

THE

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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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TECHNICAL EDUCATION AT THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

A FEW weeks since we published a letter from a zealous supporter of the Masonic Charitable Institutions—who, however, preferred to hide his identity under the *nom de plume* "AN EMPLOYER OF LABOUR"—on the subject of the training of the lads at the Masonic School, at Wood Green. This was followed, the next week, by a statement from one of the officials of the School, in the person of Bro. A. F. Godson Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Worcestershire, a member of the House Committee of the Institution, which we imagine must have been most satisfactory, not only to our correspondent, but to many others who are concerned as to the future of the lads at present under the care of the Masonic Brotherhood. Bro. Godson tells us that the question of technical education is one which has already occupied the attention of the members of the House Committee of the Boys' School. Speaking personally, Brother Godson is of opinion that something must be done, and that quickly, towards extending the training of the lads at Wood Green. At present, he says, undivided attention must be given to establishing the Preparatory School on a firm basis, and as soon as that is done he proposes to have a meeting called to discuss the advisability of starting, at the School, some branches of handicraft, such as printing and carpentry. This is gratifying news to us, and although in the face of Bro. Godson's statement—that the question has already received attention from the Committee—we cannot claim for our correspondent the honour of having inaugurated a much needed addition to our course of training, we yet feel his letter appeared at a most opportune moment, and that it has already borne good fruit. Bro. Godson's proposal to have a meeting to "discuss the advisability of starting at the School some branches of handicraft" appears now to be almost unnecessary, for as Chairman of the meeting at Wood Green held on Tuesday last, in connection with the fixing of the corner stone of the new hall, he said it was the wish of the executive to send the boys out into the world, not merely as clerks but as good handicraftsmen. Such being the case it is hardly necessary, we imagine, to hold a meeting to discuss the advisability of making the addition. The supporters of the School have sufficient confidence in their Committee to accept any proposition they may submit on such a subject without question, and the only point on which a meeting may now be necessary is that of deciding to what extent the technical education shall be carried, and where the money is to come from which will be needed in connection with it. Brother Godson stated on Tuesday that at least £1200 a year would be required for this technical education—his proposal being to make a start with two branches of trade only, printing and carpentering—and while we are not in a position to question the accuracy of his estimate, because we are unaware of the bases on which it is calculated, we are of opinion he has placed his requirements far above what should be necessary. Assuming that the sum he states would be needed each year in connection with the two branches of trade he mentions would be equally divided, we have £600 per year with which to instruct the lads in either printing or carpentering. Although even that sum would be well spent if it was the means of giving a start in life to some

of those educated in the School, we are of opinion the work might be carried on at a much lower cost. We will not attempt to prove our views so far as carpentering is concerned, because we have no practical knowledge of that subject—there are many members of the Craft who could, however, enlighten us on this branch—but as regards printing we feel we are in a position to say something, inasmuch as we have a practical knowledge of its several branches. We should expect to give a fair insight into the business of printing to a large number of the pupils, even if not to all of them, at a considerably less cost than £600 a year, even if it were not possible to do so without any charge on the Institution beyond the first outlay on plant. Assuming that some forty lads leave the School each year, and that it is decided to give half of them a twelvemonth's training in the printing office of the Institution—the other half being similarly cared for in the carpenter's shop, we should have a class of twenty lads, who, we suppose would spend half their time in the workshop and the other half in ordinary school training. These lads could not, of course, do much at first, and it would be unreasonable to expect them to turn out work as well as if produced by expert workmen, but under proper supervision they could do something, and this something should be sufficient to nearly pay expenses in connection with the training. We do not know we should recommend the Institution to enter into business competition with the outside world in the earlier days of its efforts, but even if it did it would have many similar examples to refer to. What we should propose would be to start with the straightforward work of the Institution itself, and leave that to recommend the enterprise or otherwise, as brethren might decide for themselves. There is a great amount of printing which might legitimately be done at the Boys' School, and if once it could be proved that any work entrusted to "our Boys" was fairly well done, there are many among the supporters of the Institution who would use their efforts to advance the welfare of the lads cared for by it, either by sending them work, or by securing situations for them on leaving the School. Doubtless something almost as satisfactory might be urged by practical carpenters, but, for reasons already explained, we prefer to leave that subject to brethren who are acquainted with the details of that branch of industry.

We trust enough has been said on the question of technical education to convince the supporters of our School that the work is not only desirable, but that it is practicable, and, that too, without any very serious expenditure. All, therefore, we now want is, for a decision to be arrived at as to what shall be attempted and an early start made. The Chairman, of Tuesday, said he hoped that before many months were over the lads would at least be receiving instruction in the two branches of trade referred to, and considering his position on the House Committee there is no doubt but that his hope is also the hope of others on that Committee. We may then look for almost immediate action, pending which we feel sure the Committee will be pleased to learn the views of brethren generally, either in the form of suggestions, or advice on such technical points as can only result from a practical knowledge. Our columns are at the disposal of any of our readers who may desire to make their views public, and we trust that some at least will avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded.

THE JUNE NUMBER OF THE "VOICE OF MASONRY."

By Bro. JACOB NORTON.

BRO. Steinbrenner's "Origin of Masonry" was printed in 1864. The first and second editions of Bro. Findel's History in the English language appeared respectively in 1866 and 1869. Bro. D. M. Lyon's "History of Freemasonry in Scotland" was published in 1873; and three of Bro. Gould's volumes have been out for some time. But, strange to say, P. G. M. Bromwell, one of the principal writers for the *Voice of Masonry*, seems to be unacquainted with the said publications. Bro. Singleton, G.S. of the D.C., and Bro. Charles E. Meyer of Philadelphia, both of whom have been *illuminated by all Masonic Degrees in creation*, yet, each of the said conservative Brethren admitted that before 1717 Masons had but one ceremony or degree. But Bro. Bromwell still believes in the antiquity of the three first degrees. The antiquity of the so-called high degrees he seems to deny; but the degrees of "Ancient Craft Masonry" he believes to be truly ancient. Whether Bro. Bromwell was cognizant of the fact that recent investigation had shaken the old belief in the antiquity of "speculative Masonry" I know not; but, be that as it may, he certainly was induced to read Bro. Hughan's latest work, viz., "Origin of the English Rite," wherein he found the antiquity of speculative Masonry denied; and hence, our worthy Bro. Bromwell endeavoured in the *Voice of Masonry* to demolish Bro. Hughan's Masonic heresy.

The most amusing thing is that Bro. Hughan furnished his critic with weapons for defending the antiquity of speculative Masonry; thus, Bro. Hughan persists in denominating Ashmole and other pre-1717 non-operative members of the Craft as "speculatives," and of styling 1717 as the "Masonic Revival"; hence, Bro. Bromwell justly reasons, that if Ashmole was a "Speculative Mason," Speculative Masonry must have existed in 1646; and if the formation of the Grand Lodge in 1717 was a "Masonic Revival," then our Freemasonry with the three degrees must have been in existence before 1717. I will now, however, proceed to reason with Bro. Bromwell from another standpoint.

First. The guild system originated not in England, but on the continent, and it is a well known fact that the continental Masons never associated Jewish legends with their history or ceremonies.

Second. The Halliwell poem was written by a Catholic priest some years after 1407. It is the oldest Masonic MS. in existence. The author ascribed the origin of Masonry to Euclid; and, though he incidentally mentions Noah's flood, and Masonised Nabogodonzor as the builder of "the tower of Babyloyn seven Myle the heighte," yet neither King Solomon or his temple are referred to in the poem.

Third. Next in order is the Matthew Cooke MS. which was written about a century after the former. The author of this MS. was an out and out Masonic crank, and he may be called the father of *Masonic crankism*; he Masonised scores of prominent persons of ancient and modern times, among whom were David, Solomon, King Hiram of Tyre; and he informs us that the King's son of Tyre was Solomon's Master Mason; the name of that Master Mason, however, he did not give.

We next have about fifty pre-1717 rituals of the English Masons, which Bro. Hughan denominated as "Old Charges." All these contain a rehash of the Matthew Cooke MS., with some variations of course; most of these were written in the 17th and some of them in the 18th century, and with the exception of two of these (which I shall show to have been written after Anderson's Constitution had been printed), they all [or nearly all] repeat the statement of the Matthew Cooke MS., that *the King's son of Tyre was Solomon's Master Mason*; but they variously name him Aynon, Amon, Aynoue, Anon, Ajnon, and Benaim; thus showing that the pre-1717 Masons were ignorant of the connection of Hiram Abif with Masonry.

Now, one of the two MSS wherein Hiram Abif figures is Krause's MS., about which all writers agree that it was fabricated either at the end of the last century or beginning of this. The second MS. is called the "Inigo Jones MS." Bro. Gould remarks (see Vol. I. p 63).

"Its right to the above title is based upon the claim

made in the document itself, which was sold, 12th November 1879, by Messrs Puttick and Simpson. The catalogue described it as 'The ancient Constitutions of the Free and Accepted Masons, a very curious folio manuscript, ornamented title and drawings by Inigo Jones, old red morocco, gilt leaves, dated 1607.' Mr. Woodford subsequently became its fortunate possessor, and, as usual with him, lost no time in making the Craft acquainted with its contents."

The said MS. was printed in the *Masonic Magazine* (London), July 1881, and Bro. Woodford thus introduced it:

"The MS. of which a transcript is now given to Masonic students was originally sold by public auction in London, and fell into the hands of the well-known firm of Pickering & Co, . . . from whom it was purchased by its present possessor. It is a curious and valuable MS. 'per se,' not only on account of its special verbiage, but because it possesses a front-piece of Masons at work, with 'Inigo Jones fecit' at the bottom. It is also highly ornamented throughout, both in the capital letters and with 'finals.' It is, we apprehend, pretty certain that it did belong to Inigo Jones. It is of date 1607."

Now, with all due respect to Bro. Woodford, I never believed that his MS. was written in 1607; for, in the first place, it is more free from archaisms, than the Masonic MSS. that are known to have been written late in the 17th century, and the beginning of the 18th century.

Second, if Hiram Abif had figured in a Masonic ritual of 1607, in Inigo Jones' Lodge, surely that name would have been copied in later written rituals. Now, the Lodge of Antiquity MS., written in 1688, renders the story as follows:

"And he [King Hiram] had a son called . . . that was Master of Geometrie and was chief Master of all his Masons that belonged to the Temple, both for graving, carving and all other Masonrie." And the Alwick MS., undoubtedly written in 1701, has it thus: "And he [Hiram] had a son that was named Ajnon." I must here add that Alwick Lodge, whose records begin in 1703, and continue till 1757, was an old-fashioned operative Lodge; it never joined or associated with the 1717 Masons, and its records, which Bro. Hughan examined (see the *Freemason*, Jan. 21 1871), shows that they had but one degree. We see now, that the old operative Masons, including the members of the Lodge of Antiquity in 1688, were ignorant of Hiram Abif's connection with Masonry. But that is not all. Within a month, I had a friendly chat in London with the Rev. Bro. Woodford himself, when I bluntly asked him whether he still believed that his MS. was owned in 1607 by Inigo Jones, and he frankly answered *in the negative*, but added, "it was not written before about 1680." Why Bro. W. limited its origin to about 1680 I know not. It is certain, however, that "1607" and the name of "Inigo Jones" recorded on the MS. were designed for a fraudulent purpose, and as Bro. Woodford consented to reduce the antiquity of his MS. about seventy-three years, I can see no reason why we cannot reduce its antiquity by seventy-three additional years, which would bring it nearer the time of its origin. In short, Hiram Abif's Masonry dates after 1717; and if after reading the above hints, Bro. Bromwell would read also Bro. Lyon's History, I think that he would acknowledge that Bro. Hughan was right. And now we will change the subject.

Among all our American Grand Lodge dignitaries and Masonic writers, I believe that very few equal Bro. C. Diehl, G.S. of Utah, in sincere desire to write the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. I am, therefore, sorry to come in conflict with him. But the best disposed are sometimes apt to err, and as every error promulgated by a prominent Mason, if not immediately exploded, is apt to take root in our Masonic histories and literature—indeed, the editor of the *Voice* seems to have been already converted to Bro. Diehl's opinion—I shall therefore first give the editor's version (see p 516 of *Jane Voice of Masonry*) about Bro. Diehl's new opinion, and afterwards I will show its fallacy.

