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THE HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

(Continued from page 25.)

IN the second part of his consideration of early Freemasonry in England—chapter xiii.—on “The Cabbala—Mysticism—the Rosicrucians—Elias Ashmole,” Bro. Gould devotes a considerable amount of space to each of these branches of his subject, showing what is the Cabbala and whence its origin, while as to Rosicrucianism he sets himself to combat—and we think he has done so successfully—the theory that Freemasonry was derived from it. “I shall not attempt,” says he, “to discuss the vexed question and one which, after all, is impossible of any clear solution, whether some of the ideas inculcated by Fludd, and adopted doubtless more or less in their entirety by numerous visionaries, may not have found their way, may not have percolated, as it were, into the Masonic ranks; but it is, I think, tolerably clear that not only was there no deliberate adoption of the Rosicrucian, or rather Fluddian tenets by the Masons, but no possibility of such a thing having occurred.” Again, “It is tolerably clear that no Rosicrucian Society was ever formed on the continent. In other words, whatever number there may have been of individual mystics calling themselves Rosicrucians, no collective body of Rosicrucians acting in conjunction was ever matured and actually established in either Germany or France. Yet it is assumed, for the purposes of a preconceived argument, that such a Society existed in England, although the position maintained is not only devoid of proof, but conflicts with a large body of indirect evidence, which leads irresistibly to an opposite conclusion.” And further on it is admitted there was an Astrologer’s Feast, and that there may have been an Astrologer’s College, while there was no kind of concealment as to the manner in which the various descriptions of the “black art” were prosecuted; “there is, however, no trace whatever of any Rosicrucian Society, and it is consonant to sound reason to suppose that nothing of the kind could either have been long established or widely spread without at least leaving behind some vestiges of its existence in the writings of the period.” Lastly, we are told, and the statement may be taken as conclusive, “It will not be difficult to carry back the history of the Freemasons beyond the point of contact with the Rosicrucians.” It will be difficult to show that something which precedes is derived from something which follows.

The rest of the chapter, in which Elias Ashmole and his possible or probable influence on the Craft of which he was a member are discussed, is the most readable portion, because it is the least abstruse and we have something tangible to guide us. We are inclined to give greater credit to Ashmole than Bro. Gould. “We can scarcely bring ourselves to regard as a mere collector of unconsidered trifles” the historiographer of the knightly Order of the Garter, the founder of the Ashmolean Collection at Oxford, who, in his own time, was honoured with the patronage, if not with the friendship, of his sovereign and his sovereign’s brother, afterwards James II. It may be he “was not the kind of man to influence any considerable body or bodies of his fellow men either for good or for evil, to inoculate them with his own ideas, or to guide their steps into new fields of inquiry.” But he seems to have been a diligent and painstaking student, and if Pepys and Evelyn speak of him somewhat slightly, it is no more than we must expect of rival gossips. As to his having

been more intimately connected with Freemasonry than the entries in his Diary concerning his initiation at Warrington in 1646 and his presence at a Lodge meeting in London in 1682 would at first appear to warrant, we incline to Bro. Gould’s belief that “it is difficult to account for his being summoned to a Lodge at Masons’ Hall, London, in 1682, thirty-five years after his initiation at far-distant Warrington, if he held altogether aloof from Masonic meetings in the interim, or what is virtually the same thing, strictly concealed the fact of his being a member of the Fraternity. Is it likely, under either supposition that the Masons of the metropolis—even had the fact of his initiation in any way leaked out—would have gone so far as to summon (not invite) their distinguished and ‘unattached’ brother to take part in the proceedings of a society upon which he had long since virtually turned his back? It is probable, therefore, that he did in some way keep up his connection with the Freemasons, but that it was on such a slender character”—we do not go quite to this extent—“as not to merit any special mention. He might not, and probably would not, have entered into any detail—his Diary scarcely gives details on any point except his ailments and his lawsuits—but he would probably have given at least notices of his having attended Lodges, had he done so with any frequency, as he does of having attended the Astrologers’ feasts.” The man who is said to have contemplated writing a history of Freemasonry must have taken more than a “slender” interest in its pursuits.

The Chapter which follows is without doubt the most interesting in the volume, Bro. Gould having embodied in it the latest researches made by himself and others in respect of early English Freemasonry. Thus the entry in Ashmole’s Diary as to his initiation in a Lodge at Warrington in 1646 appears in quite a new light now that the labours of Bro. Rylands have been made public. Previously it appears to have been the general opinion that Ashmole and Col. Mainwaring were the earliest instances of gentlemen being received into the Craft, but the inquiries of Bro. Rylands show that the majority, if not all, of those present at their initiation were certainly not Operative Masons. On this point Bro. Gould writes so clearly that we cannot do better than quote his remarks. “Down to the year 1881,” he observes, “the prevalent belief was that, although a Lodge was in existence at Warrington in 1646, all were of the ‘Craft of Masonry’ except Ashmole and Colonel Mainwaring. A flood of light, however, was suddenly shed on the subject by the research of Mr. W. H. Rylands, who, in perhaps the very best of the many valuable articles contributed to the now defunct *Masonic Magazine*, has so far proved the essentially speculative character of the Lodge as to render it difficult to believe that there could have been a single operative Mason present on the afternoon of 16th October, 1646. Thus Mr. Richard Penket(h) the *Warden*, is shown to have been a scion of the Penkeths of Penketh, and the last of his race who held the family property.” And then he proceeds: “The two names which next follow were probably identical with those of James Collyer or Colliar of Newton-le-Willows, Lancashire, and Richard Sankie, of the family of Sonkey, or Sankey of Sankey, as they were called, landowners in Warrington from a very early period; they were buried respectively at Winwick and Warrington—the former on January 17, 1673-4, and the latter on September 28, 1667. Of the four remaining Freemasons named in the ‘Diary,’ though without the prefix of ‘Mr.,’ it is shown by Rylands that a

gentle family of Littler or Lytlor existed in Cheshire in 1646; while he prints the wills of Richard Ellom, Freemason of Lyme (Lymme), and of John Ellams, husbandman of Burton, both in the county of Cheshire—that of the former bearing date September 7, 1667, and of the latter June 7, 1689. That these were the Ellams named by Ashmole cannot be positively affirmed, but they were doubtless members of the same yeoman family, a branch of which had apparently settled at Lymm, a village in Cheshire, about five miles from Warrington. Of the family of Hugh Brewer, nothing has come to light beyond the fact that a person bearing this patronymic served in some military capacity under the Earl of Derby in 1643." Bro. Gould then proceeds to indulge in the following appropriate observations: "The proceedings at Warrington in 1646 established some very important facts in relation to the antiquity of Freemasonry, and to its character as a speculative science. The words Ashmole uses, 'the names of those who were *then* of the Lodge,' implying as they do either that some of the *existing* members were absent, or that at a previous period the Lodge-roll comprised other and *additional* names beyond those recorded in the 'Diary,' amply justify the conclusion that the Lodge, when Ashmole joined it, was not a new creation. The term 'Warden,' moreover, which follows the name of Mr. Richard Penket, will of itself remove any lingering doubt whether the Warrington Lodge could boast a higher antiquity than the year 1646, since it points with the utmost clearness to the fact that an actual official of a subsisting branch of the Society of Freemasons was present at the meeting." For ourselves, and with Bro. Rylands as our guide, we prefer taking a still bolder course, and pointing out that, as the members, including Mr. Penket the Warden, who were present at the initiation of Ashmole and Mainwaring, were what we should now call Speculative Masons, meeting together under some kind of settled government, and as it is extremely improbable that such a Lodge so governed had sprung into existence suddenly, we are justified in dating the existence of a speculative era in Masonry back to some period preceding that usually assigned to it in England, namely, the close of the year 1646. We may not be able to show how or when it began; it may or may not have had something to do with the initiation of Robert Moray or Murray at Newburn-on-Tyne in 1641, as recorded in Lyon's history; or, the Lodge being located in the North of England, the introduction of gentlemen into a Masons' Lodge may have been influenced by the examples cited by Lyon as having occurred in 1634 and following years in Edinburgh or Mary's Chapel Lodge. In any circumstances it is hardly credible that the Lodge at Warrington with non-operative members as part of it was not in existence before 1646.

WHY BRO. GOULD DISCREDITS WREN'S CONNECTION WITH FREEMASONRY.

BY BRO. JACOB NORTON.

(Continued from page 5.)

AS many of our readers have never seen Anderson's Constitutions of 1723 and 1738, we must inform them that each edition is prefaced with a history of Masonry. The history of the pre-1717 constitutions begins with Lamach; Anderson begins with Adam, and his second history is of course longer than the first. In the latter we are informed that on the 29th of September 1721, the Grand Lodge requested Dr. Anderson to revise Payne's Constitution of 1720; what kind of a constitution Bro. Payne compiled no one knows. Anderson's new constitution was approved by the Grand Lodge, 25th March 1722, and in January 1723 it was presented to the Grand Lodge in print. We have before us the two original editions, and have culled from each all the passages wherein Wren was mentioned, and here they are, with the respective pages annexed.

1st. "King Charles II. founded the present St. Paul's Cathedral in London, . . . much after the style of St. Peter's at Rome, conducted by the ingenious Architect Sir Christopher Wren." (First edition, p 41).

2nd. "Nor should we forget the famous theatre at Oxford, built by Archbishop Sheldon . . . in the King's time, which among his other works was designed and

conducted also by Sir Christopher Wren, the King's Architect." (*Ibid.*)

And 3rd. "Bow-Church Steeple in Cheapside—Built by Sir Christopher Wren." (See note, p 46.)

Second Edition. 1st. "Charles II. . . . in his travels had been made a Free Mason, . . . he was resolved to encourage the Augustan style by reviving their Lodges, and approved of their choice of Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Albans, as their Grand Master, who appointed Sir John Denham his Deputy Grand Master, Sir Christopher Wren and Mr. John Web Grand Wardens." (p 101.)

2nd. "Thomas Savage, Earl of Rivers, succeeded St. Alban as Grand Master, 24th June 1666, who appointed Sir Christopher Wren his Deputy, and John Web and Grinlin Gibbons as Wardens. But the Deputy and Wardens managed all things." (p 102).

3rd. "The King and Grand Master ordered Deputy Wren to draw up a fine plan for the city." (*Ibid.*)

4th. "Gilbert Sheldon . . . at his cost, built [the Theatre at Oxford which was] conducted by Deputy Wren and Grand Warden Web." (p 103).

5th. The King with Grand Master Rivers . . . in due form levell'd the foot stone of New St. Paul's, designed by D.G. Master Wren, A.D. 1673." (p 103).

6th. "The King also founded Chelsea Hospital for old soldiers, . . . a new palace . . . and another palace at Winchester, designed by Grand Master Wren." (p 104).

7th (1674). "George Villars, Duke of Bucks, an old Mason, succeeded as Grand Master of England, but being indolent, he left all his business to his Deputy Wren and his Wardens, and demitted A.D. 1679." (p 105).

8th. "Upon the death of Grand Master Arlington 1685, the Lodges met and elected Sir Christopher Wren Grand Master." (p 106).

9th. "The King [William III.] was privately made a Free Mason, approved of their choice of Grand Master Wren." (p 107).

