

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

Reports of United Grand Lodge are published with the Special Sanction of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales,
the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

VOL. XXV.—No. 636.

SATURDAY, 19th MARCH 1887.

[PRICE THREEPENCE.
13s 6d per annum, post free.]

THE IDIOSYNCRASIES OF TYLERS.

THERE are few of us who are unfamiliar with the sympathetic expression respecting the "poor and distressed Masons, wherever they may be dispersed over land or sea." It is not only a sentiment that tells the brethren that for the present an end has come to their festivities, but it is one also that is wafted away over the habitable globe, a Masonic message of remembrance and hearty good wishes which possibly might strike an echo in the hearts of many who are thus kindly thought of amidst the festivities of our after Lodge proceedings. The explorer in distant lands, the traveller either for pleasure or on service, the hardy seaman battling with the forces of some boisterous wave, or lying listlessly in dead calm, all have instinctively certain periods when thoughts revert to home; and no matter in what position a man may be placed, he knows full well, who is a Mason, that these kindly words of remembrance and Godspeed are ever upon the lips of his brethren whenever a Lodge is held, and when is there a blank evening in the whole three hundred and sixty-five? Thus the brother whose circumstances have necessitated his absence either for a short or long period from the land of his birth may be assured, ere he retires from the business of the day, that he is held in remembrance by his kith and kin in the "dear old country," to which he hopes to return "some day," and that the Tyler's toast is like a peaceful message breathing to him the "hearty good wishes" he is sure to receive profusely when he lands at home. It may not be uninteresting to consider for a moment the nature of the duties that belong peculiarly and distinctively to the Tyler, and the class of men who are selected to perform those important functions at our Lodges. They are of divers sorts and conditions; have acted in various positions in life, and are possessed of different degrees of intelligence. Some we know are men who in their palmy days were fully equal in social status to any of the brethren upon whom they are now content and pleased to wait, with all the suavity and courtesy which are inseparable from early training and respectable association. It is a pleasure to meet with such a class of man, who in many instances has passed the chair, and even obtained Provincial distinction, for in him we find no menial fawning obsequiousness such as often spoils the familiarities of a "serving brother" who officiates in the outside portion of our Lodge work. He does not tout for the sale of regalia, or Masonic literature, or handbooks, with an eye to commission; he is above the practice, once common, of assisting the brethren with their hats and coats with a view to anticipating the other waiters in their share of the largesse usually bestowed by brethren at the conclusion of their meetings. He moves about quietly, but firmly, in the work of preparation for the reception of the brethren; his demeanour towards the Officers and members of his Lodge is respectful but dignified; there is no fussiness or flurry about the business he has to do in the convenient room. To this conduct on the part of the Tyler much of the comfort and orderly working of a Lodge may be attributed, for if the machinery of a ship or factory be kept constantly bright and in perfect going order there need be little apprehension of the friction or displacement of the gear. In contrast to this good and faithful servant, who so manages the needful accessories of a Lodge that the Master, Wardens, Officers, and Brethren have never a hitch to mar their

labour or pleasure, is the man who, by the pomposity of his own importance, flits and flutters about the place, cutting all manner of absurd and unnecessary antics in order that the brethren may be impressed with his smartness and activity. These brethren are invariably drafted from the upper ranks of hotel waiters, and are initiated into Lodges free, in the capacity of "serving brethren." We are not about to argue the question as to the desirableness or otherwise of this mode of proceeding, or whether a Tyler who is nothing more nor less than a flunkey is preferable to an old seasoned brother who, in his altered condition of life, is content and grateful to receive a nominal sum per annum at the hands of the brethren for such services as an Outer Guard is called upon to render. But most of our readers who have studied the matter at all will agree with us that the contrasts between the two classes of men indicated are of a very marked description. A Tyler is, to all intents and purposes, an Officer of the Lodge, who has to discharge functions of a very responsible character. He is by no means to be considered as a "Jcames" in a farce, or a "Johnnie" in a gentleman's hall. Yet how often do we see them continuing to act as such? We have in our mind's eye certain Tylers whose furtive glance at the candidates proclaim more loudly than their voices could articulate the greedy reaching after patronage for the supply of aprons, calendars, and other sources of commission, not even forgetting the reminder that "repairs are neatly and promptly executed" by the best houses—through them. To the older members of the Lodge there is a display of deference which is perfectly wasted upon its objects; whilst towards the Worshipful Master, the Treasurer, and Secretary for the time being, and the other Officers, there is a positively slavish cringing which is almost intolerable. Some of these serving brethren officiate as Tylers at a large number of Lodges, and in fact make it their sole and normal profession. We know of many good and worthy men who do this, and trust that they find it sufficiently remunerative in the aggregate to maintain them in comparative comfort. But whether such a system is consistent with the comfort and dignity of our Lodges is a question that is open to discussion, and has received a considerable amount of argument on both sides. The only object of these fugitive thoughts is to sympathise with the brethren of such Lodges who are rather governed than "served" by over-bearing and officious Tylers, and to congratulate those who, on the contrary, possess the services of well-seasoned, intelligent, and courteous brethren, who while performing their duties in and out of the Lodge with all the regularity of clockwork, are cheerful, dignified and courteous, not descending to the paltry pettifoggings of others who act merely as commission agents for certain firms of Masonic regalia manufactures and other accessories of the Craft. It is a delicate point, no doubt, to make comparisons which may be odious to those concerned, but it is nevertheless a fact that amongst Tylers, as amongst other classes of people, there is as much difference as there is between chalk and cheese. To those who speak the well-known words quoted at the commencement of this article with a sympathetic and genuine heart we must pay a due tribute of respect; but in too many cases the value of the sentiment is marred, if not altogether lost, by the parrot-rote style in which the Tyler's toast is gabbled forth in the closing moments of our Masonic assemblies.