"A Masonic orator in Utah [says the editor of the *Voice*] in the course of an oration, mentioned St. John's Lodge of Massachusetts and the Grand Master who signed its charter, Viscount Montague. Noticing the name, Bro. Diehl says, Bro. Montague was a Roman Catholic, and adds:

"For the sake of his religion he suffered many penalties,

and on account of it was not permitted to occupy a seat in the House of Peers. But he loved Masonry, . . . and spared no time nor means in propagating its tenets."

Now, it is true that Viscount Montague was a Catholic, and was therefore excluded from the House of Lords, but it is not true that he signed the charter of St. John's Lodge; and as he never entered the Grand Lodge after the day of his installation, viz., 19th April 1732, he could not have loved Masonry, and there is certainly no evidence of his having taken pains to propagate its tenets. True, his neglect of Masonry may not have been due to his religion, for the Duke of Norfolk, also a Catholic, who was G.M. in 1730, continued to visit the G.L., and Lord Peters, another Catholic, was Grand Master of England from 1772 to 1777. But whatever motives Viscount Montague had for deserting the Institution, he certainly could not have cared about propagating its tenets. It is possible that some facts about Viscount Montague may be known to Bro. Diehl that are unknown to me; if so, I hope he will inform me about them. If, however, his opinion was due to a flash of imagination, unless I am mistaken in his character, he will surely acknowledge his mistake at the earliest opportunity.

I shall only add that there are two communications by *Lux Et Tenebræ* in the same number of the *Voice of Masonry*, which require correction as usual, but space will not allow me to lengthen this communication.

POSTSCRIPT.—Since the above was in type, I happened to recollect the following facts, which will further illustrate the subjects discussed in the above paper.

First, in 1860, the Rev. Bro. Kerr of Clinton, Canada West, delivered an oration upon an old Masonic MS. or pre-1717 Masonic ritual of a Lodge in Scarborough, Yorkshire, dated 1505. After modernizing the language of the MS. he sent the address and the MS. to Bro. Leon Hyneman, who printed them in his Journal, August 1860. In 1873 Bro. Hyneman sent me the two papers referred to, and asked whether these would not destroy my theory about Masonry being a modern institution. On the day I received the papers I sent to Bro. Hughan, and wrote both to Hyneman and Hughan my reasons for believing that the said MS. was written, not in 1505, but in 1705. This caused, at my instigation, a correspondence between Hyneman and the Rev. Bro. Kerr; for some months the MS. was missing, but it was finally recovered by Bro. Kerr, who presented it to the Grand Lodge of Canada, and it was printed verbatim in the *Craftsman*, and the editor remarked, viz.:

"There is reason to believe that the figure has been altered, a microscopic examination showing a difference in the colour of the ink between that part of the figure which makes a good seven and that part which has been added if the seven has been transformed into a five. It is a very awkward and unsymmetrical five as it stands; remove the part supposed to be added and a very good seven remains." (See the *Freemason*, London 1873, p 761; the *Craftsman*, 1874, pp 24, 33, 56, and 89; also Gould's History, Vol. IV. pp 69-70.)

We see now that even dated Masonic MSS. should not be admitted as evidence without great caution.

And, second, I have a dim recollection of having read somewhere (I believe that it was from the pen of the late C. W. Moore), that *Viscount Montague's* love for Masonry induced him to unite the Grand Lodge seal with his crest or coat of arms. Now, if the above was the source whence Bro. Diehl drew his inference of "Bro. Montague's" love for Masonry, then, I can assure him that *there is not a particle of truth in it.*

A special meeting of the House Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys took place at the Institution at Wood Green, on Saturday, the 8th instant, for the purpose of bidding farewell to the former Matron, Miss Hall, and formally inducting into office the newly appointed House Steward and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. Dove. In taking leave of Miss Hall, after her long and efficient services as Matron, the Committee were most cordial in the expression of their thanks, the members, both collectively and individually, giving utterance to the wish that she might be spared for many years to enjoy the rest to which, by reason of her onerous and responsible duties during 22 years, and the admirable manner in which she had fulfilled them, she was justly entitled.

CONSOLIDATION OF LODGES.

THE Grand Lodge of Kentucky, at its meeting in October last, in view of the large number of weak Lodges under its jurisdiction, took the initial step to per-consolidated into one, by the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved—"That a Committee of three be appointed to digest a constitutional amendment for the consolidation of weak Lodges, and report the same at the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge."

The Committee appointed consists of Bros. Rob. Morris Past Grand Master, Henry B. Grant Assistant Grand Secretary, and S. O. Graves. In the consideration of this subject this Committee have discovered what appears to them to be an insurmountable barrier in the way of such consolidations, and have addressed a circular letter to "the most experienced Masonic writers of the day," asking their views upon the subject. A copy of this letter now before us has been carefully considered, and we are asked to give our opinion editorially. As the subject is one of general interest to Masons we will comply with their request.

The Committee start out with the premise that a consolidation can be effected only by *the close ballot.*" Their argument is that "No Grand Lodge can force a person into the membership of the humblest Lodge against the wishes of the humblest member." We are ready to admit the correctness of this proposition, but cannot see its application in the consolidation of Lodges, unless there are more than seven members of one of the Lodges opposed to a proposed consolidation. A proposition to consolidate two or more Lodges into one is simply a proposition to the members of each of these Lodges to surrender their charters and enter into a new organisation. Any Lodge has a right to surrender its charter, in the manner prescribed by the Grand Lodge under which the charter is held, provided seven members are not found voting against such surrender. If less than seven members vote against a consolidation they are left in the same condition as the same number would be by voting against the surrender of the charter of their Lodge. They simply become non-affiliated in either case, and are entitled to a certificate from the Grand Lodge, which will enable them to petition any other Lodge for affiliation. They are not obliged to seek membership in the new Lodge formed by a consolidation unless they choose to do so. On the other hand, all who voted in favour of the consolidation are enrolled as members of the new Lodge thus formed. No brother has been deprived of any of his rights, nor has any Mason been forced into a Lodge "against the wishes of the humblest member."

A plan similar to the one we have outlined was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Indiana in 1879, and revised in 1882, to which we call the attention of this Committee. Three short sections cover the whole ground. Since their adoption by the Grand Lodge several Lodges have been consolidated under them peacefully and harmoniously. The process is a simple and practical one, and easily understood. The Grand Lodge of Indiana in this, as in many other regulations, has taken the lead in common sense legislation for the government of Lodges. Other Grand Lodges can profitably follow her example.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart. After the confirmation of the minutes, the death of one male annuitant was reported. A vote of thanks was passed to the Supreme Council 33 deg. for their annual presents of tea and tobacco to the residents at the Asylum, and then the new petitions for admission to the Institution were considered. Eight (five male, and three female) were approved, and their names added to the list for the May election. The application of a widow for the half of her late husband's annuity was granted. After the transaction of other business, the proceedings were brought to a conclusion.

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HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

(Continued from page 85).

BROTHER GOULD, before proceeding to deal with the main subject of the present volume, alludes to the case of Wren. Until fresh light is thrown on the matter it would be a waste of time to discuss whether Sir Christopher Wren was or was not a Freemason. The author contends that it was not possible for Wren to have been Grand Master, for the office was not in existence during the life of the architect, and he discredits the idea that Wren could have been a Mason at all. Bro. Gould, on one page of his work, admits that the question must remain an open one; on another he argues upon the assumption that Wren could not have been at any time at the head of the society. In support of the open theory the author goes so far as to say that Wren's dying declaration, even were it extant, would not establish a negative proposition. The case of the great Duke of Wellington is cited. It is recorded that he was initiated at the close of the last century in Lodge No. 494 on the Registry of Ireland. Lord Combermere, speaking of the Duke at Macclesfield in 1852, said—"Often, when in Spain, where Masonry was prohibited, he [Wellington] regretted . . . that his military duties had prevented him taking the active part his feelings dictated." There is also a record in which the Duke declined to sanction the naming of a Lodge after him, "inasmuch as he never was inside any Lodge since the day he was made;" yet shortly before he died he lost all recollection of ever having been initiated at all. Wellington was a remarkable man, but there is nothing in his case that might not happen to any one. It is true the rite of initiation into Freemasonry is a very solemn ceremony, and calculated to strike the mind with great force. That the Duke felt the solemnity of the occasion there can be no doubt; that he subsequently desired a better acquaintance with the Craft is equally true. Admitting this, it is not impossible to understand that first impressions gained in an experience, it may be of half-an-hour, might in the lapse of years entirely vanish from the mind. Cases of the kind have been known, but we fail to see how the one in question affects the identity of Wren. Bro. Gould lingers over this matter as if he doubted his doubts. He still stands by the opinion that the evidence at present forthcoming does not prove the assumption that Wren was a Freemason, and he concludes that it is immaterial whether he was or not. After the laboured efforts that have been made on both sides this seems a lame and impotent conclusion. Bro. Gould "closes the book" on that subject, but he is not quite so ready to part with that branch of it which relates to Wren's alleged Grand Mastership. Here he seems to have found firmer ground and a stronger faith. At any rate he confidently assumes that the era of Grand Lodges did not exist in 1663, and therefore the assertions of Anderson in the first two editions of the Constitutions with regard to Wren are false. As the result of confidence in the statements of Anderson he quotes the inaccuracies of Kloss and the mistake of Sir James Hall. He admits that the former collected his materials with diligence and judgment, but he relied upon expressed belief and not upon determined facts. Sir James Hall built up a theory about Wren and Gothic architecture upon the same unsubstantial grounds. Bro. Gould contends that much mischief has been caused in consequence. To enter upon the matter at all would be to open up the whole question, which we are not inclined to do. So far as Sir Christopher Wren, as an individual, is concerned, it is not a matter of supreme moment what, if any, connection he had with Freemasonry. But if it could be demonstrated beyond doubt that he was a member of the Craft, light might be thrown upon the condition of the Order at the time in which he lived. It might convert a wide-spread belief into a certainty, and show that Freemasonry had a broader existence in England than Bro. Gould is willing to accept. His object, in reverting to the Wren controversy, is again to traverse the use of tradition in historical inquiry, and to reaffirm the position he has defended in a former volume. We have already dealt with the subject of tradition, and need not repeat our arguments. We are told by Brother Gould, in the present volume, that "we are about to pass from one period of darkness and uncertainty to another of almost equal obscurity, and which presents even greater difficulties than we have yet encountered." He is anxious, there-

fore, that the plan upon which he works should be understood. A writer has a right to choose his own method, and it is to the credit of Bro. Gould that he takes his readers into his confidence. If we cannot always follow him, if we think he is too sensitive to criticism, and too sceptical about the force and usefulness of tradition, we can at least believe in his sincerity and rely upon his love of truth. We do not propose to dwell further upon the subjects that have hitherto engaged our attention, and as Bro. Gould enters upon a new phase of his theme in the pages with which we have still to deal, we shall accompany him, but prefer to begin the fresh journey next week, rather than resume it now.

(To be continued).

