difficulty will be experienced in selecting a successor who will fulfil the duties which his death has made vacant as ably and as courteously as he did.

The chief interest in connection with Bro. Dewar's Masonic career attaches to his official position in the Mark Grand Lodge. We know him to have been a Craft and Arch Mason of great experience, but we know him best in the capacity we have mentioned. His post was in the Offices of the Mark Degree, Red Lion-square, and there till within the last few days he was to be seen labouring quietly, but none the less successfully, to advance the prosperity of his Order. He had held high office in his Grand Lodge—that of G.M. Overseer—before his appointment to the Assistant G. Secretaryship, but the distinction pertaining to the former is as nothing by comparison with that which he had achieved in the latter. In the former case he was one of several brethren who all enjoyed the same rank and privileges; in the latter he stood alone, and there is no questioning the fact that whatever he put his hand to, he carried out loyally and well. The same must be said of him in the various other positions he held—as a member of the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council, as P.P.G. Recorder of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, and as G. Secretary of the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees, while we may be sure it was no idle distinction that was conferred upon him when the Supreme G.R.A. Chapter of Vermont appointed him its representative near the Mark Grand Lodge of England, and the Grand Councils of Louisiana and Michigan chose him in the same capacity near our Grand Council of R. and S.M. He was also

Knight Grand Cross and Intendant-General of Division Unattached in the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine, and was not only a Life Governor of the two Schools and the Benevolent Institution, but had also served the office of Festival Steward to each of these Charities; the Mark Benevolent Fund having likewise received from him much valuable assistance, both as a liberal supporter and as a warm advocate of its claims for support. In fine, if the duty now devolving upon us is a sad one, we have at least the consolation of knowing that of no brother would it be possible to pen a brighter or more honourable record than of Bro. Donald M. Dewar, and we trust the knowledge that his qualities of mind and heart were so generally appreciated will be accepted by the members of his family as in some slight measure an alleviation of their great sorrow.

DINNER AND PRESENTATION TO BROTHER HARBOUR.

BROTHER Joseph Harbour, who lately retired from the Governorship of the Incorporated Society of Licensed Victuallers and of the Licensed Victuallers' School, the arduous duties of which he had discharged with eminent advantage to both during the past twelve months, was entertained on the 17th inst., at a banquet at the Holborn Restaurant, given him by his late colleagues on the Committee of Management and a numerous body of friends in the Wholesale and Retail branches of the Trade, and presented with a valuable service of plate, purchased with the subscriptions of his colleagues, supplemented by a sum of one hundred guineas unanimously voted for the purpose at the recent Quarterly Court of the Incorporated Society, in grateful recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to both branches of the Institution during his year of office. The post just vacated by Bro. Harbour, entailing on its occupant the duty, among the rest, of providing for the annual expenditure of the School (now exceeding £7,000), is necessarily an onerous and anxious one, under the most favourable circumstances; but last year its ordinary difficulties were immensely aggravated by the adverse condition of trade, which, as we well know, exercised a most unfortunate influence on the interests of all Benevolent Institutions depending for their support on the voluntary contributions of their patrons. Over the exceptional difficulties of his term of office, however, the late Governor so completely triumphed, that his year has closed with the splendid total of upwards of £7,300 obtained for the funds of the School, a result which, so far as the Subscription Fund is concerned, entitles it to rank as the sixth best year it has had since the establishment of the Fund in 1807. Among the principal circumstances to which the Institution is indebted for this unlooked for success in a most inauspicious year must be mentioned the fortunate issue of the Anniversary Festival, held at the Crystal Palace in June last, under the presidency of Captain Townshend, of the firm of Samuel Allsopp and Sons, Barton-on-Trent, the subscription and donation list on which occasion reached the sum of £5,300. Bro. Harbour has been throughout his year sustained, also, by the continued liberality of the Wholesale Trade and its numerous connections, and one piece of particularly good fortune fell to his lot in the receipt of a legacy of £200 from the executors of the late Mr. James Marsh, of Notting-hill. With the zealous and hearty co-operation of his colleagues, he has, in a word, made an exceedingly good year for the Institution, under circumstances most unpropitious for the work he had undertaken, and he had the further satisfaction of handing over to his successor, in the highest state of efficiency, and with improved prospects, the noble School in Kennington-lane which he had so energetically worked for and so ably administered.