HOW TO SECURE ATTENDANCE.

WE quote the following, by Grand Master Emerson to the Grand Lodge of Utah, with approval; it is good advice for any Masonic climate:—

"The Master of a Lodge should be a studious and thoughtful man, and, above all, a man fruitful in resources. Should the energy and zeal of the members of his Lodge begin to slacken, and their attendance become more and more reluctant and infrequent, he should be able to devise some scheme, to put into operation some plan, by which he may win them back to their allegiance. The Lodge-room should be made, next to home, the most delightful and attractive place on earth; a pleasant retreat from the cares and dividing influences of every-day, active business life. Every Mason should regard his Lodge as a perennial fountain to which he may come at all times, and have his own moral courage, and his confidence in his fellow-men, increased and strengthened. Does business annoy him, or financial disaster threaten, he here learns that no man should be regarded for his worldly wealth or honour. Is he discouraged and disheartened by the repeated instances of dishonesty and speculation in high places, in the world around him, he is here encouraged and strengthened by the fact that Masonry not only teaches, but demands of her thousands of votaries everywhere, and by a constant symbol, to walk uprightly in their several stations before God and man, and act upon the square in all their dealings. From under such teachings a reflective mind comes out, strong and self-reliant, ready to fight life's battles, and gain honour in the conflict. As means to so desirable an end, I would suggest that as often as time will permit, when the Masters make the usual inquiry, if any brother has anything to say for the good of Masonry, that it be something more than formally done. Insist upon something being said upon the subject of Masonry. If found necessary, go to some brother, before Lodge-night, and tell him that you shall call upon him, and he must be prepared if only for a five minutes talk. Invite others to express either their assent or dissent as to what has been said, and you would soon be surprised at the readiness with which your call would be answered, as well as at the general increase of knowledge upon Masonic subjects. In this connection I have one further suggestion to make. Occasionally, at least, at your regular communications, after the routine business is done, and when there are no degrees to be conferred, let the Master go through with the questions and answers constituting the lectures of the three degrees, requesting the first brother on the right, or left, to answer the first question, the next the second, and so on around the Lodge-room. Invite discussions as to the correctness or otherwise of the answers, the Master, however, for the time being the final arbiter upon the question. If no work offers, exemplification of the degrees and other modes of schooling the members may be substituted, and thus social intercourse stimulated, and attendance upon Lodge meetings made interesting and agreeable. Such a course, persisted in, although it may be against difficulties and opposition at first, cannot fail to bring work, and will inaugurate a season of great prosperity, while the simple opening, hurrying through with whatever is to be done, closing and hurrying to extinguish the light of the Lodge-room, dispersing in the quickest possible time, as is often the case, will leave your minds and hearts as dark as the room you leave behind, so far as any good the meeting together has done you, and will result in depleted attendance, and loss of interest among the membership, and will serve to still further increase the already large army of non-affiliates."

—Canadian Craftsman.

DESCENDANTS OF DEITIES WHO ONCE REIGNED IN EGYPT.

By BRO. JACOB NORTON.

WE have in America several opposition pretenders to Egyptian Masonic Rites, and all claim to be doing a good business. There must be money made out of it, for one of those Egyptotic Pontiffs died recently, and the *Keystone* assures us that his executor sold the Pontiffship for a certain sum of money. Now, I have no doubt

that Bro. MacCalla, of the *Keystone*, as well as many other Grand Lodge dignitaries, would like to send all the Egyptian Rites to Sheol, but as each of these Grand Lodge dignitaries owes allegiance to a half-dozen or more other kinds of humbugging rites, they must therefore keep mum about the Egyptianites. I have recently come across a book called "History of Art in Ancient Egypt," and I think that the following extract will show the fallacy of believing that Freemasonry could ever have existed in ancient Egypt. Our author says:—

"The King [of Egypt] was the living manifestation and incarnation of God: child of the Sun (Sa Ra), as he took care to proclaim whenever he wrote his name. The blood of the gods flowed in his veins and assured to him the sovereign power.