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

A QUARTERLY Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held in Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh, on the 6th inst. The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Colonel Sir Archibald C. Campbell, of Blythswood, Bart., occupied the throne; Bro. S. C. Burke Prov. Grand Master of Jamaica acted as Depute Grand Master; Bro. James T. S. Elliot jun., of Wolfelee, as Senior Warden; Bro. G. Fisher as Junior Warden. The other Grand Officers were Bros. D. Murray Lyon Secretary, David Kinuear Cashier, A. W. Rennie W.M. of Lodge Journeyman, No. 8, acting Senior Deacon, W. Officer acting Junior Deacon, Dr. Rowand Anderson Architect, Alex. Hay Past Grand Jeweller, David Hume acting Bible Bearer, Provost Brand Director of Ceremonies, Dr. James Cranston Bard, John Wilson acting Sword Bearer, W. Harrison Director of Music, R. Davison Organist, A. M. Potter acting Inner Guard. Apologies for absence were intimated from Bros. the Earl of Haddington Master Depute, the Earl of Kintore Substitute Master, W. Mann S.S.C., John Graham C.A., James Crichton, J. Dalrymple Duncan, Glasgow; James Berry, Dundee, &c. The Grand Master introduced the following Visitors to Grand Lodge:—Bros. Darashaw R. Chichgur, Bombay, honorary Substitute Grand Master of Scottish Masonry in India; S. C. Burke Provincial Grand Master of Jamaica; and K. J. Spicer Depute Prov. Grand Master of Jamaica; and these brethren were welcomed to a seat on the dais, and in acknowledging the compliment, referred in short addresses to the condition of Masonry in their respective districts. Bro. R. Douglas Clark, of the English Constitution, Pietermaritzburg, was also received as a visitor. Bro. J. Wilson, Past Master of Lodge Caledonian, No. 392, presented his commission as representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and was welcomed from the throne to a place on the dais. A vidimus by the Grand Cashier of the income and expenditure for the quarter ending 25th July showed that the income had been £806, and the expenditure £660, an excess of income to the extent of £146. During that period there had been 682 entrants to the Order registered in Grand Lodge. From the Fund of Scottish Masonic Benevolence the grants by the Committee during the quarter had amounted to £172. It was reported from Grand Committee that a Committee had been appointed to communicate with the brethren who had issued a circular in regard to a publication, and to endeavour in a friendly spirit to bring the matter in dispute to a determination. Grand Secretary reported that the Grand Master had accepted invitations to lay, with Masonic honours, the foundation-stone of a new public hall at Kirriemuir on the 18th of September, and to plant the memorial-stone of the new parish church of Langside on the 3rd of October, the ceremonies being under the auspices of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Forfarshire and Renfrewshire East respectively. It was resolved that the Grand Master be supported on each of these occasions by a deputation from the Grand Lodge. The Grand Master stated that he was in communication with the Past Grand Master (the Earl of Mar and Kellie) in order to present to him the bust given by the Grand Lodge, and also to instal him as Provincial Grand Master of Stirlingshire; and that as soon as a date was found that would exactly suit his Lordship's convenience and that of Grand Lodge, his services would, he need not say, be at their disposal. The Grand Master drew attention to presents from other Grand Lodges, including a photograph of the Office Bearers of the District Grand Lodge of New South Wales under the Scottish Constitution, and also a photograph of the painting of Grand Lodge at the inauguration of Burns as Poet Laureate of the Lodge Caunogate Kilwinning, No. 2, by Bro. R. S. Brown, and it was resolved to receive these with thanks. The sub-committee appointed to consider the rearrangement of the Border Provinces submitted a report on this subject, which detailed the arrangements in 1802, 1827, and 1836, and that by the arrangement now existing seven Lodges were within the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Peebles and Selkirk, five within that of Berwick and Roxburgh, and five within that of East Lothian. They proposed that the existing three Provinces should be formed into two:—Haddington and Berwick composed of the following eight Lodges:—Duns, St. John Kilwinning, Haddington; St. Abbs, Eyemouth; Dunbar Castle, Dunbar; St. Luke, Lauder; St. John, Coldstream; St. Baldred, North Berwick; and Tyneside, East Linton. Roxburgh and Selkirk, consisting also of eight Lodges, viz.:—Kelso, St. John, Selkirk; St. John, Jedburgh; Hawick, St. James, Hawick; St. John, Galashiels; and St. John Stow. They left out Peebles in this arrangement from a conviction that in the circumstances the placing of the Peebles Kilwinning in the metropolitan Province was necessary to its existence. They submitted that the arrangement of the Border Lodges into two Provinces was desirable, and the allocation of the Lodges was such as on the whole would be the most convenient for the Lodges themselves. They had been guided, the

committee reported, solely by the general convenience and interests of the Lodges concerned. Their proposed rearrangement extinguished East Lothian as a separate province; but by its union with Berwick, and the union of Selkirk with Roxburgh, there would be two strong provinces, and with less expense to each individual Lodge. With more Lodges to choose from there would be no difficulty in selecting such an excellent staff of office-bearers for each province as could not fail to be highly advantageous to the interests and progress of Freemasonry, and they had every reason to believe that their proposed re-arrangement would give general satisfaction. Consideration of the report was deferred till the opinion should be obtained of the Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges in the district in question. It was agreed to grant a charter to Lodge Ellan-gowan, Milgavie, in the parish of East Kilpatrick, and to place the Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Master of Dumbartonshire, as, from the convenience of railway communication, it would be for the benefit of the Lodge, though situated in the county of Stirling, to be Masonically connected with Dumbartonshire. It was resolved to grant a charter in favour of the new Lodge Star in the Far South, Papakura, Auckland, and to recognise and open fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of South Australia as has been done by Grand Lodge of England, and to allow the six Scottish holding Lodges in South Australia to retain in their possession the charters under which they served to be held by them, as they said in a petition on the subject, "in affectionate remembrance of their connection with the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Scotland, and as a mark of their appreciation of the benefits received from their parent Grand Lodge." The other business was unimportant.

At a Quarterly Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright, held in the Freemasons' Hall, Kirkcudbright, on Wednesday, the 5th inst., a committee was appointed to make arrangements for receiving a visitation from Sir Archibald Campbell, Grand Master of Scotland, and a deputation from the Grand Lodge. This is expected to take place early in October. George Maxwell, Esq., of Glenlee, R.W. Provincial Grand Master, presided at the meeting, and presented Bro. R. Torry Provincial Grand Secretary with a purse of sovereigns, subscribed by the brethren of the Lodges in the province, in recognition of his services to the cause of Masonry in Galloway.

Obituary.

BRO. CHARLES J. PRINGLE.

THE death is announced of Bro. Charles J. Pringle, of Sloane-street, Chelsea, an esteemed member of the Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145, which sad event took place, after two days illness, on the 1st inst. The deceased, who was 60 years of age, was buried on the 6th inst., at Brompton Cemetery, where many brethren and neighbouring tradespeople assembled to pay the last tribute of respect. We tender to his family our sincere sympathy with them in their affliction.

MRS. ALICE LAYTON.

It is with much regret that we learn of the demise of Mrs. Alice Layton, the beloved wife of Brother Harry John Layton, of the Leopold Lodge, No. 1571, which melancholy event occurred on Thursday, the 6th instant, at her residence at Nunhead. The deceased lady had been ailing for some weeks, and had been attended by Bro. Dr. Cock, of Peckham, but no serious consequences were apprehended until a few days before the crisis arrived. Her death, at the early age of 33 years, has evoked profound sorrow amongst a wide circle of friends, whose sympathy with Brother Layton and his family in their affliction has been genuinely expressed. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, at Nunhead cemetery, in the presence of a numerous assemblage of friends. On the coffin were placed several beautiful wreaths, by loving hands, as a last tribute of respect for the deceased, her husband and family. Amongst the chief mourners were Bro. H. J. Layton, the husband, Mr. James Hewson and Mr. Charles Hewson, brothers, Bros. John James 1571, R. U. Steele 1410, J. Peuny P.M. 1571, J. Reynolds, S. Lampen 30, F. Noyce 1571, Cook-Taylor, Mr. G. H. Bur-chell, &c. We add our tribute, to that of many others, of condolence with our brother in his sad bereavement.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The Great Need.—The blood is the life, and on its purity our health as well as our existence depends. These Pills thoroughly cleanse the vital fluid from all contaminations, and by that means strengthen and invigorate the whole system, healthily stimulate sluggish organs, repress over-excited action, and establish order of circulation and secretion throughout every part of the body. The balsamic nature of Holloway's Pills exercises marvellous power in giving tone to debilitated and nervous constitutions. These Pills dislodge all obstructions, both in the bowels and elsewhere, and are, on that account, much sought after for promoting regularity of action in young females and delicate persons who are naturally weak, or have from some cause become so.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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FREEMASONRY AND DISPLAY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—You seem to be strangely in conflict with the views of the *Masonic Journal*, of Portland, Maine, U.S. Not very long ago, in an article (which was quoted verbatim in the *Keystone*) on English and American Freemasonry, you said that "the love of display, to our mind, is the great danger of American Freemasonry." The *Maine Journal*, in speaking of ourselves, says: "The truth is, there is more public display of Masonry in Great Britain than in any other country." To disprove the latter statement, and uphold your own would require references to documents which are not now at hand. I know it is risky to affirm the truth of circumstances that have not been personally witnessed, and I am afraid that the Press does not always speak the truth. Allowing for these difficulties, and the exaggeration that too often accompanies descriptions of ceremonies, I still contend that we have nothing like the Masonic displays in this country that prevail, according to the accounts of native Masonic papers, in America. We have few, if any, spurious societies, and if any departure is held to be necessary from a strictly rigid system, a dispensation must be obtained. Unless the object be good, and the bad consequences of relaxation excessively small and almost impossible, no dispensation would be granted. What all the world and his wife may see cannot be held to be secret, and without saying that Americans overstep the border line that divides the enlightened from the profane, I may confidently assert that they do delight more than we English do, in gratifying the public taste for display. It is notorious that in America demonstrations are an institution; to us they are an exception, and only tolerated. After all, the question is not of much moment, for if I remember rightly, your article, as a whole, was written in a kindly spirit, and was calculated to cement brotherly love rather than sow discord.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

WATCHMAN.

OUTSIDE CALLS ON MASONIC LIBERALITY

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I recollect on one occasion I was interested in a Masonic object of charity, and asked a personal friend, not a Mason, for a subscription. I got severely snubbed, and have never since gone out of the mystic circle for help. I should be the last to advise that the brethren should only give to their own Masonic kin. Each man must be a law unto himself in the matter of charity; some give from impulse and indiscriminately, others prefer a systematic method. Of the two I admire most the spontaneous giver, although I by no means wish to harshly judge the latter. It is another matter when outsiders come to us for help. Then I think a line should be drawn, and in the main I agree with your article in last week's issue. The more we keep aloof from the outside world the better, except the claim for aid is beyond question and can be given without detriment to ourselves and connections.

One exception is present to my mind, which probably you might not sympathise with; that is you would possibly draw it closer than I should. There is such a close connection between practical Masonry and speculative Freemasonry that I should desire to help in most cases where architectural monuments are involved. Having antiquarian tendencies, I should prefer to assist in the restoration of the works of the past of acknowledged beauty and grandeur, rather than in raising new structures. My reason is simple, if not generally acceptable. The noble edifices of the past bear the stamp of unselfish devotion, of a strong religious motive. The present generation are too much imbued with the utilitarian spirit, and although there are degrees of manifestations of that spirit, its presence is sufficiently strong in all modern cases to warrant the conclusion in my mind that Freemasons would be better advised to limit their assistance to old monuments, the creations of a genius that has died out, and which cannot be revived under existing conditions. Our fame is closely associated with all that is glorious in the architecture of the past, and it seems little less than sacrilege to lend our countenance to the building of structures, some of which are hideous, and few if any reach within measurable distance of the ancient standard.

Yours fraternally,

P.M.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have much pleasure in tendering you my personal thanks for your remarks under this head, as they act as a sort of approval of my conduct on a recent occasion, when a vote for "outside benevolence" was proposed in my own Lodge. The object for which the grant was suggested was a worthy one, so far as worth under such circumstances goes, but inasmuch as it was for the purpose of feasting the eyes only, that is to say the work contemplated was the restoration of an ancient monument, I felt here were many more useful purposes to which our funds might be applied. I could not overlook the fact that there were many near

and dear to us as Freemasons who wanted food for their bodies much more than a chosen few wanted food for their eyes, and accordingly I was uncharitable enough to oppose the vote. A discussion ensued, and ultimately the proposition was withdrawn. I thus saved the expenditure of five guineas from our Lodge funds, but I fear there are some of our number who even now regard the saving as evidence of meanness. I hope your remarks will convince them to the contrary, and that they will come to regard my action as the right one to be pursued under such circumstances.

So long as we have distress unrelieved within the portals of Freemasonry I maintain we are wrong in spending Lodge funds for purposes outside the limits of the Order.