Mr. William H. Beauchamp, who occupied the chair at the banquet on the 17th, in well chosen words proposed the toast of the evening, "The health of the late Governor, Mr. Joseph Harbour," and then made the presentation, which, he said, was the principal object for which they had met. The testimonial took the form of a Silver, together with a Silver Tea and Coffee Service, and other articles for Mr. Harbour, and a suite of jewellery for Mrs. Harbour, in recognition of the valuable services she had rendered in superintending the domestic arrangements at the School. The several articles were of elegant design and admirable workmanship, and were supplied by Bro. Youens, of Brixton Road, whose taste and ability in providing such matters are now recognised by many members of the Craft. Knowing as we do the merits of the Institutions Mr. Harbour has lately been at the head of, and the care required to fill the post as he has done, we can but add our congratulations to him on the result of his labours and the recognition they have met with at the hands of his fellow workers.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

WILL BE WORKED

At the Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, No. 1507, on Monday, 28th inst., at the Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, at seven o'clock precisely. Bros. Ager 957 W.M., Hemming I.G. 1287 S.W., Sillis S.D. 1744 J.W. First Lecture—Bros. Burroughs, Saunders, Edmonds, Harvey, Hemming, Gush, Sillis. Second Lecture—Bros. Smith, Ferrar, J. C. Smith, Martin, Denison. Third Lecture—Bros. Knight, Storr, Scurrah. Bro. Storr S.W. 167 Hon. Secretary.

The Revised Book of Constitutions; Critically Considered and Compared with the Old Edition. London: Simpkin, Marshall & Co., 4 Stationers' Hall Court, E.C. Sent on receipt of stamps, One Shilling, by W. W. Morgan, Freemason's Chronicle Office, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville.

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, 26th APRIL.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1297—West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1706—Orpheus, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 R.A. 1320—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court
 1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
 1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe

MONDAY, 28th APRIL.

- Grand Mark Masters, Masonic Hall, 81 Red Lion Square, W.C.
 4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 26—Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 28—Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 1425—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington, at 8 (In).
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 203 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
 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.)
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Fox and Hounds, Putney, at 8. (Instruction)
 1608—Kilburn, 48 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1615—Bayard, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
 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)
 1691—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
 48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead
 62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
 148—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1177—Tenby, Tenby, Pembroke
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1894—Herschell, Masonic Rooms, Slough
 R.A. 189—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse
 R.A. 210—Faith, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton.
 R.A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle Street, Carlisle
 R.A. 321—Faith, Crews Arms Hotel, Crews
 R.A. 331—Loyal Cornubian, Masonic Hall, Truro
 R.A. 1205—Elliott, 1 Caroline Place, East Stonehouse
 R.A. 1222—Inkerman, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare

TUESDAY, 29th APRIL.

- 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 141—Faith, Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's Gate, St. James's Park Station, at 8. (Instruction)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 763—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston at 8 (Instruction)
 1041—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
 1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (In.)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canuing Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1391—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1418—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
 1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1692—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Queen's Head, Essex Road, N., at 8. (In)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30
 R.A.—Camden, The Boston, Junction Road, Holloway, at 8 (Instruction)
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
 310—Unions, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle
 357—Apollo University, Masonic Hall, Oxford
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
 1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Plaignton
 1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans
 1566—Ellington, Town Hall, Maidenhead
 1636—St. Cecilia, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 R.A. 418—Staffordshire Knot, Freemasons' Hall, Hanley
 R.A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester

WEDNESDAY, 30th APRIL.