"He was the priest above all others. Such a form of worship as that of Egypt required no doubt a large sacerdotal class, each member of which had his special function in the complicated and gorgeous ceremonies in which he took part, but the King alone, at least in the principal temples, had the right to enter the sanctuary and to open the door of the kind of chapel in which the symbolical representation was kept; he alone saw the God face to face and spoke to him in the name of his people. The pre-eminent dignity of this priestly office did not, however, prevent the King from taking his proper share in war or political affairs generally. The army of scribes and various functionaries, whose titles may still be read upon the most ancient monuments of the country, depended upon him for their orders from one end of the country to the other, and in war it was he who led the serried battalions of the Egyptian army. The King was thus the supreme pontiff, the immediate chief of all civil and military officers, and as the people believed that his career was directed by the gods, and in the words of an inscription 'the representatives of Ra among the living,' his divinity, begun on earth, was completed and rendered perpetual in another life. All the dead Pharaohs became Gods, so that the Egyptian pantheon obtained a new deity at the death of each sovereign. The deceased Pharaohs thus constituted a series of gods to whom the reigning sovereign would, of course, address himself when he had anything to ask; hence the monuments upon which we find living Pharaohs offering worship to their predecessors.

"The prestige which such a theory of royalty was calculated to give to the Egyptian Kings may easily be imagined. They obtained more than respect, they were the objects of adoration, of idolatry. Brought up from infancy in this religious veneration, to which their hereditary qualities also inclined them, generation succeeded generation among the Egyptians, without any attempt to rebel against the royal authority, or even to dispute it. Ancient Egypt, like its modern descendant, was now and then the scene of military revolts. These were generally provoked by the presence of foreign mercenaries, sometimes by their want of discipline and licence, sometimes by the jealousy which they inspired in the native soldiery, but never, from the time of Menes to that of Tewfik-Pasha, has the civil population, whether of the town or of the fields, shown any desire to obtain the slightest guarantee for what we should call their rights and liberties. During all those thousands of years not the faintest trace is to be discovered of that spirit from which sprung the republican constitutions of Greece and ancient Italy, a spirit which, in yet later times, has led to the parliamentary governments of Christian Europe. The Egyptian labourer or artizan never dreamt of calling in question the orders of any one who might be master for the time. Absolute obedience to the will of a single man—such was the constant and instinctive national habit, and by it every movement of the social machine, under foreign and native Kings alike, was regulated.

"From the construction of the pyramids of Cheops and Chephren, and the cutting of a new canal between the two seas under Nekau to the Mahmondich canal of Mehemet Ali, and that abortive enterprise the barrage of the Nile, the only method thought of for obtaining the necessary labour was compulsion. An order is received by the governor, who has it proclaimed from one village to another throughout his province; next day the whole male population is driven like a troop of sheep to the workshops. Each man carries a bag or basket, which holds his provisions for a fortnight or a month, as the case may be; a few dry cakes, onions, garlic, and Egyptian beans. . . . Old men and children all had to obey the summons. The more vigorous and skilful amongst them dressed and put in place the blocks of granite or limestone; the weakest were useful for the transport of the rubbish to a distance, for carrying clay and water from the Nile to the brickmakers, for arranging the bricks in the sun so that they might be dried and hardened.

"Under the stimulus of the rod, this multitude worked well and obediently, under the directions of the architect's foreman and of the skilled artizans who were permanently employed upon the work; they did all that could be done with men without special education. At the end of a certain period they were relieved by fresh levies from another province, and all who had not succumbed to the hard and continuous work, returned to their own places. Those who died were buried hastily in graves dug in the sands of the desert by the natives of their own village."

The above extracts clearly prove that in ancient Egypt neither the rulers nor the ruled had the slightest idea of human rights, &c. True, they had religion in abundance, and were taught to hope for better times in a future state, but what is the use of a religion which endorses a government's injustice towards its people. Such a religion was very beneficial to kings, nobles, and priests, but it must have been a cruel mockery to the masses; hence, it is no wonder that the children of Israel at last got tired

of such humbug, and preferred wandering in the wilderness to submitting to Egyptian cruelties.

Now, as the main value of Freemasonry consists in its teachings of humanity and justice, I cannot see how such a government as Egypt then had could have tolerated Freemasonry. Take for instance Russia, whose government is still Egyptian to the back-bone, whose Emperor, in the estimation of the peasantry, is a God upon earth, and who still retains the Egyptian power of making his people do what he pleases. Now, does the Emperor of Russia tolerate Freemasonry in his dominions? Why! of course not. Again, take Papal Rome, where the ruler claims to be infallible and God's Viceregent upon earth; there also Freemasonry can gain no footing. In short, wherever a despot claims to rule by divine right Freemasonry cannot be tolerated, and hence Freemasonry could never have been tolerated in ancient benighted Egypt.