I am, yours fraternally,

ZWEL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I do not remember having seen anything more impolitic in your columns than the article in which you recommend that Freemasons should confine their benevolence to Masonry alone, and I trust the advice you offer may be disregarded, as I feel it should be. What can be more opposed to the true spirit of Masonry than to ignore all outside calls, no matter how worthy of support they may be? There are very many applications which we should do well to listen to, and relieve to the best of our ability, and if this were done even to a greater extent than has been done in the past, I feel sure we should be thought even better of outside the limits of Freemasonry than we are to-day. I look upon every grant made to general charities as so much money spent in extending the good opinion of Freemasonry, or, in other words, of making its charitable principles known to outsiders. I very much question if we do not owe the advent of many of our present members to some one or other of the grants made in response to calls from other than the recognised Masonic Charities. Outsiders see and admire the principles of a society which extends relief to those outside its circle, and seek admission to its ranks. Would you stop this method of doing good for Masonry altogether? Would you say to Grand, Provincial, and to Private Lodges, thus far shalt thou go, and no further? Would you lay down a hard and fast line beyond which it should be illegal to go?

If you answer all these questions in the affirmative, as your article would lead me to suppose, you would do a great injury to the principles of Masonry, and you would do a great injustice to worthy causes, the supporters of which reasonably look to Freemasons for some little assistance in carrying on their work.

I am, yours fraternally,

X. Y. Z.

THE BOYS' INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—An opportunity now presents itself which I hope your readers and the Craft generally will be quick to avail themselves of, as it is one of those opportunities which occur but once in a lifetime—I may almost say, once in all time. It is none other than the chance of rendering the establishment of the Boys' School perfect in every detail, at an estimated cost of from £1,500 to £2,000. I quote from the official programme of the meeting at Wood Green on the 11th, which says, "The only further expenditure necessitated to render the establishment perfect in every detail is that for a Swimming Bath—the desirability of such addition being universally recognised—for which the amount required may be estimated at from £1,500 to £2,000." Here follows the signature of that most energetic Secretary Bro. Frederick Binckes, so that I suppose the statement has the approval of that worthy brother. I think it is somewhat novel for him to say the Institution has reached the "summit of his ambition," or that it is even within £1,500 or £2,000 of that much to be desired goal, and I feel that the perfection here spoken of will be but of short duration. However, it is not my present purpose to ridicule, but rather to support him and the executive of the Institution in their desire to add a swimming bath to the possessions at Wood Green, and I think it will be recognized that with such a number of boys as are housed in the buildings there a bath is essential. Our boys should be taught swimming, and the first step in such a direction is the construction of a bath. This Bro. Binckes tells us can be accomplished at an outlay of less than £2,000, and I hope it will not be long before that amount is forthcoming and the work started upon.

Yours fraternally,

A LIFE GOVERNOR.

THE ACCOMMODATION FOR GRAND CHAPTER.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I know of no means, except that offered by the Masonic journals, of expressing my approval of the action decided upon in regard to providing more accommodation for the regular meetings of Grand Chapter, and perhaps it may be asked why I should trouble you with these words of approval. I hold that all of us, from the highest downwards, like to know that our deeds meet the approval of those who are affected by them, and as it is not possible for all to express their approval by word of mouth, other means must be adopted. I, and I may say most, if not all of the companions of my Chapter, agree with the decision arrived at on this subject, and it is principally because we believe the steps taken will

add to the dignity of Royal Arch Masonry that we do so agree. A great deal depends on the surroundings of important meetings. Impressive ceremonies lose much of their charm if they cannot be conducted without confusion, and lack of accommodation is one of the most prolific causes of confusion it is possible to imagine. The remark of Comp. Batler Wilkins that many more Companions would attend Grand Chapter if the meetings were held in the Temple is, I believe, very true, as the surroundings of that splendid hall create such an impression as must engender respect and reverence. It is the Temple of Freemasonry, and has attractions as such which appeal to the heart of true and worthy Craftsmen, so that altogether I believe the contemplated change will be in every way of advantage to the Order.

Yours fraternally,

ROYAL ARCH.

EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—While I admit that much might be done among Freemasons towards finding employment for brethren at present seeking it, I fear that the establishment of an employment bureau, such as suggested by your correspondent "WATCHMAN," would be productive of evil rather than good. It would perhaps do good for a very few, but it would do evil to the whole body of Freemasons, inasmuch as it would bring discredit on the Order. Besides, I think it would be wholly opposed to the principles of Freemasonry, which are, or should be, uninfluenced by mercenary or any other unworthy motives. You may, perhaps, ask what is there mercenary or unworthy about finding an unemployed brother a situation, and I admit it would be very difficult to prove anything, but as soon as anything like organised trade recommendation is attempted, I think we should have evidence it was likely to engender feelings both mercenary and unworthy. Freemasonry, we are told, is not a benefit Society, and until it is decided to reorganise it so as to render it one, I feel it is best to avoid official interference on behalf of unemployed brethren.

If an employment bureau is to be anything more than a name, it will have to be officially recognised, and if once recognised it will be the means of attracting men who are in situations of a temporary, or at least uncertain character, and if once that happens there is no knowing what evils may follow. I should very much like to be able to point to some method of relieving the great distress which must exist in our midst in consequence of lack of employment, but I cannot recommend that Freemasonry should descend to the level of maintaining an official registry office.

Yours fraternally,

A FREEMASON PURE AND SIMPLE.

MASONIC INFLUENCES AFFECTING CHARACTER.

Oration delivered on the occasion of dedicating the new Masonic apartments in the city of Fall River, Massachusetts, by Bro. Rev. Martyn Summerbell:—

LADIES AND BROTHER MASONS,—It is to us a rare festival this, which brings us together for the dedication of this Masonic Temple,—rare, because it is so seldom our pleasure that the *penetralia* of our secret labyrinths are illumined with such a galaxy of feminine grace and loveliness; and rare again, since now, for the first time in the sixty years since the M.W. Grand Lodge chartered a subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction, Masonry can claim a distinctively Masonic home under exclusively Masonic ownership.

Enjoying this high privilege, as we survey the faces of sisters, daughters, and wives of brother Masons, we do not forget what encouragement to our enterprise was given in its inception by the kindly action of a noble lady, whose name will long be linked with the moral and educational interests of the city—Mrs. Mary A. Young—who made it possible for us to utilize this site by kindly placing it at our disposal, and on most generous terms.

In the exultation attending the delightful consummation of our hopes, the Lodges have invited you to share these festivities; have thrown open the inner *adyta* of Masonic seclusion to your inspection; and have placed the present speaker on this platform to disclose to you all the secrets of Freemasonry which Masons incline to impart to an over-curious world.

We to-night cordially invite you to enjoy everything you can enjoy, and we wish you to feel thoroughly welcome to see everything, from cellar to garret, that can be seen; and to treasure, in a sympathetic remembrance, all the occult allusions, or direful secrecies, or abominable mysteries, which, inadvertently or otherwise, your speaker may call to your attention.

In the course of your tour of inspection you will hardly proceed to a great distance before observing that the appearance and structure of this edifice, and the peculiarities of its internal arrangement, mark it as devoted to special uses. It will be quite impossible to associate with it in thought the peaceful joys of domestic life, the activities of trade, the frivolities of the giddy, or the exclusive privileges of the Sabbath sanctuary. Through all, and in all, runs a thread of controlling purpose, speaks a silent voice of lines, and projections, and contours, declaring it apart from all other buildings among which it stands.

Reading, in its form and outline, a mystic language, as its interpreter, I invite you to remark that it embodies four several principles, which I may designate as:—

1. Mystery without mischief.
2. Subjection without servitude.
3. Establishment without display, and—
4. Aspiration without pretension,—all of which are prominent characteristics of the Craft, and exercise a wholesome control in the development of the excellence and grandeur of the Masonic spirit.

This Temple and the Craft represent the principle of Mystery without mischief. These solid walls enclose the shrine of Reti- cence and Caution. When you visit the granite Temple of Masonry which graces the Empire City, at the head of the grand staircase you see a statue of spotless marble,—a female figure, her fingers touching her lip,—the impersonation of Silence. No such creation of artistic genius guards our portal; but the angel of silence hovers over the place; and when you survey our belongings, and peer into nooks and corners, the uses of which you can only distantly conjecture, even the careless will feel their senses burdened with an unusual and unaccountable awe. Though to-night our corridors may echo with unaccustomed footfalls, and many a solid door swing on easy hinges, it is understood that this courtesy is extended for this one occasion. When Masons transact Masonic business they retreat from the public gaze, and discreetly cover their labours with the mantle of reserve. Of this retirement the unin- structed are disposed to complain. "Why hide," they ask, "unless there is something to hide?" "Why darkness rather than light, unless a cloak for evil?"

But, in the Divine order, darkness has a place. When the world was making, the Almighty set the night before the light. The evening and the morning were the first day. Is speech silver? Then silence, reflection, meditation, which teaches the right speech, is gold. In a certain place, the Book of books—our book as well as yours—bids all to be "swift to hear, slow to speak;" and, in another passage, teaches the prayer, "Keep Thou the door of my lips." "Hear much and speak little," says Sir Walter Raleigh; "for the tongue is the instrument of the greatest good and the greatest evil that is done in the world."

How can you better distinguish wisdom and folly than by this sign,—that the wise man knows all he tells, while the fool tells all he knows? The landmark of Masonic secrecy which has come down through the ages is a Mentor of prudence and circumspection in character. To decide what should be re- vealed, and what concealed; to weigh possibilities and consider consequences; to regard relations and obligations,—all this is cul- ture of the judgment, and imparts firmness and decision to the mind. Were this the solitary benefit of our secret tradition. I would cherish it as an invaluable instrumentality for education. The myster- ies I admit; but that mischief lurks behind them I deny. Time enough for those who misunderstand them to decry them when they can trace disorders to the door of the Lodge. Their trail does not lie that way; for which reason we, who have the matter under our own control, may be expected to speak when the inclination takes us, and to be silent when we are in the silent mood.

Our Temple has also a primary purpose, controlling its formation, from the living rock at its base, to the highest point which the builders reached. This leading thought is service for the Craft, to be first and foremost for Masonry. The needs of our peculiar art are met in every particular, nothing being omitted which is required for convenience or rendition of ritual. And yet no pretence is offered that it copies King Solomon's Temple, or any other holy place. It offers the essentials of a Masonic edifice, and, besides this, displays an individuality quite its own, thus teaching Submission without servitude.

This is a cardinal principle of Masonic law. The Lodge in session is a wondrous teacher of the Order; for the sun rising in the east, or gleaming in meridian splendour, or slowly dropping in the western sky, is not more regular to allotted tasks than each brother Mason and the officers he has set to rule. Out of a world where freedom is often a name to cover anarchy, we pass to a kingdom where the one privilege is perfect liberty to do the right. Masonic government is a blending of autocracy and democracy in a unique system which insures the maximum of order, while it preserves in highest degree all personal rights.

I confess, in this presence, that I never reflect upon the regularity of the Lodge, its beauty, its perfect calm, without recognition that this Institution is a potent teacher of conservative citizenship and a substantial bulwark of free institutions. The tyrant dreads its influence, and the superstitious and narrow-minded fulminate maledictions against its principles and organization; for, while it plots against none, all evil powers feel the antagonism of its spirit. Let them rage; for it will survive to benefit mankind when the throne of the one and the parchments of the other have crumbled into indistinguishable dust.

Our Temple, to outward view, while singularly solid and massive, is severely plain. It retreats from the bustle of the great highway, spreads its foundations over an ample space, and rises in the beauty of useful adaptation, with no effort for ornament or display. It embodies establishment without ostentation. This statement applies to the Fraternity as a whole. Its basis is the broad earth; for Masons inhabit every continent, and are dispersed among the scattered isles. All classes and conditions of men—the lofty and the lowly, the rich and the poor, the learned and the unlearned—here meet on a common level, study the symbols, and, though from opposite sides of the globe, meeting, have acknowledged the Fraternal Tie.

And this edifice of Masonry comes up from the past,—a past so remote that it antedates the dawn of history. Nevertheless, the sun, which bathes its walls to-day, reveals no marks of decay. In but- tress, in springing arch, in fluted column,—everywhere appear strength, massiveness, establishment. Rulers of kingdoms consider the Mason's clothing a mark of honour. Washington was Master of a Lodge, and selected many of his trustiest counsellors and generals from the Order. Many of his successors in the Executive Chair of the nation have been distinguished in the Craft, among whom I note

President Arthur and the lamented Garfield. The coming King of England holds the gavel as Grand Master of Masons, and, within the year, Prince Edward, Heir apparent, has become a Master Mason.