- GRAND FESTIVAL, Freemasons' Hall, W.C., at 6.
 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Windsor Castle, Southwark Bridge Road, at 8. (Inst)
 186—Industry, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, at 7. (Instruction)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 228—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In)
 538—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 913—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 898—Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Poplar
 902—Burgoyne, Victoria Hotel, Farringdon Road, at 7. (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)

- 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst)
 1604—Wanderers, Adam and Eve Tavern, Palmer St., Westminster, at 7.30 (In)
 1682—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1681—Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Instruct)
 1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)

- 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
 1083—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester
 1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby (Instruction)
 1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow
 1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester
 1283—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1953—Prudence and Industry, George Hotel, Chard, Somersetshire
 R.A. 236—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Duncombe Street, York
 R.A. 329—Brotherly Love, Choughs Hotel, Yeovil
 M.M.—Howe, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 M.M. 24—Roberts, Masonic Rooms, Ann Street, Rochester
 K.T.—Alpass, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.C.—Stanhope, Queen Hotel, Chester

THURSDAY, 1st MAY.

- 27—Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 231—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 1155—Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-road
 1168—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)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Village Club Lecture Hall, Wimbledon
 1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1445—Prince Leopold, City Arms Tavern, St. Mary Axe, E.C.
 1539—Surrey Masonic Hall, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1554—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In)
 1614—Covent Garden, Cranbourne, 1 Up. St. Martin's Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1724—Kaisir-i-Hind, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, W
 1765—Trinity College, 61 Weymouth Street
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate
 R.A. 9—Moriah, The Albion, Aldersgate Street
 R.A. 174—Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched Friars
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1507—Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, at 8.30 (Inst.)
 24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle.
 31—United Industrious, Masonic Room, Canterbury
 38—Union, Council Chamber, Chichester
 41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath
 50—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley, Leicestershire
 123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 254—Trinity, Craven Arms Hotel, Coventry
 266—Naphthali, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Heywood
 269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn
 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 294—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks
 295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield
 300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne
 309—Harmony, Red Lion, Fareham
 317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
 360—Pomfret, Abington Street, Northampton
 410—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton.
 425—Cestrian, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester
 446—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire.
 509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
 637—Portland, Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent.
 792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Great Grimsby
 913—Pattison, Lord Raglan Tavern, Plumstead
 974—Pentalpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 976—Royal Clarence, Blue Ball, Bruton, Somerset
 1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire
 1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirkby Lonsdale
 1098—Royal Edward, Commercial Inn, Stalybridge
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Eland
 1282—Anchorholme, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire
 1284—Brent, Globe Hotel, Topsham, Devonshire
 1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Horncastle, Lincolnshire
 1379—Marquess of Ripon, Masonic Hall, Darlington
 1384—Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes
 1473—Booth, Town Hall, Booth, Lancashire
 1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich
 1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkio's Arms Hotel, Padiham, near Burnley
 1513—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1594—Cedewain, Public Rooms, Newtown, Montgomeryshire
 1639—Watling-street, Cock Hotel, Stoney Stratford, Bucks
 1770—Vale of White Horse, Savings Bank, Farington
 1790—Old England, Masonic Hall, New Thornton Heath
 1807—Loyal Wye, Bultith, Breconshire
 1829—Burrell, George Hotel, Shoreham
 R.A. 187—Charity, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 R.A. 496—Mount Edgumbe, Masonic Rooms, St. Austell
 R.A. 758—Bridgwater, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
 R.A. 1393—Hammer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M. 53—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

FRIDAY, 2nd MAY.

- Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 8.30.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruct.
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruct.)
 706—Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich

- 768—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8 (In.)
 790—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)
 1054—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1815—Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 R.A.—Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 8—British, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 95—Eastern Star Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall St.
 M.M.—Old Kert, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 K.T. 134—Blonde, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 41—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
 127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate
 219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
 242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
 442—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Peterborough
 453—Chigwell, Loughton Tavern, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30 (Inst)
 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
 574—Loyal Berkshire of Hope, White Hart Hotel, Newbury
 709—Invicta, Bank-street Hall, Ashford
 837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 839—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester
 1006—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1333—Aethelstan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick.
 1397—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Hardy
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1528—Fort, Masonic Hall, Newquay, Cornwall.
 1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
 1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
 1648—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
 1664—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High street, Gosforth
 1725—Douglas, College Gateway, Maidstone
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
 R.A. 214—Hope and Unity, White Hart, Romford
 R.A. 271—Lennox, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 R.A. 359—Peace, Freemasons' Hal, Albion Terrace, Southampton
 K.T.—Loyal Volunteers, Queens Arms Hotel, George-street, Ashton-under-Ly