Here, however, I imagine hearing our Egyptologic high degree Mason exclaim, "What! do you mean to deny the existence of initiations and mysteries in ancient Egypt? and have you never heard that the wisdom of the ancient Egyptians was confined to the initiated?" To this I answer,

First, assuming that the old Egyptians had mysteries, their mysteries must have been concocted by artful priests with the sanction of kings, mainly for the purpose of enslaving the mass of the people both bodily and mentally; and second, as to the wisdom claimed to have been imparted in the Egyptian mysteries, I do not believe that any of our Egyptologic high degreemongers, from the days of Cagliostro to the present time, knew more about either the nature or object of the ancient Egyptian mysteries than they know about the man in the moon; and the same may be said about other Masonic *luminosities*, who pretend to know about Templar mysteries, Rosicrucian mysteries, and a "thousand and one" other so-called ancient mysteries.

BOSTON, U.S., 28th February 1887.

REASONS FOR MASONIC SECRECY.

IF the secrets of Masonry are replete with such advantages to mankind it may be asked, Why are they not divulged for the general good of society? To this it may be answered, Were the privileges of Masonry to be indiscriminately dispensed, the purposes of the Institution would be subverted, and our secrets being familiar, like other important matters, would lose their value, and sink into disregard.

It is a weakness in human nature that men are generally more charmed with novelty than with the intrinsic value of things. Innumerable testimonies might be adduced to confirm this truth. The most wonderful operations of the Divine Artificer, however beautiful, magnificent and useful, are overlooked, because common and familiar. The sun rises and sets, the sea flows and ebbs, rivers glide along their channels, trees and plants vegetate, men and beasts act, yet these beings, perpetually open to view, pass unnoticed. The most astonishing productions of nature on the same account escape observation and excite no emotion, either in admiration of the great cause, or of gratitude for the blessing conferred. Even virtue herself is not exempted from this unhappy bias in the human frame. Novelty influences all our actions and determinations. What is new or difficult in the acquisition, however trifling or insignificant, readily captivates the imagination and insures a temporary admiration, while what is familiar or easily attained, however noble or eminent, is sure to be disregarded by the giddy and unthinking.

Did the essence of Masonry consist in the knowledge of particular secrets or peculiar forms, it might be alleged that our amusements were trifling and superficial. But this is not the case. These are only keys to our treasure, and, having their use, are preserved; while from the recollection of the lessons which they inculcate, the well-informed Mason derives instruction, draws them to a near inspection, views them through a proper medium, adverts to the circumstances which gave them rise, and dwells upon the tenets which they convey. Finding them replete with useful information he prizes them as sacred; and convinced of the propriety, estimates their value from their utility.—*Masonic Register*.

AN EVENING WITH THE "OLD FOLKS."

FOLLOWING a suggestion made by Bro. A. J. Dixie, at the Old People's Entertainment in January, a number of brethren made arrangements to visit them on one of the meeting nights in the Hall of the Institution. The evening selected was Tuesday last, the 15th, but in consequence of the inclemency of the weather, the promoters did not muster at the rendezvous so numerous as could have been wished. However, Bros. James Terry P.M. 228, A. J. Dixie J.W. 453, R. W. Galer W.M. 1366, F. Ashton 1507, W. Staley 1597, Bacon 1839, and W. Syclemore 1288 attended, and a little after six o'clock found these zealous brethren plodding through the snow to the Old Folks' Home at Croydon, where they were most cordially welcomed by the Matron, Miss Norris, who provided them with a cup of tea. As soon as the Old People had assembled in the Hall, Bro. James Terry, the indefatigable Secretary, introduced the visitors, and the evening's entertainment commenced. The sanction of the ladies to allow their elder brethren to enjoy the fragrant weed having been accorded, Bro. Syclemore sang "Queen of the Earth," playing his own accompaniment. Miss Mary and Miss Annie Galer followed, with a duet in B by A. Diabelli. Bro. W. Staley next sang "The Village Blacksmith." The "Old Boys" were now enjoying their smoke, and it was suggested they were possibly getting dry; this hint was immediately acted upon. The Visitors at once proceeded to minister to the creature comforts of the ladies and their elder brethren, who thoroughly appreciated the kind forethought displayed for them. Renewing the entertainment, Bro. F. Ashton sang "Resignation;" Bro. Dixie gave a comic recitation, "Peterkin Peep;" Bro. Staley sang the "Stirrup Cup." Bro. Terry gave the popular recitation, "Daniel versus Dishclout;" Bro. Syclemore sang "To-morrow will be Friday." The Misses Galer played a duet, "The Great Globe Quadrilles;" Miss Annie Galer, "L'Argentine." Mr. Ashton sang "The Lost Chord." Bro. Dixie recited a nursery rhyme, in two versions, "The House that Jack Built;" Bro. Staley followed, with "Tell me, Mary, how to woo thee." Bro. Dyer, one of the residents, gave a recitation, "Melnotte's defence." Bro. Syclemore sang "The Skipper." Miss Mary Galer played "March aux Flambeaux." Bro. Ashton sang "The sea is England's glory." Mrs. Bonorandi sang "Far o'er the waves," playing her own accompaniment, and as an encore "The Reign of the Roses;" lastly, Bro. Syclemore gave "God save the Queen." Bro. Dixie explained the motive which had prompted those who had come down to visit the Old People, and trusted at no distant date to see them again. Bro. Terry, on behalf of the residents, tendered their sincere thanks to the brethren who had so thoroughly striven to amuse them.