And yet this fraternity, standing as solidly on the centuries as the pyramids on the sands of the Nile, easily the mistress and queen, shuns the ostentation of idle display. Of her ministrations to the widow and the fatherless we may say in the familiar lines:—

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

While tender to the needy, she crowds no forceful alms upon the strong, and suffers not the trumpeting of her benefactions. Modest in extending, she is modest in inviting help. With the reserve of a chaste and high-bred maiden, she seeks no homage, and lets her suitors woo before they win, and press their suit with free and untrammelled will. This consciousness of worth, which attracts the worthy, lends dignity to the Masonic attitude.

The Temple stands, its upper windows looking down upon sur- rounding dwellings, and yet its topmost pinnacle far short of the ridge of yonder sanctuary of religion, whose spreading roof re- echoes the song and prayer of devotion, and whose ascending spire points toward the stars, and God, and heaven. This spirit, which reaches skyward just so far and as boldly halts, bespeaks aspiration without pretension. The Masonic spirit is devout, reverential, earnest in search of truth and the essentials of a ripening manhood. To subdue his passions, to moderate wrath, to deal justly and love mercy, are daily precepts. To believe in God, the Supreme Archi- tect of the Universe; to accept the Holy Bible as an unfailing guide far duty; to cling to an eternal hope,—all are fundamental to the Masonic character. It has well been said: "The highest art is always the most religious, and the greatest artist is always a devout man. A scoffing Raphael or Michael Angelo is not conceivable." So a scoffing Mason is not conceivable.

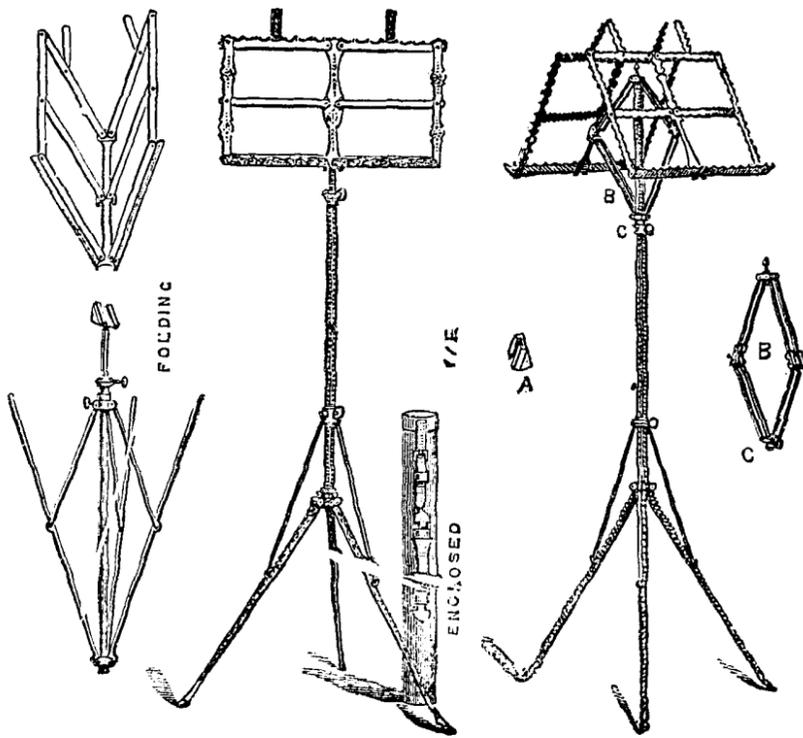
But while he aspires toward truth and virtue the true Mason avoids all extravagance of enlogy for his Craft. Enemies taunt him with confusing Masonry with religion, but the most he asks is that Masonry be known as the handmaid of religion. All his first Grand Masters were devoutly religious men. His ancient charges bade all Masons adopt the religion of their native country, and if now the rigour of this obligation is relaxed it is only that each soul may serve God as best it can. Masonry and religion have no conflict. Each has its field in which each may help the other. For many years I have felt the conviction that the Christian who is a faithful Mason will be the better Christian, and that the Mason who is an honest Christian can better fulfil every recurring Masonic duty.

The Temp'le which we dedicate will fill its place in the round of earthly activity. Built of perishable material, it will yield to the corrosions of time. What storied cities have passed away, their places marked only by heaps of ruins, or lost to the remembrance of man! But the temple Masons build in character can never, never die. Squaring our conduct by our Masonic profession, we set in motion hidden forces, which, reacting on the social order, will con- tinue to bless mankind when governments quake with convulsion, and the great deep is broken up.

Mason! It is a title of dignity and honour. Princes may exult in the stability of their thrones, philosophers leap with joy at discoveries in science or art, generals recount their victories, and authors dream of works which posterity will cherish; but the proudest and best of them all, when the even-tide of life draws on, may have sunlight in his soul, if the muse of history, repeating his triumphs, can add, as final proof of stability and royalty of character, HE WAS A FAITHFUL MAN AND MASON.

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		AD	C	BE	E		
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Glasgow (St. Enoch)	... arr.	4 37	8 55	6 35	7 43	7 43	
Greenock	... "	6 8	9 40	7 40	8 12	8 12	
Edinburgh (Waverley)	... "	4 32	8 40	5 52	7 25	7 25	
Porth	... "	9 20	11 36	8 23	9 55	9 55	
Aberdeen	... "	...	3 20	11 55	2 15	2 15	
INVERNESS	... "	...	8 0	2 15	6 5	6 5	

A Has no connection with Inverness on Sunday mornings.
 B Has no connection with places north of Edinburgh on Sunday mornings.
 C PULLMAN Sleeping Cars to Glasgow, Greenock, Edinburgh, and Perth.
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JOHN NOBLE,
 General Manager, Midland Railway.

Derby, 1885.

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G. FINDLAY, General Manager.

Euston Station, August 1885.

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 Prov. Grand Chaplain.

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THE BOYS' PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

TUESDAY last was an eventful day in the annals of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at Wood Green, the occasion being the "placing" of the corner-stone of the new assembly-room in connection with the Preparatory School buildings, which are now nearly completed there. The origin and progress of this important work have so frequently been described in these columns that it would be superfluous to add any further details. Our readers will be already sufficiently aware of the desire which was so energetically expressed some year or so since that additional accommodation should be provided, in order that the demands made upon the bounty of this beneficent Charity should be met. It is unnecessary also to enter upon the causes which have led up to this exigency, for our brethren have often heard it repeated how that, since the accession of our Most Worshipful Master the Prince of Wales the number of Lodges has multiplied enormously, and it is only the natural outcome of things that the demands made upon the various Charities of the Craft should advance in a corresponding ratio. How these circumstances have been met is known by the records we have published from time to time of munificent sums which have poured into the coffers of our great Institutions, showing that the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth have in no whit lost their significance and force. It were needless to recapitulate the splendid response which has been made to the repeated appeals on behalf of these grand landmarks of the Order, but on the present occasion it is only for us to congratulate Brother Binckes upon the success which crowned his efforts on behalf of the Preparatory School on Tuesday last. On one of the most charming afternoons which has been vouchsafed to us this summer, a numerous and distinguished company of the brethren and ladies assembled to witness the ceremony, which was so gracefully performed by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. The sun shone with benign influence upon a scene that was already animated by the smiles of the fair and the flutter of flags innumerable, whilst a fresh breeze prevailed to modulate the otherwise oppressive heat into a refreshing temperature. Early in the afternoon visitors were to be seen wending their way in the direction of the School, around the approaches to which a crowd of people hovered in the expectation of catching a glimpse of the distinguished personages who had been announced to take part in the proceedings. Shortly before three o'clock the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, who was accompanied by Bro. Burdett-Coutts, the Hon. Mrs. Stuart Wortley, and the Misses Henderson, daughters of Sir Edmund Henderson, arrived, and was received by the chairman of the day, Bro. A. F. A. Godson Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Worcestershire, the Board of Stewards, and the members of the House and Audit Committees. Amongst those present we observed Bros. F. Buckes, Secretary, Rev. Dr. Morris Head Master of the School, R. Berridge P.M. 21 P.G.S., Edgar Bowyer 1471 P.G. St. B., Thomas Cabbitt P.M. 157 P.G.P., H. W. Hunt P.M. 29 P.G.S., W. Mann P.M. 186, Horace B. Marshall, C.C., P.M. P.G. Treas., J. L. Mather P.M. 65 P.P.G.D.

Herts, C. F. Matier P.M. 645, T. Hastings Miller P.M. P.P.G.D. Middlesex, J. Moon P.M. 49, Joyce Murray P.M. 1703, W. Paas P.M. 28, W. Roebuck P.M. 29 P.G.S., Dr. C. Sanders P.M., W. A. Scurrell 167, R. Uniacke Steele 1410, W. Raynham Stewart P.M. 108 P.G.D., E. F. Storr P.M. 22, A. Torkington W.M. 60 P.G.S., H. Venn P.M. 23 P.G.S., A. Williams P.M. 49, J. Batting P.M. 1501 P.P.G. Registrar Berks and Bucks, and many others. The gymnasium was artistically decorated for the occasion, with banners and trophies of flags, which gave to the interior a gay and animated appearance. Long before the hour appointed for the opening of the proceedings the room was filled with visitors, the bright toilettes of the ladies adding a zest to the *coup d'œil*. As her ladyship was escorted to the dais, she was received with a perfect ovation, the audience rising at the time. The proceedings were opened by Bro. Binckes, who said he very well remembered, as a few other friends of the Institution would remember, twenty-three years ago, when her ladyship, who now presided, laid the foundation stone of the main building, and when it was their pleasure to have her presence amongst them, and to receive her generous support. On this occasion, of placing in position the corner stone of a most substantial addition to their buildings, the executive committee thought they were paying a deserved compliment to the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, and doing themselves a pleasure at the same time, by requesting that her ladyship would attend there, not to assist, as on a former occasion, but to take a leading part in actually placing in position the corner stone of the new building. To that request her ladyship graciously assented; and in commencing these proceedings it was his duty and pleasure, as it was his privilege, to formally introduce, as President to-day, the lady whose name was as a household word, not only in the public world, but wherever any good was to be accomplished—the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. The Chairman, who was received with loud applause, said, before he pointed out the business of the day, he wished to say a word or two as to the time at which this meeting had been convened. If it had been held in July they would not have had their young friends the boys present, as they would have been away on their holidays. They only came back two days ago; therefore he thought the committee had taken the first opportunity of presenting them to her ladyship. With regard to September, very few of the brethren would have been comatable in that month, and in October most of them would be absent—fighting for the “good cause” of politics—either on one side or the other. It therefore became a matter of necessity to fix August for the laying of the corner stone, and on behalf of the Committee, and thanks to the kindness of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, they were able to fix it two days after the boys returned. With regard to the business which brought them together, those who had seen the new buildings would not want to hear much, but to those who had not read the articles respecting it, which had appeared in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE and other Masonic journals, he might point out the absolute necessity which existed for their erection. In the first place there had been an immense increase in the number of Freemasons since he joined the Order, twenty-one years ago. The number of the Lodges at that time was not over 1,000, whereas now it was double that number. As they had amongst them both rich and poor, they must be prepared at some time or other to care for those who were sent to them to instruct and set forward in the world. Beyond this, this Institution had suffered from a want of room in its old buildings. Most of the brethren knew the boys had been more crowded than they should be, or than the House Committee wished. Therefore, it was the aim of the executive to take away some of the boys from the main building, and to place them into an additional space that they had been empowered to raise. They had to look to the fact that education was changing its character. True, every boy who had been sent up from this School to the University examinations had passed, but, as education altered in the country, they had to provide the means of educating their lads and bring them up to the requirements of the age. At present they had not gone into the matter of technical education. They had in theory talked it over—that was as far as laid in their power; but, as all were aware, that meant money, and he was sorry to say that up to this time nothing had been practically done in that direction. Besides this, they had been pressed by a great many of the Craft to admit a greater number of boys into the School; but this could not be, so long as the Institution remained the size it had been up to the present time. They had had to recognise the fact that after 21 years' service, different portions of the building had become obsolete. Their laundry was, from an archaeological view interesting, but it could not keep up with the requirements of the establishment. Other portions needed amendment, and the Committee, in considering the erection of the new buildings, had taken care to provide new apparatus for heating the whole of the establishment, and the improvement of the cooking department as well. Then again, their present hall was a useful, good room, and served nearly all the purposes required; but it was the place where the boys dined regularly, and on Sundays during divine service there was a surrounding about the place which was not at all desirable or satisfactory. Under all these circumstances it was necessary to make an appeal to the Craft, which appeal had been answered in the most handsome manner possible. The committee had been enabled to erect an annexe to the building, which it had been suggested should be called a Preparatory School, but they had not yet decided on what conditions boys should be admitted into it. They had an improved laundry, and heating and cooking apparatus, and last, though not least, a public hall set apart for meetings such as the present, and more particularly for the religious services which were held every Sunday. Under all these circumstances money was a stern necessity, and had the amount subscribed at the last Boys' Festival been double what it was they could have done with it all. He then referred to the enormous sums contributed by the Craft towards the various Masonic Institutions, and expressed the hope that by the example her ladyship had set by coming amongst them that day others would be cheered to emulate it, so that the £6,000 required to complete the work in hand would