10th. "This year [1695] Brother Charles Lennox, Duke of Richmond, . . . Master of a Lodge at Chichester, coming to the annual assembly and feast at London, was chosen Grand Master, . . . Sir Christopher Wren was his Deputy Grand Master, . . . and who acted as before at the head of the Craft, and was again chosen Grand Master A.D. 1698." (p 107).

11th. "Grand Master Wren, who had designed St. Paul's, A.D. 1673, as Master of work, . . . had the honour to finish it . . . and celebrated the Copestone when he erected the cross on the top of the cupola in July A.D. 1708." (p 108).

And 12th. "Some few years after this [1708], Sir Christopher Wren neglected the office of Grand Master, yet the old Lodge near St. Paul's and a few more continued their stated meetings."

We see now that Sir Christopher Wren is mentioned three times in the 1723 edition and twelve times in that of 1738. In the first, Wren is styled merely as the "ingenious Architect," or the "King's Architect," and in the 1738 edition, he was a *Grand*, &c. How or where Dr. Anderson got the extra information in 1738 can readily be imagined. But in 1763 or '4, an anonymous book was printed, viz.: "Multa Paucis," which *out-Andersoned* Anderson. It contains a longer list of pre-1717 Grand Masters than Anderson gave, and that instead of four Lodges in 1717, we have in the "Multa Paucis" six Lodges. We have shown in a former paper that the Roberts' MS. improved upon the Harleian MS. No. 1942, by adding the date of "December 8th, 1663," to a certain assembly referred to in the latter, and that Anderson, in 1738, altered the date of Robert's assembly, and made it on St. John's Day, 27th December 1663, but "Multa Paucis" says that assembly was held in 1661, and mentions no St. John's Day. We shall, however, give but one quotation from "Multa Paucis" about Wren, viz.:

"But our good old Grand Master Wren, being struck with age and infirmities, did from this time [1710] retire from all manner of business, and on account of his disability would no more attend the Lodges in visiting and regulating as usual."

The next witness of Sir Christopher's Freemasonry is Dermott, author of the "Ahiman Rezon," the *gospel* of the so-called *Ancients*. In the second edition of the "Ahiman Rezon," after referring to Anderson's statement about Wren's neglecting the Lodges, Dermott says:

"The Doctor's assertion is certainly true, and I will endeavour to do justice to the memory of Sir Christopher

by relating the real cause of such neglect. The famous Sir Christopher Wren, Knight Grand Master of the most antient and honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, having served the crown upwards of fifty years, was (at the age of ninety) displaced from employment, in favour of Mr. William B-n-s-n, who was made surveyor of the buildings, &c., to his Majesty King George the First. The first specimen of Mr. B-n-s-n's skill in architecture was a report to the House of Lords that their house and the painted chamber adjoining were in an immediate danger of falling; whereupon the Lords met in Committee, to appoint some place to sit in while the House should be taken down, but it being proposed to cause some other builders to inspect it, they found it in very good condition The Earl of Sunderland, then Secretary, gave them [the indignant Lords] assurance that His Majesty would remove him [viz., Bunsen].

"Such usage, added to Sir Christopher's great age, was more than enough to make him decline all public assemblies, and the Master Masons then in London were so much disgusted at the treatment of their old and most excellent Grand Master, that they would not meet, nor hold any communication under the sanction of his successor, Mr. B-n-s-n. In short, the brethren were struck with lethargy, which seemed to threaten the London Lodges with a final dissolution."

Now, the joke is, the dismissal of St. Christopher from the office of surveyor did not take place until 1718, that is a year after the Grand Lodge of England was constituted, and with regard to the "Multa Paucis" statement about Sir Christopher's infirmities, Bro. Gould shows that Wren was a member of Parliament until 1712; in 1713 he published a reply to an anonymous attack made upon him in a pamphlet called "Frauds and Abuses of St. Paul's." The same year he surveyed Westminster Abbey, and wrote an excellent and scientific report on its structure and defects. In the year 1717, the year the Grand Lodge was formed, he wrote a reply to the Commissioners for rebuilding St. Paul's. In 1718 (says his biographer Elmes), "witnessed the disgraceful fall of Sir Christopher Wren, in the eighty-sixth year of his age, and forty-ninth of his office as Surveyor-General of the Royal buildings; his mental faculties unimpaired, and his bodily health equal to the finishing as the head of the office the work he had so ably begun."

Preston's evidence about Wren was also sifted by Bro. Gould. The "Illustrations of Masonry" by Preston was printed in 1772, and in 1812 the twelfth edition of that work was printed during the author's lifetime, and each successive edition was of course enlarged. Comparing the successive editions of his [Preston's] works [says Bro. Gould], we find such glaring discrepancies that, unless we believe that his information was acquired, as he inserts it, piecemeal, or, like Mahomet and Joseph Smith, each fresh effort was preceded by a special revelation, we must refuse credence to statements which are unsupported by authority, contradictory to all known testimony, and even inconsistent with each other."

Besides publishing the "Illustrations," Preston delivered a course of lectures in 1774, all of which raised his reputation and made him famous among Masons. On the 15th June 1774, he was elected member and W.M. by the Lodge of Antiquity. This compliment he endeavoured to repay by puffing up the early importance of the said Lodge. In 1779 the said Lodge got into dispute with the Grand Lodge, and the 1781 of Preston's edition received, among other new matter, the following resolution, which he claimed was passed by the Grand Lodge of England in 1717, or so, viz.:

"That every privilege which they [the four old Lodges] collectively enjoyed by virtue of their immemorial rights, they still continue to enjoy, and that no law, rule or regulation, to be hereafter made or passed in Grand Lodge should ever deprive them of such privilege, or encroach on any landmark which was at that time established as the standard of Masonic government."

Strange to say, the above "compact" was never doubted, and even our Bro. Gould quoted that very compact a few years ago, as a matter of fact, when we happened to pitch into and demolish Bro. Gould's arguments, by proving to his own satisfaction that the so-called compact originated in Preston's brains. In consequence of the dispute of the old Lodge with the Grand Lodge, the old Lodge seceded from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and with the sanction and approbation of the fossil

Grand Lodge at York, the Lodge of Antiquity declared itself an independent Grand Lodge; Preston then forthwith began to puff up the importance of the York Grand Lodge, styling it "The Grand Lodge of All England," and quoted lots of history from the old York records. Bro. Gould says:

"In the use, however, of the word 'records,' the author of the 'Illustrations' sets an example which has been closely followed by Dr. Oliver, and whenever either of these writers presents a statement requiring for its acceptance more than ordinary credulity, it will invariably be found to rest upon the authority in the one case of an old record, and in the other on a manuscript of the Society." And again, "Thus records of the Society are cited by Preston in proof of the initiation of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, and Henry VI., and the latter, on the same authority, is said to have perused the ancient charges, revised the Constitutions, and with the consent of his Council honoured them with his sanction."

The reader can now form an opinion on Preston's powers of invention. We shall therefore content ourselves with giving merely Bro. Gould's brief summing up of Preston's successive historic additions, thus:

In 1775, it is first stated that Wren presided over the old Lodge of St. Paul during the building of the Cathedral. Between 1775 and 1778, the only noteworthy circumstance recorded is the possession by the said Lodge of the historic mallet employed to lay the foundation stone of St. Paul's. In 1792, however, a mass of information is forthcoming, viz., that Wren patronised the Lodge of Antiquity for eighteen years, that he presented it with three candlesticks during the period of his Mastership, and 'lodged' with the same body—of which Gabriel Cibber and Edward Strong were members—the mallet so often alluded to."

Thus Anderson and Preston falsified Masonic history: the former, in order to puff up the importance of the old Craft, and the latter to puff up the importance of his Lodge. We see no indication that Brother Gould had access to the records of the Lodge of Antiquity; but from other sources he shows that the members of the said Lodge in 1717 held a lower social rank than the members of the fourth Lodge. Now, if Wren had been connected with the said Lodge up to 1710, or even if Wren, Colonel Goodric, "and divers others," had joined the said Lodge in 1691, as asserted by Aubrey, the membership of that Lodge in 1717, would have consisted of the highest respectabilities in the Craft, and it would have furnished the premier Grand Master in 1717. Dr. Oliver, indeed, made Sayer the G.M. of 1717, a member of the first Lodge. But Bro. Gould shows that he belonged to the third Lodge; and with the exception of Sayer, and two members of the first Lodge, who were Wardens in 1718 and 1721, all the remaining dignitaries who then figured in the Grand Lodge belonged to No. 4. Again, in 1723 No. 1 had twenty-two members; No. 2, twenty-one; No. 3, fourteen; and No. 4 had seventy-one. The three senior Lodges had no member of sufficient rank to be described as "Esquire," while No. 4 had ten noblemen, three honourables, four baronets or knights, seven colonels, two clergymen, viz., Desaguliers and Anderson, and twenty-two esquires. Previous to the formation of the Grand Lodge, it was the custom for the oldest Master Mason to preside over the Lodge. At the preliminary meeting of the four Lodges in 1716, as well as in 1717, previous to the election of the Grand Master, Anderson informs us that upon each occasion "the oldest Master Mason, now Master of a Lodge," presided over the two assemblies. The said Master Mason was probably a member of the oldest Lodge, and we can imagine no better reason for the omission of his name than his social inferiority. Bro. Gould further shows that members of No. 1 visited a Lodge in 1730, and the visitors consisted of operatives.

With all due deference, therefore, to the defenders of Wren's Masonry, it is our firm belief that if the said defenders were jurors in a case involving a certain sum of money, and the claimant's evidence consisted of a newspaper statement, and a paragraph written down by a "credulous gossip," such as Aubrey is described to have been, while, on the other hand, there was a mass of negative evidence to show the improbability of the claimant's testimony, as just-minded men we believe the said jurors would decide against the claimant; and unless some new evidence should turn up on the question at issue, all that

can at present be urged by the said defenders of Wren's Masonry simply amounts to this, "Well, after all, Sir Christopher Wren *may have been a Mason.*"

Wren's Masonry, then, rests upon no better foundation than the Grand Mastership and Mastership of the Saints John; the Grand Mastership of Henry Price; Oliver's notion of the mutilation of the third degree; Preston's assertion that words were changed; the "Compagnonage" theory, by Bro. Gould; the assumed connection of Coxe with Philadelphia Masonry in 1731; the Malcom Charter; the Athelstan Charter; the Cologne Charter; the Frederick the Great Charter; the Edward 3rd Constitution; the Masonry of De Molay; the Locke MS.; the Henry Bell Letter; the new notion of the *Keystone* that part of its recent discovered record is in *Franklin handwriting*,* and its older notions that Franklin's silver fish knife is not a fish knife but a *Masonic Trowel*. In short, with "may be" and "may have been," we can easily defend even ghosts, witchcrafts, astrology, fortune telling, spiritual mediums, and all other kinds of superstition. "May have been" and "may be" should therefore be discarded as evidence by every historian. Hence, as long as the believers in Wren's Masonry can bring forward no better argument than "he may have been," Wren's connection with Freemasonry *cannot be classed among Masonic facts.*

MUST BE IMMORTAL.

THE careful investigations which are constantly being made into the origin and gradual development of Masonry have awakened new interest throughout the world, and the untiring zeal with which these researches are being prosecuted is bringing forth from the hidden recesses of the past, evidences of so conclusive a nature that will ere long establish as facts many of those beliefs which, founded upon symbolism and allegory, have in the minds of many been considered more of a traditional than of a substantial character. The general belief in the great antiquity of Masonry, for which some of the ablest of its devotees have contended, bids fair to be rescued from the shadowy realms of doubt and to be finally enshrined upon the altar of truth.