As our readers will perceive, by an advertisement appearing on another page, a Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Monday next, the 21st inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, to consider some important notices of motion.

At the meeting of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928, held at the Brixton Hall, on Saturday last, Past Master Brother Thomas Minstrell (the M.E.Z. of the Gallery Chapter) was elected to represent the Lodge as Steward at the forthcoming Anniversary of the Girls' School. Brother Minstrell, who is a Life Governor of the Masonic Institutions, filled a similar position this year for the Old People in another Lodge, where he is a Past Master. For many years Bro. Minstrell has been a warm supporter of the Charities, and has been the means, either as Steward himself or by assisting other Stewards, of obtaining large sums of money for the Institutions.

The ceremony of installation is announced for rehearsal by Bro. Frederic Carr P.M., at the Loyalty Lodge of Instruction, held at 206 Mare-street, E., at eight o'clock on Friday next, the 25th instant.

RE-OPENING OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, NEWMARKET.—On the south side of this Chapel there is a two-light window, representing "Etheldreda" and "Solomon," given by the Freemasons of Etheldreda Lodge to the memory of the late Bro. James Neal York. Another on the same side, representing "The Annunciation" and "The Presentation," is to the memory of the Rev. John Dennon, M.A., late rector of St. Mary, and was raised by public subscription in the parish. At the east end of the south aisle a three-light window (subject, "The Transfiguration") has been placed by Mr. W. Ratliff, of Coventry, to the memory of his uncle and aunt, of Newmarket. These windows were designed and executed by Messrs. T. J. Marshall and Co., Campbell Works, Stoke Newington. The west window has also been reglazed, and the upper part renewed with a chaste design (foliage) by the same firm.—*Bury and Suffolk Standard*.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

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DOMATIC LODGE, No. 177.