SATURDAY, 3rd MAY.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 142—St. Thomas, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zealand, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1824—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 1194—Villiers, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1223—Amberst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerham, Kent
 1302—Royal Albert Edward, Market Hall, Redhill
 1453—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester
 1466—Hova Ecclesia, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton
 1607—Elliot, Railway Hotel, Feltham

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Joshua Nunn, President of the Board, was in his place, whilst Bros. James Brett and C. A. Cottebrune occupied the Vice Presidents' chairs. Grants to the amount of £285, recommended to the Grand Master at the March meeting, were confirmed; and then the new list was considered. Of thirty-six petitions one was dismissed, and six were deferred. The remaining were relieved, a total of £1000 being voted.

The ceremony of Installation will be rehearsed at the Southern Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 1158, held at the Pheasant, Stangate, back of Astley's Theatre, on Thursday, 8th May, by Bro. C. H. Wilkes, W.M. 1158. Lodge will be opened at 8 p.m.

The following Festivals have been held during the week at Freemasons' Tavern :—

Monday, 21st—Grand Master's Lodge, Royal Albert Lodge of Instruction, British Lodge; Tuesday, 22nd—Italian Ball, Royal York Chapter, Lodge of Prudent Brethren, Lodge of Industry, Old Pauline; Wednesday, 23rd—Chemical Society; Thursday, 24th—Society of Chemical Industry, Gradiers' Lodge, Polish National Chapter; Friday—Surrey Amicables Ball, Jerusalem Lodge; Saturday, 26th—Artists' Benevolent Fund.

Thanks to the assistance rendered by some kind-hearted friends, Mr. Walter Austin, the Director of the Cottage Mission Hall, managed to provide an Irish Stew Dinner for nearly five hundred of the crowd of children shivering in the bitter "Nor-easter" outside the doors of the Hall in Salmon's Lane, Limehouse, on Wednesday last. But still many of the crowd had to go back to their comfortless homes hungry as they came. The sight was a pitiful one, and no human being could look on unmoved at such a scene of misery. It is hoped funds will be forthcoming to enable Mr. Austin to keep his weekly dinners going. Contributions will be gladly and thankfully received by the Bankers, the London and South Western Bank, 7 Fenchurch Street, E.C.; by Miss Napton, Superintendent, 804 Bardett Road, Limehouse, E.; or by Mr. Walter Austin, at the Offices of the Mission, 44 Finsbury Pavement, E.C.

"CANDIDATES FOR OFFICIAL POSITIONS."

FROM THE HEBREW LEADER.

WE notice an editorial in the *Masonic Advocate*, of Indianapolis, on the subject embraced in the title of this article, and which is based upon the announcement by one of the candidates for the position of Deputy Grand Master at the coming Communication of Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of New York, in June, that he is a candidate, or to put it more correctly that "It is (his) my purpose to be presented to the Grand Lodge F. and A. M. * * as a candidate."

On the strength of the announcement the *Advocate* sighs for good old times when such things did not exist, and in deprecating the position of Masonic affairs in New York, as to office-hunting, calls the New York Masonic press to task for not condemning it, and says:

"One of the good old-fashioned ideas of Freemasonry is, that all preferment among Masons should be based on actual merit. In furtherance of this idea it has been held that the office should seek the man and not the man the office. Such a thing as being a candidate for official position within our time as a Mason was unknown. For any one to announce himself as a candidate for any office was once sufficient to defeat his election. Such an announcement would have been regarded as an assumption of superiority over his brethren that no worthy Mason would presume to claim, much less for them to concede by voting for him. If a Mason was ambitious to receive the honours of official position, he well knew that he could secure them only by exhibiting such qualifications as would recommend him worthy to receive them, of which his brethren and not himself should be the judge. * * *

"Among the old Masons there still exists generally this Conservative spirit, but in the rapid growth of Masonry during the last decade they are now seemingly in the minority. They are overshadowed by the 'young America' idea, crowding itself to the front in Masonry as everywhere else. Self-constituted candidates for office in Grand Bodies are becoming nearly as numerous as in political conventions."