The organization of primitive Masonry established a nucleus around which the generous sentiments of humanity formed, developed, and at last crystallised into formulas and united action for the freedom of mankind from the thralldom of ignorance and the power of superstition.

The formation of brotherhoods was the first check to irresponsible power, and the freedom of thought, encouraged by harmony of action and mutual desire, aroused a spirit of inquiry, stimulated investigation, encouraged mental culture, and thus paved the way for discoveries in science and the arts, and all the beneficial results which flow from careful deliberation and research.

This practical principle being recognized and established naturally awakened a keen interest in the minds of men, and the rapid increase in numbers, and the growing influence of its adherents at last produced a marked effect upon the governments of the earth, and gradually moulded law and literature into a spirit of magnanimity tempered with mercy. The growth of such a power could not escape the vision and careful inspection of governmental rulers, and as all primitive governments were founded upon the religious sentiment, the early struggles of Masonry constitute a history of combat with ecclesiastical dogma.

The records of these long years of arduous and unremitting opposition by every species of religious creed and political power present for the consideration of the careful student of history a spectacle of sublime resignation, determined perseverance, and the most remarkable exhibitions of heroic sacrifice. It is impossible to conceive the baneful effects of the successful assaults upon the early efforts of the Masonic brotherhood.

* The most recent outburst of the *Keystone's* "faith" is, that part of his recently discovered record was written by Franklin. We remember when very great experts in Boston and elsewhere declared that certain manuscript pages, bound up with a copy of Franklin's Constitution, now in Boston, were *positively* in the handwriting of Franklin. But the experts were *mistaken*. Bro. MacCalla of the *Keystone* has already jumped to *too many* wrong conclusions to justify us in putting trust in his mere faith about Franklin's handwriting, or indeed anything else he has to say that favours his Philadelphia Mother-Masonry hobby.

It is beyond all human calculation to compute the benefits to mankind which have resulted from the persistent efforts and stern integrity of the founders of this organization. Passing its probationary period at a time when every principle of justice was aroused; when man was a slave and the rulers alone had rights; when political government was merely an attendant upon the supreme authority of Church; when civil governors were the servants of priests; when the thunders of ecclesiastical power reverberated throughout the world, and all temporal power crouched at the feet of clerical dominion in abject submission; what a mighty work was here to be accomplished, and what fearful consequences were to be entailed upon mankind by the efforts of heroic men and sterling advocates of humanity, in struggling through years of adversity and despair, against the vengeance and vindictive retribution of a herculean power thoroughly established and determined to crush with relentless hand the slightest opposition to its authority?

Through ages of persecution and outrage has the Masonic spirit struggled for existence, and its triumphs have crowned every noble sacrifice, every successful principle, and every grand display of intellect, physical energy, and political and moral advancement.

"To suffer woes which hope thinks infinite;
To forgive wrongs darker than the death of night;
To defy power which seems omnipotent;
To love and bear; to hope till hope creates
From its own wreck the thing it contemplates;
Neither to change, to falter, nor repent;
This like thy glory, Titan, is to be
Good, great and joyous, beautiful and free;
This is alone, life, joy, empire and victory."

The true principle which inspired the noblest of sacrifices, and the grand exhibitions of physical and moral courage, have become blended with the spirit of every age, increasing in power as time advances, and giving fresh vigour and a new impetus to each succeeding epoch. The spirit of magnanimity and freedom and the thirst for knowledge which have thus been encouraged have given to the world its present liberal jurisprudence, and excited the genius of enterprise. The purity and beauty of architectural adornment which were established under Operative Masonry have never been improved. From the time that the Tyrians were first renowned for architectural taste, 1100 B.C., Operative Masonry has presented new styles of beauty, more chaste and refined. From Tyre and the Temple the art passed to Greece, and from thence to Rome; but the Corinthian column is as much to-day the standard of taste as when the marble piles of Athens were the pride of Greece and the admiration of the world.

The spirit of free thought and mutual protection under Masonic teaching has advanced the world in a ratio impossible to compute. The human mind, relieved from the bondage of superstition, advances to the accomplishment of its wonderful results. The arts and sciences, and all branches of useful learning and their practical application, go hand in hand with moral development under true Masonic teaching, and he who is not imbued with the full measure of appreciation of both is merely a Mason in name.

It is the duty of all Masons to cultivate knowledge in every department. Perfect freedom encourages investigation; and the downfall of despotic power and ecclesiastical dominion permits the exercise of mental culture without fear of physical punishment. When men are controlled by fear, inquiry is at an end, and knowledge is supplanted by ignorance, and all power will soon pass from the ignorant many to the cultivated few. In such a condition of mental servitude men soon become the victims of the political or spiritual priesthood, who, in the person of a demagogue on the one hand and a prelate on the other, are always standing ready to resume the sceptre of power which knowledge takes up and ignorance lays down.

Unanimity of sentiment is a sure evidence of intellectual retrogression. When men begin to think they begin to differ, and from the friction of thought and discussion result those magnificent evolutions which the spirit of Masonry has always encouraged and supported.

While the necessities of Masonic union and Brotherhood for mutual protection against the vengeance of despotic power have to a great extent disappeared, the danger of apathy is to be guarded against. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and when men no longer experience the effects of tyranny they are apt to forget that the cause which produced the effect is still in existence.

Once permit the sentiment of fancied security to become dominant, and the want of zeal will soon be manifest in the gradual subsidence of mental and moral culture. Masonry is that beneficent guide that, faithfully obeyed, preserves its followers from the extreme of selfishness on the one hand, and ignorant simplicity on the other, and whenever the cause languishes for proper interest and support, such temporary lulls in its progress may be sought for in the fact that the true spirit has not kept pace with numerical increase, and that the test of merit, without which no cause can prosper, has not been applied in accordance with established and infallible rules. No plant can bloom in uncongenial soil, and no man can become a Mason who has not within him those natural elements of character which ever unfold and expand under Masonic teaching. While the physical danger to Masonry may, in a sense, be past, the moral danger is still apparent. The record of its brilliant exploits should be kept untarnished by its defenders of the present. To us is confided the sacred trust, and if we permit that already gained through ages of sacrifice and toil to be lost, how justly will we be held amenable to the bitterest execrations! Its power is now established and its influences potent in all the avenues of social, moral and political life.

We are enjoying the fruits of a dear bought victory, and let us appreciate our present position and not fritter away by neglect or personal considerations, the result of such patient heroism. Let us preserve this priceless boon in its pristine purity. Coming down through ages of darkness, terror and bloody persecution, let us cherish the teachings and examples of a cause hallowed by the memories of the greatest and the best of mankind; enshrouded in a halo of immortal glory, let us defend not the shadow but the substance.

Let us remember with grateful emotions that a principle which can survive the struggles of barbaric forces, the throes of tyrants, the cunning sophistries of astute and wily counsellors, and the concentrated fury and hate of ecclesiastical power and dominion, must be immortal. Let the light continue to shine with undiminished splendour; let its influence be kept pure and unsullied, and uncontaminated by unworthy association; let its power be felt as of old in the councils of kings and in the humble walks of life. Thus will it continue to flourish for the amelioration of mankind, until the darkest recesses of ignorance, and the lowest abyss of misery shall be penetrated by its light and relieved by its charity.

"In silence
Steals on soft handed charity;
Tempering her gifts, that seem so few,
By time and place,
Till not a woe the bleak world see,
But finds her grace."

Voice of Masonry.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence, was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, with Bros. Joshua Nunn President, James Brett Senior Vice-President, and C. A. Cottebrune Junior Vice President. The brethren confirmed recommendations made at the June meeting to the amount of £355. There were 31 cases on the new list. Five of these were postponed, being incomplete. The remainder were relieved, with a total sum of £615.

A meeting of the Allied Masonic Degrees, Grand Council, England and Wales, &c. (M.W. Rev. Canon Portal, M.A., G.M.); of the Metropolitan Council, Time Memorial (Bro. George Lambert W.M.); and of the Four Kings' Council, No. 7 (Bro. C. H. Driver W.M.), will be held at 8a Red Lion Square, on Thursday, 31st July, at five o'clock, to admit duly qualified brethren to the Allied Degrees; to elect the W.M., Treasurer and Tyler for the Metropolitan Council and for the Four Kings' Council; and to decide on day for holding the annual meeting for Installation of Metropolitan Council.

Bro. G. S. Graham, well-known to many of our readers as a most versatile entertainer, is now on his way to New York, where he has undertaken a musical tour. We doubt not the passengers by the good ship "Alaska," the vessel he has selected, will avail themselves of the proverbial kindness of our worthy brother, who is ever ready to assist in making the hours pass pleasantly.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY TOURIST ARRANGEMENTS.

THE other day His Royal Highness the Grand Master, having occasion to speak of the enormous amount of labour entailed by our railway system, paid a well-deserved compliment to the unflagging zeal and industry of the railway servants as a body. Had it come within the scope of His Royal Highness's remarks, he would doubtless have spoken in terms equally complimentary of the never-ending anxiety of railway directors to promote as far as possible the comfort and convenience of the public. We have daily evidence of this, not only in the ease and regularity with which the ordinary passenger and goods-traffic is worked, but likewise in the exceptional facilities for travelling which are offered at certain seasons of the year; not only of what they do in respect of single holidays, when people are obliged to content themselves with a rush to the seaside or into the country and back again within the space of twenty-four hours, but, and especially, of their arrangements during the summer time, when they are better able to spare time and money for that relaxation from business which is indispensable to health and profitable labour. It is, indeed, astonishing how cheaply, rapidly, and safely people can travel now-a-days, even the longest distances, and even if they never have anything better to offer in the way of facilities for cheap travelling, they are entitled to our thanks for what they have done. We have but to look at the special time-tables which are issued during the Tourist Season in order to certify ourselves of this fact. Here, for instance, are the Tourist Arrangements made by the Great Western Railway Company for the present year, and if we look carefully through them we shall find it difficult, if not almost impossible, to point out where, in reason, any improvement can be made. The country traversed, or for which tickets are issued by this Company, includes some of the finest and most attractive parts of England, Wales, and Scotland, and we are not exaggerating when we say that in the arrangements they have made, whether we look at the prices charged or the facilities that are offered for breaking or extending the journey, the directors have shown themselves most considerate as well as most liberal. It may be stated, in the first place, generally, that the directors issue tickets for all classes—first, second, and third—which are available, to begin, with for two calendar months, and with some few exceptions are renewable on certain by no means exacting conditions for any further period up to but not exceeding the 31st December 1884. These tickets are purchasable in London at Paddington, at the principal stations on the Metropolitan and Metropolitan District Railways, and at Cook's Tourist and Excursion Offices, Ludgate Circus, E.C.; and at Birkenhead, Chester, Liverpool, and Manchester, at the stations and offices indicated in the tables. Then the parts of the country which the line traverses, or with which it is in communication, is mapped out so as to suit best the convenience of all sections of the public, both those who prefer settling down in some given resort and there spending their holiday, and those who would rather move about from place to place in some particular district, and making themselves acquainted with its scenic and other attractions. Thus, taking the West of England, passengers in the North Devon Circular Tour travel by rail to Minehead *via* Taunton, thence by coach to Lynton, Ilfracombe, and Barnstaple, or *vice versa*, and may break the journey at Watchet, Minehead, Lynton, Ilfracombe, &c., in addition to the stations at which tourists to Minehead or Ilfracombe may alight, that is, Bath, Bristol, Weston-super-Mare, Bridgwater, Taunton. As regards visitors to a particular place, all we need do is to refer them to the time tables for the prices of the several classes of tickets and the hours appointed for the departure of the different trains.