speedily be forthcoming. He then proceeded to urge the necessity of a swimming bath for the boys, similar to that at the Girls' Institution at Battersea, and, reverting to the subject of technical education, said it was the wish of the executive to send boys out into the world not merely as clerks but as good handicraftsmen. He hoped before many mouths were over they would at least be receiving instruction in two branches of trade, viz., printing and carpentering. But in order to carry on this technical education they would require at least £1200 a year more than they had at present. In conclusion, he again thanked her ladyship, whose name was a household word in the cause of charity, not only in this country but throughout the world, for coming among them that day. The V.W. Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chaplain, then read a passage of scripture (1 Kings, viii. 22-30), the responses being given heartily by all present; and this was followed by the anthem “Hail! Universal Lord,” by the pupils' choir, who occupied a platform on the right side of the hall, and were led by Bro. H. J. Dutton, musical instructor to the Institution. The Architect (Bro. R. Berridge) having addressed the Baroness briefly recapitulated his instructions, and announced that the work, so far, had been carried out by the contractors (Messrs. Præstige and Co., of Cambridge Wharf, Grosvenor Wharf, S.W.) according to the plans and specifications agreed to by the Committee; her ladyship expressed her approval, and congratulated the Architect, Committee, and Officers on the result of their labours. She said: As I am presiding here to-day, understanding as far as I am able to understand the plans laid before me, and explained by the Architect, they seem to be calculated to promote the objects you have in view. I sincerely hope that every blessing may rest upon your undertaking, and you have my every wish for the future good and prosperity of the pupils. The anthem “Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity,” (Psalm cxxxiii) was then chanted by the choir, and the official programme closed with an invocation by the chaplain. At the invitation of Bro. Binckes the ladies and lewises who had collected “purses” in aid of the building fund advanced to the dais and handed them to the Baroness, whilst Miss Eadith Soppet, the only lady who had acted as a Steward on the occasion, presented her ladyship with an exquisite bouquet of flowers. After the glee, “Hail! smiling morn,” by the pupils' choir, the majority of the visitors repaired to a marquée in the grounds to witness the placing of the corner-stone, raised seats being placed for the ladies and others who had presented purses. A procession was then formed, and made a circuit of the new hall, led by the stewards and the band of the School, and others. On arriving at the site of the stone the procession divided right and left, leaving a passage for those in the rear to advance and take their places as arranged. The Baroness having taken the seat allotted to her near the stone, the bearers with the corn, wine, and oil, the treasurer, secretary, architect, and builder advanced, the latter presenting her ladyship with the silver trowel with which to spread the mortar on the bed for the stone, which was duly lowered into its place and adjusted. During the strowing of the corn, the sprinkling of wine, the pouring of oil, and the scattering of salt, verses of sacred music were sung by the choir, the rite being very impressively performed. The architect then presented the plans, and the treasurer advanced and deposited in the cavity of the stone a phial, which, as Bro. Binckes explained, contained a copy of the *Times* of that day, the last issues of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE and *Freemason*, all the current coins of the realm, and, by her ladyship's express desire, a medallion of General Gordon. The Baroness then spread mortar on the plate, and with the mallet used in laying the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral by King Charles II. struck the stone thrice, saying “I declare this stone well and truly laid,” to which the brethren responded “So mote it be.” The inscription on the stone was

R.M.I.B.

This Corner Stone
was placed in position
by the

BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS,
Vice-President of the Institution.
Tuesday August 11th, 1885.

The ceremony having been completed, the Baroness addressed the audience in the following terms:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MR. CHAIRMAN, ARCHITECT, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:—I should not detain you, even for a few minutes, only that I have a few observations which I should like to make respecting this School. I will not dwell upon the inherent significance of the acts which have just been performed, because they are too well known to the body now present. They know, better than I can tell them, that the fabric of the noblest temple ever raised for the worship of the Divine must be built upon the same stable foundation as is the humblest church in the quietest spot where

“The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.”

The smallest house and the largest, if it is to stand, must rest upon those principles and be carried on in the same loving spirit in which the ceremonials of this day have been conducted. I wish for a moment to explain why it is that I have added the medal of Charles George Gordon to the coins that were placed in the cavity of that stone. This is a year that has been full of grief to England—of grief that will last throughout history—at the death of the heroic Christian and the heroic soldier. But it was not entirely for that reason I placed the medal there; it was to mark his deep affection and love for boys. General Gordon was a man who, long before he was known to fame, worked in the spirit of your Craft in every position of life in which he was placed. Nothing could have been more striking than the grief that was exhibited at his death, or the anxiety that was manifested by the nation during the many months of torture that preceded his death. Nothing could be more striking than the feeling which arose from all classes, once unknown to anybody amongst whom he had worked, and to whom he had done

every kindness in his power. I ought to avail myself of this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the honours you have accorded me in your programme of to-day, of being both the wife and the daughter of Masons. I might, on that plea, have thanked you, that, being a poor woman, I was entitled to your consideration. I cannot do that, but I will put it in another form. Having been elected to preside over this interesting gathering, I will only make a few observations, because you have mentioned in your records that, by the sanction of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, I am the only lady who has been present at a Lodge, sitting but not working. Perhaps, therefore, I may say a little more than if I were an ordinary lady, and quite without the pale of Freemasonry. The advantages of an institution similar to this have some little chance of not being thoroughly estimated at the present time. It is 80 years since this School was brought into existence, and I think between 1,000 and 2,000 boys have passed through it during that period. These little figures, however, represent very little of the real history of your School. When you think that these 80 years represent a very long average of human life you will recognise that the boys who left the School at the beginning of its history have either passed away, or, having fought the battle of life successfully, are still, at an extreme old age, living amongst us. When you remember what those 80 years have been in your own history and in the history of the world, these little figures do not at all represent what has been done through the refreshing and purifying influences that have passed from this School into the outer world. Nor do I think I shall be rash in saying that the 1,000 or 2,000 boys who have left the School do not represent the influence for good that has been shed abroad by men who have acted nobly in life through the instrumentality of this School. We should be very much in the same under-estimate if we endeavoured to judge of the influence exerted by each boy in the workshop, or otherwise, for good. And when we think how much they may have influenced others for good, the amount of benefit which will have been conferred by this School before the century ends, of which the last eighty years have been the beginning, cannot be estimated by any human mind. It is known only to Him to whom we must render all honour, all reverence, and every kindly feeling we have in this world. At the present moment we want to observe that 80 years ago to be illiterate was not a discredit, certainly not a disgrace, and at times it was not a great disadvantage. In those days there was many a Master, many a person, who would rather trust the ready wit, the willing hand, and the good conduct of a boy than his having been well taught and well informed. That is not the case now. It is a discredit and a disgrace now not to be educated; and the legislation of the country has made it so. Whether the legislation of the country carries out its laws effectually I do not know, but at any rate it provides that children shall be looked after up to the age of fourteen years, and properly educated. That makes an immense difference in the position of the children of the present age over the means of education possessed by the boys of the time to which I have alluded, or by the girls either: because I had the pleasure of seeing them under circumstances which will never be effaced from my memory. That difference cannot be calculated by any one in the present day. There is, however, great danger lest the education of the country may lead people to think that because a boy is put to a good school, and is being taught in such a place as this, nothing else is required. We have in Board Schools able masters, who are most desirous of doing their work, but it is impossible in the Board Schools of the country that the habits of home life can be so cultivated as they are in an Institution such as this. There is many a good habit which has prevented a boy falling into bad company, or taking the wrong side of the road instead of the right side; whereas, if he had been brought up in coarse or bad habits he would have been led into grief and sorrow. Such is my estimate of your Institution here, which, by what is proposed in the future, and the support it is certain to receive—if not immediately, at no distant date—from such an influential body as the Masonic Craft will redound not only to the credit of the Order, but to the good of the country in general and particularly to the good of the boys who are educated here. I can only add my own poor thanks for the honour that has been paid to me by your body on this and on other occasions, and to say how highly that honour has been valued by me. Her ladyship resumed her seat amidst enthusiastic cheering.

Bro. Binckes then presented to her ladyship the four little Lewises who had borne the Bible which had been presented to the Lodge which bears her name—the Burdett-Countts Lodge, No. 1278. In doing so he said the boys should not be without some little memento of the event, and Bro. Cumberland P.P.G.S.W. had provided four copies of the volume of the Sacred Law, which he hoped her ladyship would be kind enough to present to them. Each volume contained an entry in commemoration of the event, and they were presented respectively to George Octavius Fearon, Ernest Harold Anderson, Christopher George Barber, and Salmon Almond Beavis. In making the presentation, the Baroness said it had added much to the pleasure of the day to present those copies of the Bible. She hoped each of the boys who had received them would reach the age of Sir Moses Montefiore, and would read those sacred words with the same comfort and consolation that he did. The pupils' choir then sang "All people that on earth do dwell," and the Chaplain and brethren recited "Except the Lord build the house," the whole proceedings closing with the prayer, "May the Omnipotent and Merciful Father of all bless this neighbourhood and this land with corn, wine, and oil, and all the necessaries of life, and may the same Almighty Power make us humble and grateful for all His mercies. May he look down with benignity upon our present undertaking and crown the edifice of which we have now placed the corner stone with every success.—So mote it be. The Glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper Thou the work of our hands upon us, O prosper Thou our handy-work." Psalm xc. 17.

The band of the Institution, under the able direction of Bro. W. Whare, played some selections of music during the afternoon.

The following is a copy of the inscription in each of the Bibles presented by Bro. Cumberland:—

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

—:o:—

To commemorate the
Placing in position the corner-stone
of the

PREPARATORY SCHOOL BUILDINGS,
at Wood Green,
on Tuesday, 11th August 1885,

by

BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS.

This Bible is presented to

One of the four "Lewises" who assisted in carrying the
Volume of the Sacred Law, by
Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND P.M. P.J.P.G.W.,
Life Governor,
with best wishes for your future welfare.

—:o:—

Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest.

Herein you will be taught the important duties you owe to God,
to your neighbour, and to yourself.

Be careful to perform your allotted task while it is yet day.

And may God bless and prosper you in your work.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the company sat down to *déjeuner* in the new assembly hall, under the presidency of Bro. A. F. Godson, who proposed the usual toasts, introducing each with some well-chosen remarks. In the course of the evening Bro. Binckes announced that the amounts subscribed that day totalled up to £1,100; these included a donation of one hundred guineas from the Baroness Burdett-Countts, and a similar sum from Bro. Godson, the Chairman. We append a list of the Stewards of the day, together with particulars of the principal contributions received.