THE last meeting of the session in connection with this Lodge was held on Friday evening, 11th March, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, when there was a numerous attendance of members and visitors, under the presidency of Bro. A. Simner, Worshipful Master. Amongst those present were Bros. H. J. Chapman S.W., Harvey J.W., George Everett P.M. Treasurer, T. Morris Secretary, H. Salmon S.D., J. E. Sparrell J.D., J. Billingham I.G., Goodfellow D.C., Hewetson W.S., Harry Nelson Price I.P.M.; Past Masters W. J. Ferguson, R. Pierpoint, J. G. Walford, W. J. Herbage, A. Bowman Spink, W. M. Funston, E. White, I. Buscall, &c. Lodge having been opened in form and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, was advanced to the third, when Bros. V. Melillo and D. St. V. McPherson were raised to the sublime degree, the ceremony being performed by the Worshipful Master in a most impressive and highly satisfactory manner. Resuming in the second, Bro. J. Hamblin was passed, the working in this degree being also admirably carried out. On the motion of Bro. Ferguson, a committee, consisting of the Officers of the Lodge and five lay members, was appointed to carry out the details of an entertainment to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, to which ladies will be invited. Some minor matters having been transacted, the brethren and visitors adjourned to the Pillar Room, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. F. H. Clemow. In his accustomed genial manner, Bro. Simner proposed the loyal toasts, in doing which he pointed out that what with printing, the telegraph, railways, and other improvements over the "good old days," we lived in highly favoured times, and for much of this we were indebted to Her Majesty the Queen. He gave them with much pleasure the Queen and the Craft; the toast being received with musical honours. Our Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, was well-known and appreciated in the Craft, and he was in every respect fully qualified for the exalted position he held as the head of English Freemasonry. Those who attended the last meeting of Grand Lodge knew with what acclamation his Royal Highness was again elected Grand Master, and what a tribute was paid to him for the active interest he took in all matters appertaining to the Craft. The next toast was that of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master; the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; and the rest of the Grand Officers, present and past. Those who had the privilege of attending Grand Lodge knew how thoroughly well and satisfactorily the business was transacted. They were fortunate this evening in having amongst them the Grand Treasurer-elect, Bro. Richard Eve, and he would merely say the election that took place in Grand Lodge last week was a noble victory for a noble and well-known brother. There was not a member of the Domatic Lodge but who rejoiced at the success attained by so excellent a Mason as was Bro. Eve, and they one and all had reason to congratulate themselves upon the result of the election. It was with very great pleasure that he had the opportunity of associating with the toast of the Grand Officers the name of the Grand Treasurer-elect. Bro. Eve, who on rising to respond was most enthusiastically received, said he felt a very important duty had been placed upon his shoulders by the Worshipful Master that evening, namely, that of responding on behalf of the Grand Officers present and past of Grand Lodge. It was the first time in London he had a temptation anything of the kind, inasmuch as it was a duty which he had not long been called upon to discharge. But, in obedience to the command of the W.M., who was the sovereign of his Lodge, he rose to respond to the toast, with great pleasure, and yet with a considerable amount of diffidence, because he felt there were many present who had not been brought into close contact with him for some time, and he had not been able to move and act in Grand Lodge as many of them had done. But any one who had attended Grand Lodge must have seen that the duties which devolved upon the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Lathom, and others who were Officers of Grand Lodge, had been performed with an ability and earnestness of purpose which commended itself to all good and true Masons. They felt that the M.W. Grand Master, in selecting these good brethren for the offices they filled, had exercised a choice of which no brother could in any way complain. There were upon that day men of eminence in all shades of social and political thought, and men who knew well the working of Freemasonry in all parts of the world. They found in Freemasonry an appropriate and quiet place for meeting together, where all those elements which disturbed peace and tranquillity were thrown aside; and they found brethren holding high and lofty positions in the Government and out of the Government uniting in Grand Lodge, as elsewhere, with quietness, goodwill, and brotherly love. It was an essential part of Freemasonry to have men so qualified to discharge the duties of Grand Lodge, and to find that those qualifications permeated through all sections of Masonry, not only in Grand Lodge, but private Lodges as well; he should be sorry were anything to arise to mar that feeling of peace and harmony which now reigned supreme throughout the Craft. Their excellent Worshipful Master had kindly mentioned that he (the speaker) had been elected to the office of Grand Treasurer, and he could assure them he felt the honour of that position most deeply. He felt it was one of the most honourable positions that any brother could aspire to, and to his mind it was the embodiment of all that a brother who had lived and moved actively in Freemasonry could possibly expect. It was the one great office in the hands of the Craft which they had at their disposal. The office of Grand Master was an elective office, and so long as His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales consented to honour the Craft by holding that high and exalted position, which he filled so well, the Craft would honour themselves by electing him to it. In regard to the office of Grand Treasurer, the case was somewhat different, but it