These Circular Tours may be made in North and South Wales by no less than seven different routes, of which the following may be taken as examples. By the First Route the passenger travels by rail to Tenby *via* Whitland or New Milford and back to Carmarthen, thence *via* Pencader, Mauchester and Milford, and Cambrian Lines to Dolgelly, returning from Dolgelly, *via* Bala and the Vale of Llangollen to Ruabon, and thence to Shrewsbury, or *vice versa*, and may break the journey at any station on the route between Gloucester and Whitland, at Strata Florida and Lampeter, and at any Station between Aberystwith and Dolgelly, Dolgelly and Ruabon, and Ruabon and Shrewsbury, enabling him to visit Gloucester, Chepstow, Newport, Swansea, Tenby, Aberystwith, Dolgelly, Bala, the Vale of Llangollen, and all places of attraction on the Circular route. In the Fourth Route, which is one of the Tours of the Valley of the Wye, passengers from London, Reading, and Oxford travel *via* Swindon, Gloucester, Hereford, and Abergavenny to Mowmouth, returning *via* Pontypool Road, Newport, Gloucester, Swindon, or *via* Symond's Yat, Ross, Gloucester, and Swindon, or *via* Redbrook, Tintern, Chepstow, Gloucester, and Swindon, or *vice versa*, and may break the journey at Hereford, Ross, Symond's Yat, Gloucester, Tintern, Chepstow, Newport, Usk, Raglan, and Abergavenny. The charges are from London by the First Route 1st Class 95s; 2nd Class, 70s; by the Fourth Route, 1st Class, 58s 6d; 2nd Class 42s 6d. Other trips are marked out, to the Lakes of Killarney, to the Channel Islands, *via* Weymouth, to Scotland, to the English Lake District, the Isle of Man, and to France, the fares being in all cases reasonable, and similar facilities being offered in each case. For particulars we must refer our readers to the Time Tables, which contain every information which is likely to be needed, while the directions are so explicit that the traveller will have some difficulty in going wrong.

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.

MARK MASONRY.

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PROV. GRAND LODGE OF BERKS AND OXON.

IT may be said that the members of the Mark Degree have this week had their lines cast in pleasant waters. At any rate those who took part in the gathering at Oxford, on Tuesday, and afterwards assisted at the Crystal Palace, on Wednesday, could not but have been gratified with the success that attended the efforts of those to whom was entrusted the carrying out of the arrangements for these meetings. The members of the Mark Degree are essentially a united family, and in whatever district we may learn it has been decided a meeting is to be held, we are almost sure to see the same genial spirits, and enthusiastic men with whom we at once feel there is every chance of enjoying ourselves. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Berks and Oxon held its meeting this year at Oxford, under the banner of the Alfred Lodge, No. 247. The brethren assembled at the Alfred Masonic Hall, at half-past eleven, under the presidency of the Right Worshipful Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason, who was supported by the Very Worshipful Bro. Charles Stephens, Deputy Prov. Grand Mark Master Mason, and a large number of Present and Past Grand Officers, amongst whom we may enumerate the following :

W. R. Bowden P.P.G. Org., James Rutland 257 P.P.G.O., A. H. Simpson 225, E. J. Trendall Prov. Grand Treasurer, H. D'Almaine W.M. 225, Edward Margrett P.M. 235, F. W. Ansell P.M. 247, W. E. Flanagan P.M. 235, F. H. Lyon P.M. 27, G. J. Cosburn W.M. 27, W. Thompson 55, E. L. Shepherd 225, Rev. W. Mortimer Heath P.M. 90 D.P.G.M. Dorset, G. Shanks P.M. 35, W. W. Morgan, Stephen Knight M.O. 27, H. H. Hodges P.M. 257, H. J. Mount Sec. 257, S. Bradley P.M. 225, J. R. Wilmer P.M. 325, F. Ryman Hall W.M. 247, J. W. Lindars Sec. 235, W. Graham 27, W. Frampton 247, J. M. Dormer 247, J. H. Dukes P.M. 55, John Leary 247, James Jenkin P.M. 247, H. C. Rogers 55, H. Green I.G. 235, E. Head S.W. 27, J. J. Thomas S.D. No. 1, F. H. Marychurch Secretary 27, J. B. King J.D. 225, A. C. Hewitt J.O. 257, F. J. Ferguson J.D. 235, W. W. Ridley 235, H. J. Drinkwater Reg. of Marks 247.

After the Provincial Grand Lodge had been formally constituted, the roll of Provincial Grand Lodge Officers was called over, and explanations for absence tendered in a satisfactory way. It was then found that the several Lodges in the Province were all adequately represented, and the brethren present confirmed the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge held at Reading, 9th October 1883. The Report of the Provincial Grand Secretary was next presented; this was followed by the Report of the Committee of General Purposes, both of which were received. The Accounts of the Provincial Grand Treasurer showed a balance in hand, after all liabilities had been discharged. On the motion of the Provincial Grand Mark Master, seconded by Bro. Stephens, Bro. E. J. Trendall was re-elected Provincial Grand Treasurer, and the Provincial Grand Master re-invested Bro. Stephens as his Deputy. The appointment and investment of Officers resulted as follows:—

Bro. H. H. Hodges P.M. 257 ...	...	Prov. G. Senior Warden
F. Ryman Hall W.M. 247...	...	Prov. G. Junior Warden
Geo. J. Cosburn W.M. 27 ...	...	Prov. G. Master Overseer
H. D'Almaine W.M. 225 ...	...	Prov. G. Senior Overseer
H. W. Homann P.M. (239)		
S.W. 235 ...	...	Prov. G. Junior Overseer
Rev. H. C. Rogers, M.A., 55	...	Prov. G. Chaplain
Rev. A. T. Morland 225 ...	...	Prov. G. Chaplain
B. P. Lascelles, B.A., 55 ...	...	Prov. G. Reg. of Marks
E. J. Trendell 225 ...	...	Prov. G. Treasurer
T. J. Pulley 235 ...	...	Prov. G. Secretary
J. W. Lindars 235 ...	...	Prov. G. Assist. Secretary
William Frampton 247 ...	...	Prov. G. Inspect. of Works
A. H. Simpson 225...	...	Prov. G. Senior Deacon
F. H. Marychurch 27 ...	...	Prov. G. Junior Deacon
F. J. Ferguson 235...	...	Prov. G. Dir. of Ceremonies
B. Challenor jun. 225 ...	...	Prov. G. Assist. D. of Cere.
John O'Leary 247 ...	...	Prov. G. Sword Bearer
A. C. Hewitt 257 ...	...	Prov. G. Standard Bearer
E. S. Mackrell 27 ...	...	Prov. G. Organist
E. Head 27 ...	...	Prov. G. Inner Guard
T. R. Vowles 235...	...	
J. E. Sydenham ...	...	} Prov. G. Stewards
J. B. King 225 ...	...
W. Hemmings 235...	...	} Prov. G. Tylers
G. Norwood 55 ...	...

Amongst other matters that were brought under the notice of Provincial Grand Lodge was an announcement, made by Bro. Binckes, that a Moveable Grand Lodge would

be held at Exeter on the 6th August proximo, when Lord Kintore would preside. The Prov. G. Master thanked Bro. Stephens for the continued and valuable assistance he gave; the Earl of Jersey also referred to the loss the Province had sustained by the death of the Duke of Albany. The services rendered to Mark Masonry by the late D. M. Dewar were recognised, and a vote of £3 3s was unanimously agreed to in aid of the fund for that Brother's widow. The sum of Five Guineas was voted towards the Mark Benevolent Fund, and a statement made that the Prov. G. Secretary (Bro. Pulley) would serve as Steward at the Festival to be held at the Crystal Palace on the following day. Bro. Homann tendered his services as Steward for the Festival of the same Fund in 1885, and shortly afterwards Provincial Grand Lodge was closed. The brethren immediately repaired to Folly Bridge, where a steam launch was in readiness, and a truly enjoyable trip to Nuneham was indulged in. On arriving at their destination the party inspected the grounds of Colonel Harcourt, M.P. for Oxfordshire, and after spending an hour most profitably the return journey was undertaken. A banquet followed, at the Alfred Hall, where the after proceedings were carried out in the same spirit of congeniality that had characterised the work of the day. The musical ability of a capital glee party was well exercised, and the efforts of Brother Rowley, who superintended this feature of the days proceedings, were cordially recognised. The members of the Alfred Lodge, who conceived and so well carried out the arrangements, deserved, as they received, the thanks of all who were present. On the invitation of Brother D'Almaine it was arranged that the next annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge should take place at Abingdon, under the banner of the Abbey Lodge, No. 225.

MARK GRAND LODGE BENEVOLENT FUND.

THE Annual Festival in Aid of this Fund was celebrated on Wednesday, at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham. The R.W. Bro. J. Woodall Woodall, Provincial Grand Master of N. and E. Yorkshire, presided, and was supported by an influential body of Stewards and prominent members of the Mark Degree. As usual at this Festival the *menu* had been carefully considered, and the arrangements throughout were as complete as on former occasions. After the cloth had been cleared the first toast—The Queen and Mark Masonry—was introduced, and heartily responded to. The second toast—The M.W. Grand Mark Master Mason, the Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore—met with a hearty reception, the Chairman making graceful allusion to the services of the Earl of Kintore. After reference had been made to the Past Grand Mark Masters, Bro. Lloyd Jones Parry, M.P., proposed the health of the R.W. Deputy Grand Mark Master Mason, the Lord Egerton of Tatton, and the Grand Officers, Present and Past, Bro. Henry Venn, acknowledging the toast. As the senior Grand Officer present he thanked Bro. Parry; he was exceedingly grateful to the Grand Master for making him a Grand Officer; but he felt the compliment was not so much bestowed upon him as upon the Old Kent Lodge. Personally he could not be known to the Grand Master, and therefore he thought it was the services rendered generally, by various Lodges in the Provinces and in London, to the Charities, that brought the brethren under notice. To advance the cause of charity was an object all Masons should have in view. Lodges as well as individuals should subscribe; however, he found that it was the same individuals year after year who contributed both to this and the other Masonic Charities. He wished to see the practice more universal, and then the great funds would be greater. He trusted the brethren present would stimulate others with whom they were associated to join in contributing to the Charities.

Sir Pryse Pryse proposed the health of the chairman. In reply Bro. Woodall said that living so far as he did from the great metropolis he had hardly thought he should have been in a position to preside on such an occasion. Through the kindness of the brethren, however, the duties imposed on him were of so light a nature as to afford him great pleasure in attending. He thanked the brethren for their presence, and he thanked the brethren of the Mark Lodge for their great kindness to him during his Masonic career. He was a Mason of many years' standing, but he had

found in Mark Masons a stronger social bond of union than in the ordinary body.