Adlard, Frederick P.M. 7, &c., V.-Pat.	-	-	-
Baker, W. H.	-	10	10
Berridge, Robert P.M. 21, &c., P.G. Steward, V.-Pat.	-	52	10
Belton, Charles P.M. 165, &c., P.P.G.D. Surrey, V.-Pat.	-	5	5
Bennett, Frederick T. 33, V.-Pres.	-	-	-
Binckes, F. P.M. P.G. Steward Secretary, V.-Pat.	-	10	10
*Bowyer, Edgar P.M. 1471, &c., P.G. Sid. Br., V.-Pat.	-	21	0
Clever, Joseph P.M. 171 V.-Pres.	-	27	6
Clowes, Richard P.M. 51, &c., P.P.G.S.W. Essex, V.-Pat.	-	-	-
†Cooper, George P.M. 214, &c., V.-Pat.	-	5	5
†Cubitt, Thomas P.M. 157, &c., P.G. Purs., V.-Pres.	-	5	5
Dicketts, Herbert	-	5	5
District Grand Lodge, Hong Kong	-	21	0
†Driver, Charles H. P.M. P.P.G. Supt. Works Surrey	-	5	5
*Godson, Aug. F. D.P.G.M. Worcestershire, V.-Pat.	-	105	0
†Goodall H. S., L.G.	-	-	-
Grand Lodge M.M.M.	-	52	10
Hill, Fredk. C.	-	60	2
†Hogard, Charles F. P.M. 205, &c., P.P.G.S. Works Essex, V.-Pat.	-	26	5
Humphries, T. Mount P.M., L.G., P.P.G.S. Works Staff.	-	26	5
*Hunt, Henry Wallis P.M. 29 P.G. Steward, V.-Pat.	-	5	5
Kempster, W. H., M.D., P.M. 1420, &c., L.G.	-	-	-
Kenning, George P.M. 192 1657 P.G.D. Middlesex, V.-Pat.	-	-	-
Lake, W. P.M. 131 P.P.G. Reg. Cornwall	-	-	-
Lambert, Captain G. P.M. 198, &c., P.P.G.W. Herts P.G.S.B., Patron	-	26	5
Layton, Alfred Thomas W.M. 1601 P.M. 181, &c., V.-Pat.	-	10	10
†Mann, W. P.M. 186, &c., V.-Pat.	-	-	-
Marshall, Horace B., C.C., P.M. P.G. Treasurer, Patron	-	94	10
*Mather, J. L. P.M. 65, &c., P.P.G.D. Herts, V.-Pat.	-	31	10
Matier, C. F. P.M. 645, &c., V.-Pat.	-	2	2
†Maple, W. P.M. 657, &c., L.G.	-	10	10
Martyn, Rev. C. J., D.P.G.M. Suffolk, P. G. Chap., Patron	-	10	10
*Miller, T. Hastings P.M. P.P.G.D. Middlesex, V.-Pres.	-	10	10
*Moon, James P.M. 49, &c., V.-Pres.	-	10	10
Morris, Rev. Dr., Head Master, V.-Pat.	-	-	-
Motion, George P.M. P.P.G.D. Essex	-	-	-
*Murray, Joyce P.M. 1703, &c., V.-Pat.	-	21	0
*Paas, W. P.M. 28, &c., V.-Pres.	-	-	-
Plucknett, George P.M. P.G.D., V.-Pat., Treasurer	-	-	-
Prestige, George 1900, L.G.	-	-	-
*Ramsay, F. W., M.D., P.M., L.G.	-	-	-
Roebuck, W. P.M. 29, &c., P.G. Steward, V.-Pat., Trustee	-	-	-
*Rolls, Dudley P.M. 12, &c., V.-Pres.	-	-	-
*Sanders, Charles, M.D., P.M., L.G.	-	-	-
†Saunders, W. Harris P.M. P.P.G.D., Middlesex, L.G.	-	-	-
Scurrah, W. A. 167, &c., V.-Pat.	-	-	-
†Soppet, Charles E. P.M. 1627 P.G. Steward, L.G.	-	-	-
Soppet, Miss Eadith	-	5	5
Stanley, H.	-	26	5
Stewart, Raynham W. P.M. 108, &c., P.G.D., V.-Pres.,	-	-	-
Stone, H. P.M. 723, L.G.	-	-	-
Storr, E. F. P.M. 22, &c., V.-Pres.	-	-	-
Taylor, E. T.	-	5	5
Thiellay, E. H. W.M. 2060 P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, L.G.	-	-	-
Torkington, A. W.M. 60 P.G. Steward, V.-Pat.	-	5	5
Tweedale, J. F.	-	26	5
*Venn, Henry P.M. 23 P.G. Steward, L.G.	-	-	-
Wallis, Percy P.P.G.W. Derbyshire, V.-Pres.	-	-	-
Webb, Jubal	-	15	15
Williams, Alfred P.M. 49, &c., V.-Pat.	-	15	15
Williamson, W. B. P.M. P.P.G.W. Worcestershire, L.G.	-	-	-
Willing, James jun., P.M. W.M. 1987, V.-Pres.	-	5	5

* Members of House Committee.

† Members Finance and Audit Committee.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. E. J. ACWORTH.

ON the occasion of the annual dinner of the staff of the *Middlesex County Times*, at the Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead, on Saturday last, the opportunity was taken of presenting Bro. E. J. Acworth P.M. 133, W.M. elect 1612, &c., proprietor of the above old-established county journal, with a travelling and dressing-case, as a token of esteem, from his employes and a few friends who had joined them for that purpose. The case, which was made specially to order, is of Russian leather, replete with the necessary travelling and toilet fittings in ivory and silver, each article bearing the engraved monogram of the recipient, the whole costing about £40. A silver plate on the front of the case bears the following inscription:—"Presented to E. J. Acworth, Esq., by his employes and a few friends, 8th August 1885." Mr. J. F. Cusworth (overseer of the news department) in making the presentation, said the staff, with the help of a few friends, had been enabled to offer for Mr. Acworth's acceptance a substantial present, as a slight recognition of the kind, just, and upright manner in which he had dealt with them as employes, and also as a mark of appreciation for the energy and enterprise evinced in the conduct of his journal. Personally he had to acknowledge the greatest kindness at Mr. Acworth's hands, and he hoped the present would be accepted in the same free spirit in which it was offered, and that their respected employer might long be spared to utilize the gift which it was now his pleasure and privilege to offer for his acceptance. Mr. Acworth, in acknowledging the presentation, said he scarcely knew how to thank them for their very handsome gift. He felt himself to be undeserving of it, as he had only done what he considered to be his duty, and in so doing he could truly say that he had experienced great pleasure. They might be sure this event would linger long and pleasantly in his memory; he again cordially thanked all concerned for their kind and unexpected present.

THE AUTOMATIC SHOP.

EVERY one knows the difficulty of obtaining stamps and writing materials just when they want them, for instance at night and on Sundays. To meet this want it is proposed shortly to form the Post-Card and Stamped Envelope Public Supply Company, Limited. This Company is to purchase the patents for the sale of prepaid goods, which have recently been most favourably reported on by Sir Frederick Bramwell, President of the Institute of Civil Engineers, and also of the Executive Council of the Inventions Exhibition. These "free delivery" boxes have been at work for some time in London, at the principal railway stations, and at the Inventions Exhibition. The apparatus consists of a box in which a number of post-cards and stamped envelopes are placed. On a penny being dropped into one of the slits at the top of the box, the lock is released, and allows the operator to pull out a drawer which brings with it one post-card; or, on two pennies being dropped into two other slits in the box, a stamped envelope and sheet of paper is delivered. The top of the box forms a desk on which to write. When the box is empty, notice thereof is given by a plate rising with the word "empty" engraved on it, and at the same time the apertures for coin close. It is, therefore, impossible to cheat the public. This "shop" costs less than £5 to make, and, according to an estimate we have seen, will, if it sells only two stamped envelopes and five post-cards each day (thus receiving 9d in all), earn sufficient money to pay all expenses of the proposed Company and a dividend to the shareholders of 14½ per cent. per annum on their investments. Messrs. Quilter, Ball, Crosbie, Glegg, and Welton, the eminent accountants, in their report of the accounts of the six months ending 30th June, state that the takings of the boxes then in use in London (40 in number) averaged 2s 1½d per day, nearly three times as much, it will be seen, as the 9d on which the estimate is based. The late Professor Fawcett, when in office as Postmaster-General, promised the owners of the patents that in any case in which there was not a Post-Office letter box within easy reach of these boxes, one should be placed whenever the correspondence proved sufficient to justify it. The day is probably not far distant when these boxes for the sale of envelopes and post-cards will be placed in conjunction with every pillar box in the kingdom. Many times the writer of this notice has, by the timely investment of a penny in a post-card, been saved a shilling for a telegram.

Justice Lodge of Instruction, No. 147.—A meeting was held on Thursday, 13th inst., at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford. Bros. Thomas W.M., Dale S.W., J. J. Pitt J.W., S. R. Speight P.M. Secretary, Penrose S.D., Howes J.D., O'Donnell I.G.; P.M.'s Bros. Hutchins (Preceptor), Waterman, G. Bolton, H. Bartlett, E. Good, and Banks; also Bros. Mansfield, Dodd, Millington, Fisher, Greener, and Emblin. The Lodge was opened, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Dodd personating the candidate. The Lodge was called off, and on resuming the usual questions leading to the degree of F.C. were satisfactorily answered by Bro. Greener. Lodge was opened in the second, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The Lodge was resumed, and Bro. Howes of the West Smithfield Lodge, No. 1623, was elected a member. Bro. Dale S.W. was appointed W.M. for the ensuing Thursday, after which Lodge was closed.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight will be held at Newport, Isle of Wight, on Mouday, the 17th instant.

THE THEATRES.

—:0:—

The Grand.—Whosoever doubteth the fact that the good borough of Islington merits its ancient title of "Merry" let him go to the Grand and see Mr. Frank Harvey's "Ring of Iron." Such shouts, such cyclones of laughter re-echo through the house, he might think himself back at the Adelphi, with Wright and Paul Bedford. A gallery which holds a thousand, and a crowded pit, without counting the politer "succes," given the right provocation, can produce a fine orchestral effect. The drama is primarily pathetic, and of course domestic, but Mr. Harvey has understood his business, and after due intervals of harrowing excitement gives the necessary "comic relief." The play opens at the Gold "Diggins" in Australia where the heroine, Mary, a young person of humble origin, is living with her scrapegrace husband, Gentleman Jack. A capital scene is given us when her friend Nancy, the only spinster at the creek, finds herself forcibly interviewed by all the local bachelors, who, to settle the deadly jealousies occasioned by her charms, insist on her choosing one of them for a husband. She objects, but yields to *force majeure*, and names Sam Thorpe, an ex-carpenter, as the happy man. Then Sam has misgivings, and tries to back out. She will take no one else, and by way of settling the difficulty it is proposed to "settle" Sam and start afresh. However, he thinks a wife a lesser evil than three inches of steel, and then follows a capital bit of courting, the Modus and Helen sitting on the kitchen table. How Gentleman Jack learns, by an advertisement, he has come into a title and an estate; how he abandons his wife; how he turns up in England, in two-button lavender gloves and a cadaverous complexion; how his injured wife follows him; how she is got into a private lunatic asylum; how she escapes thence, by aid of the faithful Nancy; how the wicked husband would have married a lovely heiress, but is circumvented by a noble-hearted doctor; and how virtue is duly rewarded—all is capitally told in the five acts that fill the evening. The scenes with Nancy and Sam, at home with the baby, and the love making of Sam's sister Selina and his young friend Clinker, are the great comic "motifs." Mr. Harvey plays well as the benevolent Doctor. Mr. Carter-Edwards was especially good in the Australian scene, but he has adopted a foreign accent that is very trying to one's nerves. Mr. T. W. Benson plays splendidly as Sam, with thorough individuality and freedom from exaggeration. He is capitally seconded by Mr. Shirra as Clinker. Miss Eyre Robson has excellent opportunities as Nancy, and she misses none of them. Miss Jane Coveney played the small part of a cringing, wicked old nurse at the madhouse with fine dramatic instinct; hers was a distinct dramatic creation. Miss Baldwin, as the heroine, has the great charm of beauty, with a fine stage presence, but though at times she achieved a fine effect, her acting is marred by a monotonous and too emphatic delivery. We scarcely wonder Gentleman Jack should run away from so oppressively tragic a young lady. However, Miss Baldwin has such natural gifts that it only needs study and time to make her an excellent actress.

FIRE AT FREEMASONS' HALL!

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

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

FUNERALS.—Bros. W. K. L. & G. A. HUTTON, Coffin Makers and Undertakers, 17 Newcastle Street, Strand, W.C., and 7 Herne Villas, Forest Hill, Road Peckham Rye, S.E.

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THE

REVISED BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS;

CRITICALLY CONSIDERED,

AND

COMPARED WITH THE OLD EDITION.

A SERIES OF ARTICLES,

REPRINTED FROM THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

—:0:—

LONDON:

W. W. MORGAN, BELVIDERE WORKS, PENTONVILLE;
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL & Co., 4 STATIONERS' HALL COURT;
AND OF ALL BOOKSELLERS.