was the highest elective position to which any ordinary member of the Craft could aspire. There were many distinguished positions distinguished men of honour could aspire to, but he assured them if there was one post more than another he should like to take upon himself it would be that which the Craft had done him the honour during the past week of placing within his reach. He seemed scarcely yet to realise fully the duty which was embodied, but he appreciated the honour which had been conferred upon him by one of the greatest Grand Lodges that ever assembled in this country; he might say the largest. He had the high privilege of being elected by that large gathering of brethren of the London and Provincial Lodges to the office of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, and he could assure them that although he aspired to that honour, he felt, when he had obtained it, the result was more than he was able to bear. That he should have been elected by such a majority in the presence of so large an assembly, not only from Lodges in London and the suburbs, but also from the Provinces, was most gratifying certainly to himself, but the compliment was so great that, as he told a friend near him, he grew really pale with the thought that so many brethren should be there, and that he should be elected by such a vast majority. He felt that he scarcely deserved that honour, but he sincerely trusted that Masonry would not suffer by his having been elected to the position of Grand Treasurer. That office was one the dignity of which the brethren should be anxious to preserve, so that it might not lose the estimation in which it had hitherto been held in all parts of the world. He was pleased to be amongst them that evening, by invitation of their Worshipful Master, to whom he owed a deep debt of gratitude. It was difficult sometimes to know what to say, but his difficulty on this occasion was rather what not to say, but, he repeated, he owed their W.M. a deep debt of gratitude for the kindness he had evinced towards him (the speaker) in reference to the recent election, and it had made a deep impression upon him. It was through an intimation he received shortly after he had the honour of visiting the Domatic Lodge, some months ago, that he became acquainted with certain matters which to his mind were most painful, for however much one might be met by aspersions in the outside world, one scarcely expected to be met by such aspersions in a Masonic Lodge or from brethren of the Craft. He felt it to be his duty, painful as it was to him—though he would not dwell upon that part of the subject—to rebut these aspersions. He felt there was in Freemasonry such a feeling of what he called fair-play, such a desire on the part of the brethren to see the right man was selected, or at any rate that the man who acted rightly should not go without his reward, that they would vindicate not only the honour of Freemasonry but demonstrate to the world that charges against a man of any specific character, either religiously or politically, should not enter into Masonic life. He was under a deep debt of gratitude to the many brethren who so nobly came forward and supported him in the time of trial. He loved and honoured the Craft all the more for what they had done for him, and he should endeavour to discharge the functions of his exalted office to the very best of his ability. He felt that Freemasonry cemented men in ties of love and friendship when they would otherwise be estranged, that it brought them together in brotherly intercourse when they would otherwise never have known one another, and that it would be in the future conducive to the same desirable ends, not only amongst those within the fold, but would exercise a beneficial radiating influence far beyond it. They had passed through a trying position during the past week, when hundreds of brethren sat in Grand Lodge in order that they might give their veto to what had occurred outside, and to which he had alluded. He was glad to see that Freemasonry was considered so good, that there were so many who took a deep interest in it, and testified that interest by loss of time, travelling long distances, and in other ways, to attend the election of Grand Treasurer. He felt a double debt of gratitude to the members of the Domatic Lodge, who did him the honour of receiving him scarcely a month ago; and he believed the fact of his coming here was the turning point of the election, so far as London brethren were concerned. Many of them knew him but little, whilst others knew him well, and he thanked Bro. George Everett for having given him the opportunity at that time of coming amongst them, and he believed it was in a great manner due to their kindness that he had achieved the honour to which he aspired. Let him tell them now, he had no conception till the end of last year he should ever run for the Grand Treasurership. Whatever he had done in Freemasonry had not been with a view to office; but he was glad they had so nobly supported him in his candidature, that so many members of the Domatic Lodge rallied around him on that occasion. He thanked them again for the Grand Officers, who were not present to speak for themselves, and also on his own behalf for their consideration in the past and kindness at the present time. The Grand Treasurer-elect resumed his seat amidst loud and prolonged applause. Bro. H. N. Price I.P.M. then proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, to whom he referred as a thoroughly good and worthy brother, fully competent to discharge the important duties of the chair of the Domatic Lodge. It was known that Bro. Simner intended going up as Steward to the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and had promised that in the event of his list being made up to a total of 100 guineas he would personally supplement it by an equal amount. He hoped the Lodge would be well to the fore on that occasion, as the Girls' School was an institution well deserving their support. The toast having been heartily received, Bro. Simner returned thanks. He hoped to be able to discharge the duties of his office with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren. He was conscious of his own shortcomings, but being near their very able I.P.M. that was half the battle; he was pleased to find that his slight efforts to promote the happiness of the brethren had been well received. Bro. Price was going round with the list for the Girls' School: he thanked the Past Masters for their each having contributed five guineas, whilst the I.P.M. had promised ten guineas. If all the brethren followed that example there would be