The Chairman, in proposing Prosperity to the Mark Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund and Education Fund, said they were all very glad indeed, whether Mark Masons or no, to contribute to funds by which their distressed brethren might find relief and assistance. The peculiar nature of the educational branch of the Mark Benevolent Fund was one which commended itself to every one. At the time when the great Masonic Institutions were instituted the system of primary education in this country was by no means in a high position. It was lower than in many continental nations which had enjoyed less peace and tranquillity than England. It was short of what it was in the northern kingdom of Norway, for in that country it was laid down that it was the duty of the community generally to insist on such an education being given to the children as would enable them to hold a position in society. He trusted this fund would be successful, and hoped in the course of time it would be owing to the existence of the invaluable Schools of Masonry, as well as to the primary education of children educated near their own homes, and among their own brothers, sisters, and playmates, whereby they would be fitted for the work of life. This Fund had enabled children educated in the northern provinces to continue their education at the northern universities. In Northumberland and Durham the Provincial Grand Master would give them some assistance, and therefore he (the Chairman) would venture to put before them all the claims of the Benevolent Fund in relieving distress. As one who had taken a great deal of interest in the matter since he left the University of Oxford, he was glad to aid on every possible occasion the claims of this fund. He therefore proposed, with the greatest cordiality, Prosperity to the Mark Benevolent Fund.

The following list of subscriptions was then announced:—

	£	s	d
The Chairman	25	2	6
Thos. J. Pulley (Berks and Oxon)	23	3	0
P. de E. Collin (Cumberland and Westmoreland)	11	11	0
H. W. Madeley (Devon)	20	0	0
Rev. C. J. Martyn (East Anglia)	10	10	0
Wm. Watson (Kent)	27	16	0
Reginald Young (Lancashire)	21	0	0
Jack Sutcliffe (Lincolnshire)	51	6	6
H. Lovegrove (Middlesex and Surrey)	10	10	0
D. P. Cama	42	0	0
T. Y. Strachan (Northumberland and Durham)	42	0	0
E. C. Patchitt (Nottuzham)	47	6	0
Capt. C. Hunter (North Wales)	5	5	0
E. C. Mather (Grand Masters' Lodge)	10	10	0
J. W. Fuller (Bon Accord T.I.)	10	10	0
Herbert Dicketts (Old Kent)	85	11	6
E. L. Shepherd	1	15	15
E. H. Thiellay	1	5	5
Rev. Samuel Maude	7	10	10
E. B. Bright	13	42	0
Charles Chalk	28	11	15
Richard Eve	54	21	0
Henry Stone	54	10	10
Alex. Ferguson	59	5	5
Thomas Cable	75	5	14
Oscar Browning	112	10	10
T. H. Smith	115		
A. F. Warrillow	115 & 318	10	10
T. E. Taylor	144	5	5
W. A. Weston	220	35	0
Bro. R. Nicholson	257	5	8
Cornelius Davies	259	5	5
Samuel Chadwick	277	5	5
Percy Wallis	302	26	5
James Terry	315	5	5
L. Jones Parry, M.P.	321	5	5
George Taylor	330	10	10
Henry Frija	331	21	0
Ralph Gooding	332	10	10
James Neal York	335	25	0
Robt. Berridge	(Unattached)	5	5
Edgar Bowyer	"	10	10
G. Cooper	"	5	5
Baron De Ferrieres	"	5	5
C. H. Driver	"	32	10
Dr. G. P. Mickley	"	10	10
Capt. H. Stephens	"	5	5
A. Williams	"	5	5
Total	£832	19	0

Bro. Herbert Dicketts replied to the toast. It was the Stewards' duty to return their most sincere thanks to the President for the ready manner in which he had consented to take the chair on this occasion. He was happy to say

that the Stewards had tried to do their duty, and they were pleased beyond measure to know that they had been endeavouring to assist a Society in which he had the most complete and confident reliance. They were met that evening for the promotion of its success, and to carry out Masonic principles. They were not only called upon to do their duty to the Mark Benevolent Fund, but to every state of society, and it would be a delight to the brethren if they saw what was done by those who were members of the General Board. They did not attempt in any way to enter into competition with the grand Masonic Institutions. Many of those present, who subscribed to the Mark Benevolent Fund, were Vice-Presidents and Life Governors of the three Institutions. He was only returning thanks for those kind brethren who had allowed his name to be pressed upon them. If they would only take into consideration this Fund, they would find it was administered with all power. Grand Lodge of England had its Fund of Benevolence, the administrators of which met once a month; but this Mark Benevolent Fund was of a different character, and the Educational Branch was intended to educate the children of parents who had been reduced, and give them the education which they would have had if nothing had happened to their parents. Such a Society was deserving of all support, and he assured the brethren and ladies that they never sat round a table where there was more honesty of desire to do the best that could be done for a Society.

Brother Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary, proposed The Board of Stewards; he remarked that the amount of subscriptions announced that evening showed progress; it was a larger sum than they had ever announced before. Bro. Captain Hunter replied; it was quite by accident he was present; the Stewards, one and all, were convinced of the value of the Fund, and appreciated very highly the kind manner in which Bro. Binckes had spoken of them. The toast of the Ladies was responded to by Bro. R. P. Spice.

Bro. Edwin Lott, Past Grand Organist, undertook the musical arrangements of the evening; he was assisted by Madame Raymond, Bros. Arthur Weston, T. Tremere, and Egbert Roberts.

The Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex will be held at the Public Hall, Maldon, on Wednesday, the 13th day of August next, at 1.45 o'clock p.m., under the presidency of the Right Honourable Lord Brooke, M.P., Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master.

The next meeting of the Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693, held at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, will take place on Monday, 11th August.

The usual Summer Entertainment to the Old Folks will take place at Croydon, on Wednesday, the 30th instant.

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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 is the only Palliative in Rheumatism, Gout, Cancer, Toothache, Meningitis, &c.

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.

It is extensively used by Medical Men in their official and private practice, at home and abroad, who have given numerous written testimonials of its wonderful efficacy.

SPECIMEN TESTIMONIAL.—From JOHN TANNER, M.D., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. L.S.A., L.M., Physician to Farringdon Dispensary, Physician to the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon's Metropolitan College, London, &c., 102 Harley Street, Cavendish Square, W.—"It gives me great pleasure to bear testimony in favour of FREEMAN'S Chlorodyne. I have prescribed it extensively, and in cases of Asthma, Chronic Bronchitis, the last stage of Phthisis, and the Winter Cough of the aged, I have never found any substitute or chemical combination its equal."

Sold by Chemists and Patent Medicine Dealers all over the world, in bottles 1s 1/2d; 2 oz. 2s 9d; 4 oz. 4s 6d; half-pints 11s; and pints 20s each, and by the inventor, RICHARD FREEMAN, 70 Kennington Park Road, London, S.E. Free by post. Purchasers are CAUTIONED not to have palmed upon them any substitute. See that the Trade Mark "THE ELEPHANT" is on the wrapper, &c., and the words "FREEMAN'S ORIGINAL CHLORODYNE" are engraved on the Government Stamp—which is the only TRUE CHLORODYNE.

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GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS
OF
ENGLAND AND WALES
AND THE
COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES OF THE
BRITISH CROWN.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KINTORE,
MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD EGERTON OF TATTON,
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

A MOVEABLE GRAND LODGE will be held, on the invitation of the R.W. Provincial Grand Mark Master, the Dep. Prov. Grand Mark Master, and the Brethren of the Province of Devonshire, at the Royal Public Rooms, Exeter, on Wednesday, the 6th of August 1884, at which all legally advanced M.M.M. may be present. Grand Lodge will be opened at Four o'clock prompt.

By command of the M.W. Grand Master,

FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G.J.W.)

Grand Secretary.

OFFICE:—8a Red Lion Square, London, W.C.
15th July 1884.

BUSINESS.—Open Grand Lodge in form. Proposed by M.W. Bro. Canon PORTAL, M.A., P.G.M.M.M.—“That the sum of ten guineas be voted to ‘The Hughan Testimonial Fund.’” General Business. Close Grand Lodge.

A Banquet will take place at 5:30 o'clock precisely, at the Rougemont Hotel. Tickets 5/- each (exclusive of Wine).

N.B.—To facilitate the arrangements for the comfort of the Brethren attending the Banquet, application for Tickets must be made not later than Saturday, 2nd August, to W. Bro. G. F. Gratwicke, Provincial Grand Secretary, Raleigh Lodge, St. Thomas, Exeter.

RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS.—The Great Western Railway and South Western Railway have consented to issue Return Tickets, 1st and 2nd Class, at a Fare and a Quarter, available from Tuesday, 5th, to Saturday, 9th August, from all Stations on their systems to Exeter, on production of Masonic Clothing to the Booking Clerk.

By command of the M.W. G.M.M.M. Brethren will appear in Masonic Mourning.

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.

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PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX.

R.W. COL. SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART.
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

A PROVINCIAL Grand Lodge will be held at the Athenæum, Enfield, on Saturday, 2nd August, at 2.30 p.m. precisely.

By command of the Prov. G. Master,

H. C. LEVANDER, P.G.D.

12th July 1884.

Provincial Grand Secretary.

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	WEEK DAYS.				A		B
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
London (Euston Station) dep.	5 15	7 15	10 0	11 0	8 0	8 50	9 0
Edinburgh arr.	4 10	5 50	7 55	10 0	6 20	6 45	7 50
Glasgow "	4 20	6 0	8 0	10 15	6 35	6 55	8 0
Greenock "	5 50	7 15	9 5	11 12	7 50	7 50	9 48
Oban "	9 43	—	—	4 15	12 15	12 15	2 34
Perth "	6 50	—	9 35	11 50	8 0	8 15	9 55
Dundee "	7 30	—	10 30	1 0	9 0	9 0	12 0
Aberdeen "	10 10	—	—	3 20	11 40	—	2 15
Inverness "	—	—	—	8 0	1 30	—	6 20

The HIGHLAND EXPRESS (8.0 p.m.) leaves Euston every night (Saturdays excepted), and is due at Greenock in time to enable passengers to join the steamers to the Western Coast of Scotland. It also arrives at Perth in time to enable passengers to breakfast there before proceeding northwards.

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- A Does not run to Greenock or Oban on Sunday mornings.
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July 1884.

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G. FINDLAY, General Manager.

Euston Station, July 1884.

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J. GRIERSON, General Manager.

PROVINCE OF WORCESTER.

MASONIC SOIREE AND EXHIBITION.

Worcester, 27th August 1884.

BRETHREN having Masonic Curios of any kind, by way of Old Medals, Jewels, Cups, Glasses, Seals, Charters, Certificates, Aprons, Engravings, Minute Books, &c., &c., are earnestly invited to correspond with the Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Geo. Taylor, Summerdyne, Kidderminster, who will be grateful for the loan of such. Guarantees for safe custody given, and any expense defrayed.

A catalogue is being prepared which will serve as a standard reference to all interested in Masonic Antiquities.

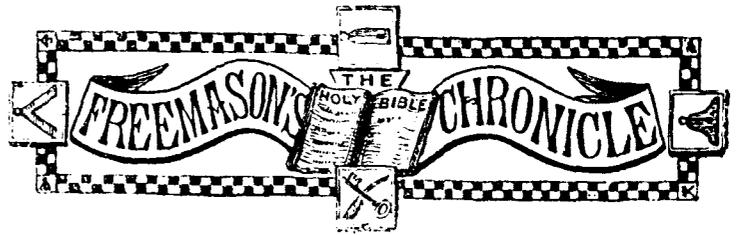
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MASONIC CENTENNIAL IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

FROM THE KEYSTONE.