"All Freemasons interested in the Revision of the above, should read this work."

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, 15th AUGUST.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 2012—Chiswick, Hampshire Hog, King Street, Hammersmith, W. (Instruct.)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 7
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 104—Macdonald, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Twickenham
 2035—Beaumont, Royal Hotel, Kirkburton
 R.A. 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Hampton

MONDAY, 17th AUGUST.

- 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)
 212—Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High Street, Camden Town, at 8. (Inst.)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 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, Queens Hotel, Victoria Park, at 7.30 (In)
 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, High Street, Putney, at 8. (In.)
 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 Burlett Road. (Inst.)
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 1910—Shadwell Clerke, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill
 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 331—Phoenix Public Room, Truro
 350—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
 424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield
 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport
 1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congressbury
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover
 1238—Gooch, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1440—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 40—Emulation, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 R.A. 120—Palladian, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford
 R.A. 123—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bury, Lancashire
 R.A. 277—Tudor, Freemasons' Hall, Union Street, Oldham
 R.A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
 R.A. 1051—Rowley, Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster
 R.C. 28—William de Irwin, Weston-super-Mare

TUESDAY, 18th AUGUST.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 141—Faith, Victoria Chambers Restaurant, Victoria Street, S.W., at 8. (Inst)
 177—Domatic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, 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)
 861—Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle Street, E.C., at 7. (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.)
 1339—Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge
 1446—Mount Edgecumbe, Three Stags, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 8 (Inst)
 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)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, Cannon Street, 6.30.
 R.A. 704—Camden, The Moorgate, Moorgate Street, E.C., at 8 (Instruction)
 R.A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 238—Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 418—Mentoria, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
 1006—Tregnow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall
 1052—Callender, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1276—Warren, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead, Cheshire
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable
 1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6 (Instruction)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Frestwich
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1570—Prince Arthur, 14 North Hill Street, Liverpool
 1726—Gordon, Assembly Room, Bognor
 1764—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton
 1941—St. Augustine's, Shrewsbury Arms Hotel, Ragley
 R.A. 41—Royal Cumber and, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath
 R.A. 105—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth

- R.A. 340—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Alfred Street, Oxford
 R.A. 416—Avalon, Town Hall, Wells, Somerset
 R.A. 460—Perseverance, Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyne
 R.A. 764—Fawcett, Freemasons' Hall, West Hartlepool
 R.A. 792—Oliver, Masonic Hall, Osborne Street, Great Grimsby
 R.A. 804—Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Havant
 M.M. 166—East Sussex, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 M.M. 266—Amherst, Masonic Hall, Sandgate

WEDNESDAY, 19th AUGUST.

- General Committee of Grand Lodge and Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6
 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Windsor Castle, Southwark Bridge Road, at 8. (Inst)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 228—United Strength, The Hope, St. Johns Street, Regents Park, at 8 (Inst.)
 538—La Tolerance, Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, at 8 (Inst)
 619—Beadon, Greyhound, Dulwich
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 863—Whittington, Red Lion, Poultry-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Victoria Hotel, Farringdon Road, at 7. (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glogall Road, Cubitt Town
 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)
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 177—Domatic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction.)
 R.A. 933—Doric, 202 Whitechapel-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 R.A. 1598—Ley Spring, Red Lion, Leytonstone
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 86—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescott, Lancashire
 121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance
 178—Antiquity Royal Hotel, Wigan
 200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough
 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
 325—St. John's Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 342—Royal Sussex, Freemasons' Hall, 79 Commercial Road, Landport
 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds
 580—Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw
 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 697—United, George Hotel Colchester.
 753—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 795—St. John, Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead
 816—Royd, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract
 962—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Worthington
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
 1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Driffield, Yorks
 1096—Watton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 1161—Do Grey and Ripon, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
 1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Moseley, near Manchester
 1301—Brighthouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighthouse
 1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Duham House Northallerton
 1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster
 1356—Do Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon
 1501—Wycombe, Town Hall, High Wycombe
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull.
 1634—Starkie, Railway Hotel, Ramsbottom
 1638—Browwrigg, Sun Hotel, Kingston on Thames
 1692—Hervey, George Hotel, Hayes
 1938—Mawddack, St. Ann's Buildings, Barmouth, N. Wales
 R.A. 284—Shakespeare, Masonic Room, 9 High Street, Warwick
 R.A. 288—Loyal Todmorden, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
 R.A. 361—Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde
 R.A. 417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester
 R.A. 481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 R.A. 1377—Chorlton, Masonic Hall, High Lane, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
 M.M.—Newstead Masonic Hall, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham
- THURSDAY, 20th AUGUST.
- House Committee Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 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)
 749—Belgrave, The Clarence, Aldersgate Street, E.C. (Instruction)
 751—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 879—Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd. (In.)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 1153—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1185—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1227—Upton, Spotted Dog, Upton
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Swan Tavern, Bethnal Green Road, E. 9. (Instruction)
 1306—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst)
 1558—O. Connaught, Pallmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
 1614—Covent Garden, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 8 (Inst)
 1744—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1791—Creston, Wheat Sheaf Tavern, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush. (Inst)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 507—United Pilgrim, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 R.A. 742—Crystal Palace, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 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)
 M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, at 8. (Inst.)
 56—Howard, High-street, Arundel
 98—St. Martin, Town Hall, Burslem
 116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel Colne
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dowsbury
 268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street, Ashton-under-Lyne
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden
 337—Candour, New Masonic Rooms, Uppermill, Saddleworth
 341—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye
 343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston
 344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, Lancashire

345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn
 367—Probity and Freedom, Red Lion Inn, Smallbridge
 600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
 636—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth
 659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blythe
 1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford
 1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. German's, Cornwall.
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool
 1320—Blackheath, Green Man, Blackheath
 1327—King Harold, Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town
 1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon
 1576—Dee, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 97—Strict Benevolence, Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland
 R.A. 107—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, King's Lynn
 R.A. 317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, Manchester
 R.A. 1235—Phoenix of St. Ann, Court Hotel, Buxton
 M.M.—Canynges, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol

FRIDAY, 21st AUGUST.

House Committee Boys' School, Wood Green, at 4
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hotel, Great Portland Street, W., at 8 (In)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruct.)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, 79 Ebury Street, Piccadilly, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A.—Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 453—Chigwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30 (Inst)
 516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket
 541—De Lorraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme
 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 1773—Albert Victor, Town Hall, Pendleton
 2005—Brooke, Forest Hotel, Chingford
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A.—General Chanter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
 R.A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield
 R.A. 837—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 M.M. 65—West Lancashire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

SATURDAY, 22nd AUGUST.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1541—Alexandra Palace, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 2012—Chiswick, Hampshire Hog, King Street, Hammersmith, W. (Instruct.)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Instruction)
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 303—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood
 453—Chigwell, Forest Hotel, Chingford
 1982—Greenwood, Public Hall, Epsom

THE MASON'S LAST REQUEST.

IT was a very hot day in the summer of 1778. The British General Clinton, with a formidable army, was hastening across the sandy plains of New Jersey to join the forces of General Howe, at Sandy Hook. Washington, with an army regenerated into life, determined, if it lay within the bounds of possibility, to prevent that junction; and, to effect his purpose, sent a large detachment of light troops, under General Lee, to harass their movements and retard their progress until he could come up with the main force and effect their capture or destruction.

As soon as the American sharpshooters in the van of Lee's division began to annoy the British, the latter drew up in order of battle and prepared for defence. The Americans pushed on, and were driving all before them, when, to their utter astonishment, and to the deep mortification of their gallant officers, who were flushed with the hope of victory almost in their hands, General Lee ordered a retreat.

Shame mantled many a brow then and there, and, in spite of discipline, angry words broke out from many a lip; for even then, as now, the word retreat sounded strangely, aye, almost harshly upon an American ear. But the order had been given by him who had command, and he must be obeyed. But so angry and unwilling were those who fell back that they did not preserve the order which they would have done had they only been yielding to the stern necessity.

And the British, overjoyed at a victory so easy, were pushing their advantages as they ever did, mercilessly; and our brave men were falling fast before them, when suddenly dashing forward upon a horse which was white with foam, rode that matchless man upon whom a nation's fate depended.

"What means this cowardly retreat? Who dared to order it?" he demanded.

"I did," was the angry response of General Lee.

"Rally your men, coward, go hide your face in shame!" cried Washington, that day giving vent to a passion which hitherto, under all circumstances, he had managed to control.

"Halt, and form!" he cried again, and in a voice so loud that it fell alike upon the ears of friend and foe.

And though the bullets fell like hail around him, and brave men dropped upon his right and upon his left, he sat unmoved upon his

horse, stemmed the tide of retreat, and checked the advance of the triumphant foe.

The carnage was terrible. Bayonet clashed upon bayonet, sabre met sabre, whilst the sulphurous smoke almost hid the combatants from view; and they sprang at each other like fiends, lighted by the flashes of cannon and the blaze of musketry.

One gallant officer whose hairs had become tinged with blood fought directly under the eyes of Washington, whom he loved not only as a general, but as a *Brother*, bound by that mysterious and holy tie which equalises a peasant with a prince. By his side three sons of lesser rank, the youngest scarce eighteen years of age, fought as bravely as himself.

It was at that moment when, with Washington at their head, the Americans drove back the foe at the bayonet's point, that he whom I will call Major Carroll, who was leading his battalion on, himself on foot (for two horses had already gone down under him on that day), and to whom I just alluded, saw a British officer fall who had, with heroic gallantry, striven to stem the changing tide.

Though wounded and down, the brave officer still struggled, and drawing a pistol disabled a man whose bayonet was at his breast. Major Carroll's sword was raised above his head, but quickly a sign, a word, and the widow's son was safe, for the foe whose arm had just been raised was now a *Brother*, whose extending hand was ready to lift him who lay upon the earth in such distress.

But, ah! fatal pause! that generous bosom, so full of fraternal love, which did not forget duty even there amid the wild carnage of battle, was pierced by a bullet; and the brave Carroll sank dying by the side of him who had called for help, and had not been refused. Washington's eye was on him—he knew who and what he was, for he had sat with him where Light abounded; but he could not wait—the enemy are flying and must be pursued.

"On!" cried the dying hero to his men. "Forward!" he shouted to his boys. We are victorious and I am content."

The battle was over. The British had been swept back over the gory field which they had taken; and night had drawn its mantle over the horrors which the day had exposed.

And by Major Carroll's side knelt the only one of his race that was left to life—his youngest born. His two eldest sons had fallen on that dear bought field—like himself, contented, that they died for their country, and fell in the hour when victory was theirs.

"Father, what can I do for you?" said the boy hero, as he grasped his dying sire by the hand, and sustained his head upon his breast.

"Be a man, and do your duty to your country first, and to your mother next. And, lad, save my Masonic regalia. He, our nation's Father, invested me with it! Save it, and act so worthily that when you are of full age you may be entitled to wear it. It is my last request!"

And soon the noble spirit of that brave, good man left his body, and went to dwell with the Great Architect of the Universe.

Years after, when peace smiled on our land, the son fulfilled the father's request, and that cherished regalia is still in the possession of his descendants.—*Masonic Eclectic.*

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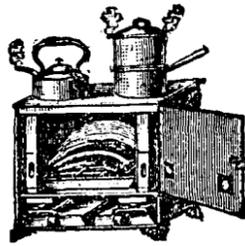
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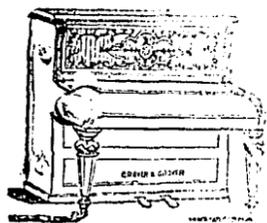
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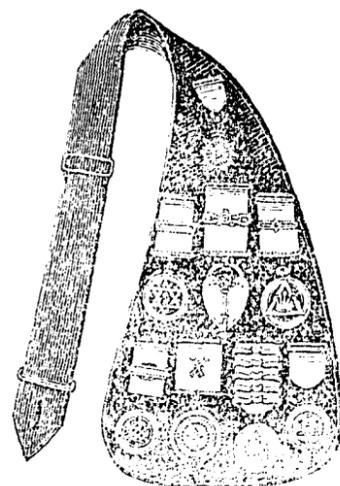
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