Then follows the letter of announcement of a veteran Mason whose purpose it is "to be presented as a candidate for the position of Deputy Grand Master," the concluding paragraph says:

"We have watched in vain for a word of condemnation on the part of the editors of Masonic departments in the New York exchanges. They evidently approve the announcement, or are afraid to speak their sentiments."

We hardly think the New York exchanges should be subject to these strictures, when we refer to the course pursued by them in past years. Our impression is they have been independent in their course for the right. Perhaps it may be more properly said the Masonic press have become indifferent to smaller irregularities anent Grand Lodge elections in consequence of their continued reference to the overshadowing annual political Masonic evils of a greater nature, which grew until these evils had the strength of scandal and became the subject of animadversion by the press everywhere. We with certainty speak of our own course, and are fearless in the discharge of our duty.

We admit we were surprised at the manner in which the wording of the announcement under consideration was presented, and are of opinion it would have been better had it never been written at all, although we know of no reason why any old or young brother may not "permit his name to be offered" for the suffrages of the Fraternity for so honourable a position; it is a laudable ambition. We will be quite content if the issue that will be presented in June—which implies a future Grand Master—does not assume any greater amount of lack of Masonic dignity or a violation of any more pronounced infringement of custom and usage. Utopian ideas have not yet found practical foothold in New York Masonic modes.

THE AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC DEBT.—Although the Australian Colonies have of late appeared rather frequently in the English money market, their indebtedness is lower than that of almost any other country, being only £10 per head, as against £24 in France and Spain, £22 in the United Kingdom, £18 in Italy, and £12 in Belgium. It should moreover be remembered that the whole of the money borrowed, especially by New South Wales, is being expended in the construction of railways and other productive works, and not to defray the cost of destructive wars; consequently, it is represented by assets of even greater value than the amounts borrowed.

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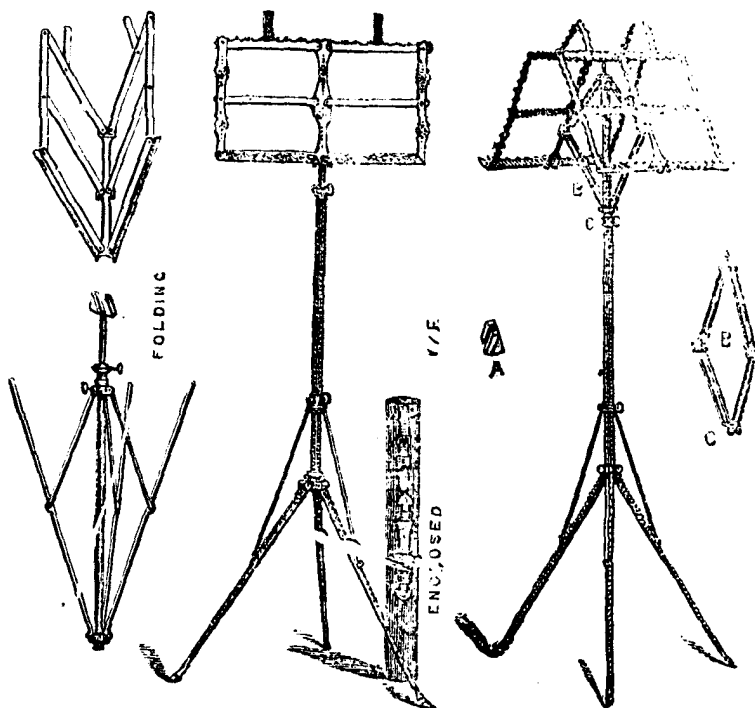
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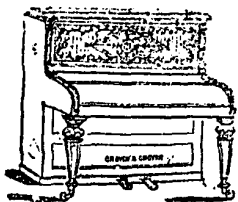
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