THE Craft in New Brunswick held its Centennial Celebration at St. John, N.B., on 1st July 1884. It began (as we learn from Bro. Charles E. Pierce, of Boston) with the opening of Grand Lodge in the Masonic Temple, Grand Master Ellis presiding. Grand Master Major General Laurie, of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and other distinguished visitors were present, and several addresses were delivered. At 1.30 p.m. there was a grand procession of the Craft. This was followed by a large and enthusiastic Masonic gathering at the Institute, where Bro. John Y. Ellis Most Worshipful Grand Master of New Brunswick, delivered a lengthy and deeply interesting Masonic address. We quote from its opening as follows:—

Many of the loyalists were Masons. An inside history of the Revolutionary war would show that in it Freemasonry played an important part.

In the army of the revolted Colonies, from Washington down, there were many Masons, as there were among their French auxiliaries, who, as opportunity offered, not only interested themselves in the ordinary work of the Craft, but found solace and comfort in the precepts and maxims of the society; who followed with much satisfaction speculations on human brotherhood; who, amid the horrors of civil war, could meditate upon the pleasures of peace, and who, moreover, were sometimes benefitted by the operations of a society in which the feelings of human brotherhood tended to mitigate the miseries of an unhappy fratricidal war. As the war went on, Lodges increased. There were many Lodges in the regiment; on both sides, and on both sides the larger number of these Lodges derived their authority from the division of the English Craft which called itself the Ancient Grand Lodge, in which Laurence Dermott was the principal power; and many of the peculiarities of that section of English Masonry, affected in some degree by transmission through the older colonies, are still stamped on the Craft in this Province. A number of loyalists, who had seen service in the army, came here, and they were scarcely settled in their new home before they again turned their attention to it for what relief it might afford amid the very great troubles by which they were encompassed. In the enjoyment of all that we have to-day, we enter very little into the feelings, the disappointments, the struggles of the loyalists. It is easy to praise the patriotism which we ascribe to them, and thus to throw a halo of romance over the first years of our city's existence; it is not so easy to get a true idea of what life here was; to judge what ideals were realised, what disappointments were encountered, what hopes were shattered. On a clear understanding of all this we need not be surprised at the fact that Freemasonry in an organised form, and actively at work, is older here than our province: older than the civic organisation over which you, Mr. Mayor, preside; the oldest, indeed, of the permanent foundations of a civil or social kind existing in New Brunswick to-day.

On 7th November 1783, Bro. Jared Betts, of "His Majesty's Prince of Wales Regiment," wrote a letter from St. Ann's, now Fredericton, N.S., to Bro. Jos. Peters, Secretary of the Masters' Lodge, at Halifax, looking towards the founding of a Lodge at that place. On 6th March 1784, "Elias Hardy, W.M. of Lodge 169," similarly addressed Worshipful Bro. John George Pike, No. 39, of the *St. John's Gazette and Nova Scotia Intelligencer*, of Thursday, 9th September 1784, contains the following notice:—

"At a meeting of a respectable body of Ancient Brethren, the 7th instant, it was agreed to give this notice to every Ancient Brother Mason on the River St. John, that on Tuesday, the 21st instant, will be held at Brother Kirk's, a meeting of Ancient Masons at his new Lodge Room, Lower Cove, for the purpose of preparing and installing the proper officers for constituting a Lodge, where the attendance of every Ancient Brother is earnestly requested.

"Parr, September 8 1781."

The warrant for the Provincial Grand Lodge at Halifax came out in 1784, from Lord Antrim, then Grand Master of the Ancient Grand Lodge, and the Halifax authorities proceeded to regulate their work. Nine warrants were issued in 1784; five in 1785, and three in 1786. The last of these, No. 17, was issued 6th December of that year to Hiram Lodge, the regular communications to be held at St. John, New Brunswick, on the first Tuesday of the month, at the house of John Kirk, which house was undoubtedly on Lot No. 1234, on what is now Britain, but which was then St. Andrew's Street, commencing 40 feet east of Germain Street. The warrant was signed by Governor Parr, who had succeeded Mr. Pike in the Grand Mastership.

The 54th Regiment—famous because Wm. Cobbett, grammarian and reformer, was in its ranks—arrived here in June, 1785, and brought with it a regimental Lodge. No doubt many civilians were received into the Lodge in this regiment. On the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, in 1786, this Lodge attended the parish church in a body, and the *St. John Gazette*, of January 9, 1787, editorially announces that there is "now in press, and will be published on Saturday next, 'The Pleasures and Advantages of Brotherly Unity; a sermon preached before the Right Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the 54th Regimental Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons

in the Parish Church of St. John, December 26, 1786, by George Bissett, A.M., Rector of St. John, and Missionary of the Gospel in Foreign Parts."

Grand Master Ellis was followed by His Honour, the Mayor of St. John, Bro. James MacGregor Grant, who said, in the course of his address:

Brethren, I am happy to say that I appear before you not only as Mayor of the city, but as a member of this ancient and honourable Fraternity. It is true I am only a Master Mason—one of the rank and file of the great Masonic army, whose banners have been unfurled over every part of the habitable globe, and upon whose dominion the sun never sets. Still, I am proud of that position, and when our Worshipful Grand Master referred to the days that have passed, I could not help recollecting the stormy winter's night, in 1858, when in the grand old fortress of Stirling Castle, overlooking Bannockburn, I was initiated into the Lodge of the 69th Regiment. I might say, as the W.G.M. has referred to it, that refreshments were furnished in those days which were of a more exhilarating nature than what we obtain at present, and the gatherings often extended into what Robbie Burns called the "wee sma' hours." Speaking of Burns, a name dear to every Scottish heart, he was a Mason himself, and at one time Master of Kilmarnock Lodge. This reminds me that the first centennial celebrated in a public manner on this side of the Atlantic was that of the poet Burns. Then came the centennial in the city of Philadelphia. Afterwards the centennial of our own city, and to-day we are here celebrating the centennial anniversary of Freemasonry in this province. I think the brethren will all agree with me that these centennial celebrations are most desirable. They furnish food for reflection for every thoughtful mind, and they recall many events of the days gone by, and serve to keep green in our memory the names of those men who have been head-lights in the world's history.

To the visiting brethren I extend a warm welcome, not only as Mayor of this city, but as a Brother Mason. May this day form a green spot in your memories, and lead you more and more to look after the interests of our Craft. And now, one word in conclusion: when the next centennial celebration in Masonry in this province comes around, although our bodies will be mouldering in the dust, although the sprigs of acacia, those beautiful emblems of immortality, shall be strewn over our graves, let us trust that our spirits will find a resting-place in the Grand Lodge above. Let us hope that we shall rejoice for evermore in the presence of the Grand Master above—the Great Architect of the Universe, whose power, greatness and glory, all true Masons profoundly reverence.

The Rev. Bro. Dr. Macrae followed, saying:—

You have summoned me to discharge a congenial duty, to sound the praises of Masonry, to set forth the grounds why it is this day honoured among us; to vindicate it from the charges by which our most noble Fraternity is often ignorantly aspersed; in a word, to exhibit the Temple of Masonry, so far as my powers may avail, in all its beauty and grandeur of symmetrical proportion. To such questions as the following it will be becoming to essay brief answers on an occasion so auspicious in the history of our Fraternity. What is the Spirit and Creed, if so it is becoming to express myself of Freemasonry? What are our aims? What principles govern us? By what tenets are we held together, and what virtues—what cardinal virtues, if any—do we profess to abide by and uphold? It is almost a duty to ask, it is a privilege of the most honourable character to be favoured with an opportunity so distinguished of answering these and the like questions, in view, partly, of the sceptical tendencies of our age, partly of the attacks—the able, but utterly unwarrantable and even grotesquely absurd attacks—to which we have recently, in very high quarters indeed, been subjected.

Most Worshipful and Brethren: Masonry, I begin by saying, has performed a feat which has hitherto transcended the efforts of any or all of the religious denominations of earth to accomplish. And hence, perhaps, the virulence of the vituperation with which it has been assailed. It has built a platform so easy of access, and yet so firm in structure, that upon it can and do stand, side by side, co-operating in the spirit of loyal friendship, peace and harmony, Jew and Gentile, Christian and Brahmin. To have done this without insisting upon the conversion of one to the views and beliefs entertained by the other, to be able to secure the most sincere and hearty co-operation in kindly deeds of men of all races, all ranks, all callings, all denominations, governed by a spirit of mutual sympathy, to be the object of his attachment, and the bond of union to rich and poor, to learned and comparatively unlearned, to effect in happiest combination the blending of equality with order, the equality that consists in community of privilege with the Craft which demands and justifies gradation only in official rank; to do this without kindling jealousy—nay, to the consuming of every feeling of the baser sort in the fire of a noble, a limitless, albeit a secretly manifested charity—this is an achievement which may fitly command more than a passing notice from the philosopher, the statesman, and from members of the profession to which it is my chief honour to belong. It is coming to this, in fact, in the history of the world, that he who can successfully place his hand on the leverage afforded by Masonry possesses a power, thank God, a power for good—to which the only limits are the limits of time, and of the universe of our race.

"But yours is a secret organisation," it is said; "why secret, if you have not something in reserve, a body of esoteric doctrine, of which you are ashamed?" No, Brethren, I am not ashamed of our secrecy. Let me, once for all, avow my glorying in it, while, at the same moment, I proclaim what the spirit and purpose of that gracious secrecy is. Hear it, ye who revile us: it is the secrecy inculcated in the words: "Let not your left hand know what your right hand doeth." It is the mantle which cloaks our beneficence, which forbids our ever recording our good deeds, leaving them to be judged by the One All-Seeing Eye. It is that robe of need on the one hand, when need arises; of charity on the other, when Brotherly charity is solicited, wearing which, two of our Fraternity can confer with each other, as in a twilight, amid which the blush of shame on the

brow of the one, the flush of power to relieve on the brow of the other, is invisible. That is our secret, that is our secrecy.

Bro. Major-General Laurie, Grand Master of Nova Scotia, made the concluding address, saying:—

I hesitate to open my mouth, for fear that I may in some way mar the effect of the eloquent oration just delivered by our Rev. Brother. It appears that Freemasonry was introduced into the Province of New Brunswick from Nova Scotia. If from Nova Scotia came the seed which has flowered so gloriously and brought forth such fruit as we see in this day's grand turn-out, surely from Nova Scotia may come welcome congratulations of the grand effect produced to-day. These, as Grand Master of Nova Scotia, I offer to you with heartfelt sincerity. The Grand Master of the profession to which I belong, the great Napoleon, enunciated this adage: "That Providence fought on the side of the strongest battalions;" but did not always act upon that himself, for he trusted very much to brilliant leadership and small forces. You, in this province, have the advantage of brilliant leadership. But, Sir, generals without an army would be a poor fighting force, and while I can congratulate the Craft on the ability of the leaders they have amongst them, I must also congratulate the leaders on the kind of men they have to follow.

The entire celebration was a grand success, and we congratulate our brethren of New Brunswick, and especially of St. John, upon the pleasurable and truly Masonic character of their centennial celebration.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

A GREAT deal has been said and written as to the office of Grand Representative being a mere sinecure, and we are willing to admit that too often brethren appointed to these positions are apt to allow it to become so. On the other hand, we contend that the appointment is one of great importance, and faithful representatives can do much to draw the lines of friendship and amity between sovereign bodies closer, if they do their duty.

A Grand Representative should always thoroughly verse himself in the history, status and constitution of the Grand Lodge that he represents—he should annually report to both the Grand Lodge he represents and the Grand Lodge to which he is appointed—he should be the exponent and supporter of the Grand Lodge that appointed him.

For example, if any differences occur between Grand Lodges, the Grand Representatives, if they understood their duties, should invariably give impartial reports of the same—express the views and feelings of those they represent, acquaint also the Grand Lodge they represent with the sentiments of the brethren of the jurisdiction near which they are commissioned.

The difficulty is, a brother is appointed generally a Grand Representative *ad vitum*, and after a year or two almost forgets the name of the supreme body he represents. We know—

- (1.) A commission should never be granted for more than two years.
- (2.) Grand Lodges should insist upon annual reports, or in default thereof resignation.
- (3.) No brother should be permitted to hold more than one commission near the same Grand Lodge at the same time.
- (4.) Honorary membership and rank should be conferred upon the Grand Representative by the Grand Lodge.
- (5.) As Grand Master and Grand Secretaries are really *ex officio* representatives of their own Grand Lodge, they should not, during their term of office, be allowed to hold any commission.

By adopting regulations of this character we are confident the position of Grand Representative would soon become one of great honour. We know some representatives who always faithfully report, and are actually sought after by sister Grand Bodies, but the vast majority, we fear, are very indifferent as to their duties. Of course, our remarks apply to similar positions in all the other Grand Bodies.—*Canadian Craftsman*.

POSTAL BUSINESS IN AUSTRALIA.—The estimated number of letters posted for delivery within New South Wales during the year 1883 was 31,258,300, as against 25,737,300 for 1882; the number of letters posted for delivery in the Australian Colonies and New Zealand was 1,401,900, as compared with 1,202,600 for 1882; and the number of letters posted for foreign dispatch was 585,200, as against 498,300 for last year. The total number of letters posted in the Colony during 1883 was 33,245,400, as compared with 27,438,200 for last year. The number of newspapers posted in the Colony was 18,344,500, as against 16,970,100 for 1882. The total number of parcels, &c., was 1,435,900, as compared with 1,037,400 for 1882. The total number of post cards was 259,400, as against 222,800 for 1882. The increase in the number of letters posted is at the rate of about 21 per cent.; in the number of newspapers about 8 per cent.; in the number of packets about 32 per cent.; and in the number of post cards about 16 per cent. The average number of letters posted in 1883, in proportion to the population of the Colony, is estimated at 38 to each person.

KNOW THYSELF.

IN these degenerate times we often hear our brethren express themselves somewhat after this fashion:—What a pity it is that the tenets and teachings of Masonry are not better lived up to; while often those who give utterance to such thoughts are very far from putting into practice what they profess to admire.

Did it ever occur to you, my Brother, that your character and conduct through life might materially benefit or injure the cause of Freemasonry? Do you remember when you were first admitted among Masons, how your heart warmed towards every true Brother; how that grip caused a pleasurable thrill, like an electric shock? You were afterwards passed, and secured more light. This should have caused you to think seriously of the ordeal you had lately passed through. When you were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason did you not feel that those who participated in that degree ought to be good men and true? Can you ever forget the sensations you experienced at that time, while taking part in so solemn and impressive a ceremony. With your first impressions came zeal for advancement, and a general desire for knowledge. Proceeding onward, have you fulfilled your first promise to yourself? Have you striven to improve others, and to become an ornament to the Order of which you are now a member? If you have practised the golden rule, and rendered assistance to your brethren in their laudable undertakings; have avoided slander and evil speaking; if you have evinced a genuine Masonic character; have exercised charity in your feelings towards an erring brother, and have felt inclined to throw a veil over his shortcomings; have tried to bring him back within the fold, or have warned him against impending danger; you have done much towards the fulfilment of that promise. If you have done otherwise, what right have you to expect that your fellow-men should be more perfect than yourself? Brother, reflect; give these matters calm consideration; it is vain to conclude that Freemasonry raises and improves all those who are initiated into its mysteries. If its effect is not visible in the life and department of its members, it naturally follows that such men do not profit by their connection with the Fraternity. Such as have made no progress in developing the internal qualities of the heart and mind have not acquired the true knowledge of Freemasonry. Masonry inculcates sterling charity; and the noblest and most acceptable of its duties is its highest reward. The kind word spoken; the gentle admonition and sound counsel; the timely aid, with the ennobling inspiration to raise the drooping spirits of the lowly. Brother, be of one mind; love your neighbour; avoid unprofitable discussion; show to the world that when you became a Mason Masonry did something for you.

The usual weekly Convocation of the North London Chapter of Improvement was held on Thursday, when the Companions assembled at 8 o'clock sharp, at the Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury. Comp. Gregory occupied the chair of Z., Hall H., George J., Radcliffe S.N., Shaw P.S. There was a good attendance, notwithstanding the weather was unfavourable for those residing at a distance. All Royal Arch Masons are kindly invited, and will receive a hearty welcome at this Chapter of Improvement.

The Ancasta Chapter, No. 1461, is to be consecrated by M.E. Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Grand Superintendent, at the Masonic Hall, Woolston, on Tuesday next, the 29th instant.

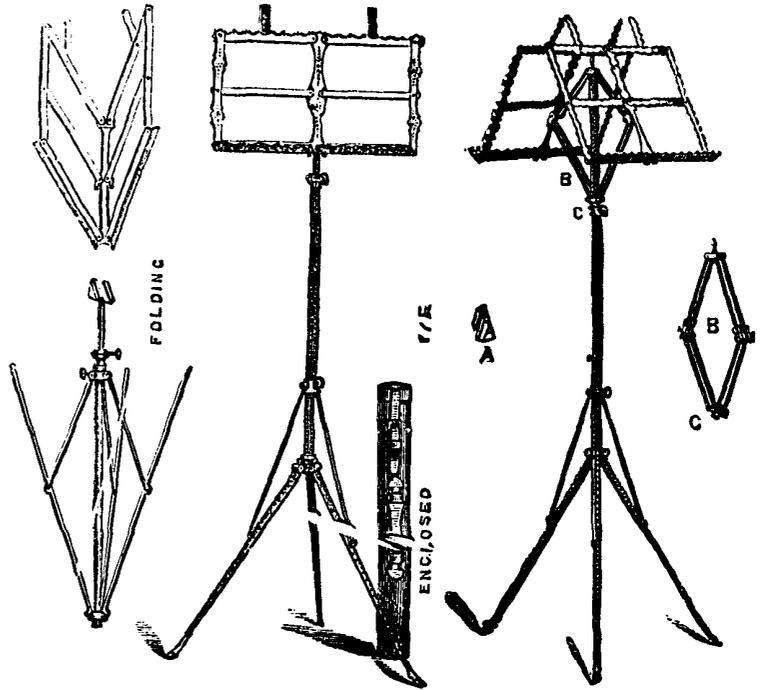
In the death of Bro. Philip Chatham, Freemasonry has lost a very old member. Bro. Chatham died on Monday, at Stockport, aged 96. He was initiated in 1811.

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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.

—:—

SATURDAY, 26th JULY.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 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)
 1541—Alexandra Palace, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1621—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1679—Henry Muggieridge, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.
 1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court
 1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel Penistone
 1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
 1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst
 1777—Royal Hanover, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1965—Eastes, Parish Rooms, Bromley, Kent
 1982—Greenwood, Public Hall, Epsom

MONDAY, 28th JULY.

- Grand Mark Masters, Masonic Hall, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C.
 22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 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, 202 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, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Clarence Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C. at 7 (Inst.)
 1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel Mile End Road, corner of Burdett Road. (Inst.)
 1745—Farrington, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
 1891—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
 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)
 R.A. 189—Sincerity, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse
 R.A. 210—Faith, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton.
 R.A. 310—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Castle Street, Carlisle
 R.A. 321—Faith, Crewe Arms Hotel, Crewe
 R.A. 331—Loyal Cornubian, Masonic Hall, Truro
 R.A. 1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham
 R.A. 1205—Elliott, 1 Caroline Place, East Stonehouse
 R.A. 1222—Inkerman, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare

TUESDAY, 29th JULY.

- Audit Committee Girls' School, at 4.
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 141—Faith, Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's Gate, St. James's Park Station, at 8. (Instruction)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Cumberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 880—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1044—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, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1446—Mount Edgecombe, 19 Jermin-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)
 1802—Sir Hugh Myddleton, King Edward VI., King Edward Street, Liverpool Road, N., at 8. (Instruction)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst.)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 8.30 (Inst.)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 8.30.
 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
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
 1359—Torhav, Town Hall, Plaiznton
 1566—Ellington, Town Hall, Maidenhead
 1636—St. Cecilia, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 R.A. 418—Staffordshire Knot, Freemasons' Hall, Hanley

WEDNESDAY, 30th JULY.

- 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Legend, Peckham, at 7.31. (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)
 224—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowdale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In)
 538—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dan 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)
 861—Finsbury, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 86—Whitington, Red Lion, Popna'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, Dick's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
 1284—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)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1681—Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Instruct)
 1791—Creston, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)

- R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)
 86—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescott, Lancashire
 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—Soudes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
 1083—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Baswick, near Manchester
 1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Dorby (Instruction)
 1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow
 1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley, near Manchester
 1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester
 1283—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 R.A. 236—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Duconthe Street, York
 M.M.—Howe, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 M.M. 24—Roberts, Masonic Rooms, Ann Street, Rochester
 R.C.—Stanhope, Queen Hotel, Chester

THURSDAY, 31st JULY.

- General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruct)
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 8.30. (Instruction)
 1159—Southern Star, Pleasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1185—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 8.30 (Inst.)
 1554—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In)
 1614—Covent Garden, Bedford Road Hotel, Maiden Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 1673—Langdon, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 8. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1741—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 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)
 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
 116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colne
 248—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden
 286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
 337—Candour, New Masonic Rooms, Uppermill, Saddleworth
 341—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye
 344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, Lancashire
 636—Og'e, Masonic Hall, Morpeth
 659—Stagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth
 807—Jubbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
 966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
 1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. German's, Cornwall.
 1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
 1576—Dee, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull
 R.A. 1395—Weyside, Masonic Hall, Woking
 M.M. 32—Union, Freemason's Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester

FRIDAY, 1st AUGUST.

- 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 (Instruc.)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In)
 790—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1154—Belgrave, Jermyon-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In)
 1365—Clenton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1490—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond Road
 1612—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1716—All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1815—Penge, Thicket Hotel, Aneley
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 R.A.—Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 78—Pylinggreen, Portland Hotel, London-street, Green-vic. (Inst.)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, Lond n Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 K.T. 134—Blondel, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 41—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
 219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Tolmorden.
 242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
 453—Chigwell, Lough-on Tavern, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30 (Inst)
 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 998—Welchpool Railway, Station, Welchpool
 1098—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1387—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Hardy
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1528—Port Masonic Hall, Newquay, Cornwall.
 1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
 1561—Morecombe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecombe, Lancashire.
 1648—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Stein-street, Bradford.
 1651—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High street, Gosforth
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
 R.A. 244—Hope and Unity, White Hart, Romford
 K.T.—Loyal Volunteers, Queens Arms Hotel, George-street, Ashton-under-Ly

SATURDAY, 2nd AUGUST.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 195—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1621—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 303—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood
 1283—Amherst, King's Arms Hotel, Westerton, Kent

FUNERALS.—Bros. W. K. L. & G. A. HUTTON, Coffin Makers and Undertakers, 17 Newcastle Street, Strand, W.C and 30 Forest Hill Road, Peckham Rye, S.E

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF NATAL.

THE annual meeting was held on the 28th March, at the Masonic Hall, Smith-street, Durban. The R.W. District Grand Master Bro. R. J. Finemore, presided, and there was a very large attendance of brethren to support him. The District Grand Lodge was opened shortly after five o'clock, and after the customary routine business had been disposed of, the District Grand Master said: Brethren, I have, as your District Grand Master, convened you to-day for several reasons. In the first place, this is the anniversary of the formal opening of our District Grand Lodge, and it is necessary to appoint new Officers. In the next place, it is desirable that no farther time should be lost in passing Bye-laws. I drafted a code in 1882, which was printed and circulated amongst the Lodges; but owing to impending changes in our Constitutions it was thought advisable, and recommended by Col. Clerke, the G. Secretary, that we should postpone the settlement of this matter until the final revision of the new Book of Constitutions in England had been completed. I have not yet received a copy of the new Constitutions; but from a summary of alterations which has been published, and which I have carefully studied, I have been enabled to ascertain in what respects the old Constitutions had been amended, and with this knowledge I have now carefully drafted a second code, which I shall lay before you to-day for your consideration and approval. In preparing the new code, which I have made as brief and simple as I conveniently could, I have adhered as far as possible to the resolutions which were passed at the last regular communication of District Grand Lodge, which was held under my presidency in Pietermaritzburgh in September last. Beyond the necessity for appointing new Officers and finally passing the Bye-laws, subject to the approval of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, there is also another reason why I wished to meet you here to-day, namely, that being about to leave the colony for some months, after a residence of nearly thirty-four years, for the purpose of revisiting the mother country, I was desirous of bidding adieu to my Masonic brethren, and of arranging sundry Masonic matters of importance preparatory to my departure. During my absence from the colony the Masonic government of the district will devolve upon the Deputy District Grand Master, assisted by the District Board of General Purposes; and I feel sure that you will accord to my Deputy during my absence the same hearty support and ready co-operation which it has been my privilege to experience at your hands. As to the amended Constitutions, I find that I am now empowered to appoint the President of the District Board of General Purposes, who will rank next to the District Grand Registrar. The appointment of two District Grand Standard Bearers is also authorised, and the offices of District Assistant Grand Secretary is now provided for and recognised by the new rules. I think it well also that I should exercise the power of appointing two District Grand Chaplains, as there are so many candidates desirous and deserving of holding office in District Grand Lodge that it is difficult, if not impossible, for me to adequately recognise the claims of all of them. I would recommend that the District Board of General Purposes be constituted without further delay, as there will be many matters arising for their consideration. From the reports of Lodges for the past year, it will be seen that the state of Freemasonry generally in the district is eminently satisfactory and encouraging. It is true that no new Craft Lodges have been opened in the district during the past year, as it was anticipated they would be. Unfortunately difficulties arose which prevented our Newcastle brethren realising their wish to obtain a charter; and I understand that the brethren at Ixopo have abandoned for the present the expressed intention of establishing a Lodge at their place, because it is considered that the Carnarvon Lodge at Richmond will suffice, for some time to come, for the wants of the brethren in the locality. The recent erection and dedication of two new Masonic halls, one at Richmond, the other at Greytown, and the position generally of the existing Lodges, however, furnish satisfactory evidence of the vitality and progressive character of Freemasonry in the district, and is a subject of congratulation. Sundry matters of detail connected with the Craft have at different times during the year been submitted for my decision and action. Thus, there was one appeal to me from the decision of a private Lodge; one application for permission to temporarily change the place of meeting of a Lodge; several applications for my ruling on points of order or practice; sundry amendments of bye-laws of private Lodges submitted for my approval; and various other matters, including, I regret to say, a few applications for pecuniary relief or assistance. All these matters have been dealt with by me as they arose, and in such a manner as circumstances would enable me to deal with them. Business of this nature, as well as necessary communications with the Grand Secretary in London, the Deputy District Grand Master, and the District Grand Secretary from time to time, has entailed upon me an amount of correspondence which is not inconsiderable; but notwithstanding my official and other duties I have endeavoured to settle all points as they arose and to ensure as far as possible that there should be no delay in answering letters. The experience of the first year of our District Grand Lodge has thus shown that the home authorities rightly judged that the time had arrived when local government of the Order in the Colony had become necessary. I may here mention that W. Bro. George Russell D.G.S.W. is compiling for publication a history of Freemasonry in the district, more particularly with reference to the Port Natal Lodge, No. 738, with which he has been so long and honourably connected; and I have no doubt but that this publication will be found to be of great interest to members of our Fraternity. I have the pleasure also to announce to you that W. Bro. M. H. Emanuel, of Lodges 738 and 1192, P.M. 1069, has kindly made a present to the District Grand Lodge of a handsome silver square and compasses, which I now submit for your acceptance. The District Grand Secretary will read to you the letter which accompanied the presentations. I am sure I am only expressing the unanimous feeling of members of District Grand Lodge when I say that we sincerely appreciate the gift; and for my own part I value still more

the kindly expressions towards myself as District Grand Master which accompanied it. My sincere thanks are due to the outgoing Officers for their attention to their duties during their tenure of office; and I thank you all, brethren, for your salutations and reception of me to-day. I will not now detain you from the more important business of the meeting with any further preliminary remarks, but will conclude with the time-honoured wish that as the labours of our District Grand Lodge have been begun in order, and the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe has been invoked on our proceedings, so may they be conducted in peace and with a true regard to the best interests of the Order, and be closed in love and harmony.

The following brethren were subsequently duly invested District Grand Officers:—

Bro. W. Francis	...	...	Grand D.G.M.
G. Russell	...	...	Senior Grand Warden
J. Smith	...	...	Junior Grand Warden
Rev. J. Reynolds	...	...	Grand Chaplains
Rev. A. Ikin, LL.D., Mus. Doc.	...	...
A. C. Dulcken	...	...	Grand Registrar
T. J. Hill	...	...	Grand Pres. Bd. Gen. Pur.
E. H. Wiltshier	...	...	Grand Secretary
A. J. Koeler	...	...	Grand Assistant Secretary
S. Marriott	...	...	Grand Treasurer
J. Crowe	...	...	Senior Grand Deacon
G. O. Matterson	...	...	Junior Grand Deacon
S. Starnack	...	...	Grand Supt. of Works
W. A. Voysey	...	...	Grand Director of Cer.
W. Sink	...	...	Grand Asst. Dir. Cer.
W. A. Smith	...	...	Grand Sword Bearer
D. Deeves	...	...	Grand Standard Bearers
T. Cook	...	...
E. S. T. Stantial	...	...	Grand Organist
W. H. Kinsman	...	...	Grand Pursuivant
B. Ireland	...	...	Assistant Grand Pursuivant
S. Ford, P. Flett, W. F. Stanton,	...	...	Grand Stewards
R. Willis, D. Crabbe, and J. Schulz	...	...

At the conclusion of business a banquet was served, and on the removal of the cloth the customary toast list was gone through.

Justice Lodge of Instruction, No. 147.—On Thursday, 24th instant, at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford. Present—J. Bedford Williams W.M., Coen S.W., Greener J.W., S. R. Speight P.M. Sec., Stringer S.D., Penney J.D., Catt I.G.; Bros. Freeman, Church, &c. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. C. H. Freeman candidate. Lodge was opened in the 2nd, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Lodge was then closed in due form. The first annual banquet of this Lodge of Instruction will be held on the 28th August, at the White Swan Hotel, Deptford, under the presidency of Bro. B. R. Banks W.M. of the mother Lodge.

The members of the Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, amongst whom are several Volunteers, have invited such of the Canadian team, now at Wimbledon, as are Masons to their meeting on Monday next, the 28th inst., at the Fountains Abbey Hotel, 111 Praed-street, Paddington. Brother Andrews P.M. 77 will occupy the chair, and a numerous attendance is anticipated. Lodge will be opened at 8 p.m.

POPULAR EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA.—The New South Wales Minister for Public Instruction says, in a recently published report, that there are very few children in the Colony who do not for some period of each year receive instruction, either in schools or at home. The greater number of exceptions are amongst children from 12 to 14 years of age, whose labour is of value to their parents. Many of these, however, especially those in the country, learned to read, write and cipher before they left school. In places where State Schools are open for the first time, it might be supposed that the children to attend them had previously been without schooling, but in most cases the necessity for a school in any locality has been caused by a recent movement of population thereto from other settlements, and the children when enrolled are generally found to have been at school elsewhere.

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| 1 OUR LITERARY BROTHER. | 17 THE CHRISTIAN MINISTER. |
| 2 A DISTINGUISHED MASON. | 18 THE MYSTIC. |
| 3 THE MAN OF ENERGY. | 19 A MODEL MASON. |
| 4 FATHER TIME. | 20 A CHIP FROM JOPPA. |
| 5 A CORNER STONE. | 21 A PILLAR OF MASONRY. |
| 6 THE CRAFTSMAN. | 22 BAYARD. |
| 7 THE GOWNSMAN. | 23 A RIGHT HAND MAN. |
| 8 AN EASTERN STAR. | 24 OUR CITIZEN BROTHER. |
| 9 THE KNIGHT ERRANT. | 25 AN ABLE PRECEPTOR. |
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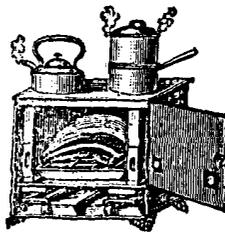
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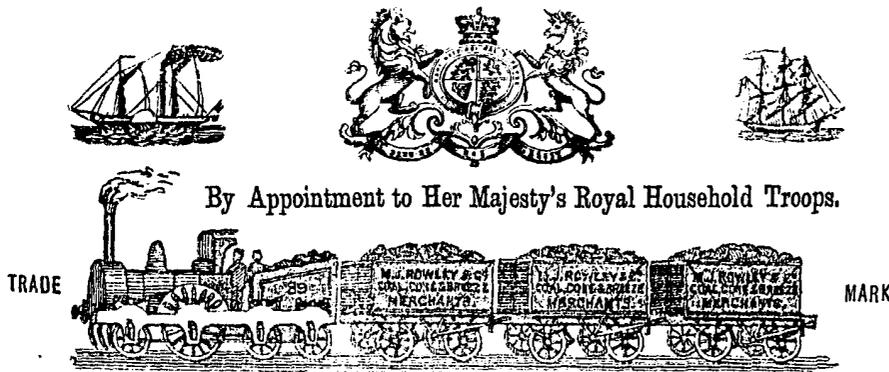
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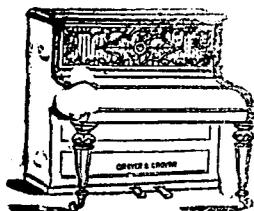
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