no difficulty in raising the 100 guineas he had asked for. The girls at the School would rank among the future mothers of England, and by giving them a good education they would leave in posterity behind them such as would be a glory to the Craft. He hoped the good opinion they had formed of him would not diminish, but rather increase. He next proposed the Visitors, of whom he was glad to see so many present. The Domestic Lodge well maintained the character it had for so many years enjoyed of being always happy to welcome visitors from other Lodges. By such visits they promoted social feeling and genial intercourse, and those feelings would die out in a great measure were they not encouraged and promoted by our Masonic Lodges. Bro. C. F. Hogard, P.M. and Secretary of the Israel Lodge, first responded. He was delighted to see the working in this Lodge so well carried out; of course they looked to an old Lodge like the Domestic to do the work well, and they had not been disappointed that day. It was some time since he last visited this Lodge; he was glad to meet the brethren again, and to know that the Lodge was in a prosperous condition. He hoped it might long continue to increase in strength and influence. Bros. Lane, La Feuillade, Dickey and Stiles also responded. The Worshipful Master, in giving the Past Masters, facetiously referred to them as "old fossils," being in the first year of their new centenary; and Bro. Ferguson in reply said, although he would not argue that he and his brother "antiquarians" possessed all the vitality they displayed in the last century, they nevertheless would in the future do all they could to advance the interests of the Lodge. Whilst they had amongst them such robust "old fossils" as Brother Pierpoint and others, they would always be entitled to be looked upon with respect as well as veneration. Brother Spink also responded, in similar terms. The W.M. then proposed the Treasurer and Secretary, whose valuable services to the Lodge he eulogised. Bro. George Everett responding said, in a Lodge like this, consisting of over 150 members, the position of Treasurer was no bed of roses, and there was a great deal to be done if he tried to please everybody; but, all things considered, he was glad to be able to think he had been fairly successful in that respect. Their W.M. had described it as wonderful how, with a subscription of two and a half guineas a year, they could meet six times around the festive board as they were now doing; but in order to accomplish this task he had to husband the resources and to see how every penny went. He hoped his efforts in that direction had given them satisfaction. This was the last night of the session, and he congratulated the Lodge upon having such a Master in the chair as Bro. Simner, who had well discharged his duties on this occasion. He trusted many new members would come into the Lodge, at their Lodge of emergency perhaps, or if not at their next regular meeting in October, and that they should meet as happily and comfortably as they had done that night. It was a source of gratification to him to be present, and to hear their W.M. say he had given them satisfaction; if the brethren endorsed that opinion he should be more than grateful. Bro. T. Morris also briefly acknowledged the compliment paid to him as Secretary. The W.M. in proposing the Masonic Charities said he wanted a few more "five guineas" to make up the desired amount; if they saw the Master of the Domestic Lodge figuring for less than 100 guineas it would not be his fault. Somebody had ventured to suggest his list would be nearer 300; it would not be for his want of trying. The services of the Officers of the Lodge were recognised and acknowledged by the various occupants of chairs, and the list was closed by the Tyler. During the evening the enjoyment of the brethren was enhanced by some capitally rendered songs, amongst which "God bless the Prince of Wales," "Tom Bowling," and "The Old Brigade," were sung by Bro. W. Herbage P.M.; "Who deeply drinks of wine" and "A Bandit's Life," by Bro. Syckelmoore; "My Sweetheart when a Boy," by Bro. Geo. Everett P.M. Treas.; "Will o' the Wisp," by Bro. Stephens, &c. A most harmonious and agreeable evening was spent.

PORTSMOUTH LODGE, No. 478.

THURSDAY, the 10th inst., was a "red-letter" day in the history of this Lodge, the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P.) having accepted an invitation to instal the Worshipful Master Elect (Bro. J. W. Boughton, proprietor of the Theatre Royal). The Lodge was closed at two p.m., and subsequently the P.G.M., accompanied by several present and past Provincial Officers, entered in procession, and was received with the usual honours. The ceremony of installing Bro. Boughton was most ably and impressively performed by the Prov. G.M., who expressed the great pleasure which he experienced in visiting the Lodge, and finding that the Officers were doing their best to maintain the reputation which it had previously gained. A vote of condolence was passed with the widow and family of the late Alderman Peters, who had been a member of the Lodge since 1865. A pleasing incident in the proceedings was the recognition of the services of Bro. A. M. Rae, the retiring Secretary, upon whom a great deal of work devolved in connection with Thursday's proceedings. The P.M. (Bro. J. T. Thackara), in presenting Bro. Rae with a Past Secretary's jewel, congratulated him upon the heartiness and ability with which he had performed the duties of his office, and also acknowledged his unvarying willingness to assist him and other brethren. He wished him long life, health, and happiness. Bro. Rae, who was warmly applauded, briefly returned thanks. The W.M. then appointed and invested his Officers, as under:—Bros. J. T. Thackara I.P.M., J. Jenkins S.W., W. Bates J.W., T. P. Palmer P.M. Treas., H. P. Holly P.M. Sec., A. M. Rae Asst. Sec., G. Whitehall S.D., G. C. Sanderson J.D., Horace M. Loader P.M. P.S.G.D., D.C., G. Pearman Org., E. Wolstenholme I.G., J. D. Antill and G. E. Curtis Stewards, J. Exell Tyler, G. Smith Asst. Tyler. The services of the I.P.M. were recognised by the presentation of a P.M.'s jewel, which the W.M. (Bro. Boughton), who made the presentation, trusted would be accepted, not for its intrinsic value, but as representing the very high esteem and regard in which his immediate pre-

decessor was held by the Officers of the Lodge, who hoped that he would live many years to wear it. Bro. Thackara, in reply, thanked the Officers for their assistance and their strenuous endeavours to improve the Lodge. The musical portion of the ceremony was efficiently arranged by Brother G. Pearman. The installation banquet was served at 4.30, in the hall under the Lodge, and was largely attended, the W.M. having issued a number of invitations. The catering was entrusted to Messrs. Antill and Co., of the Albany Hotel, Commercial-road, and, under the superintendence of Bro. H. P. Holly P.M., was highly satisfactory. The string band of the Royal Marines, under the personal direction of Bro. George Miller, played choice selections during the banquet. The W.M. presided, supported by the Prov. G.M., the Mayor of Portsmouth (Bro. Alderman W. D. Kim.), and by several provincial officers, past and present P.M.'s and W.M.'s. At the conclusion of the banquet the W.M. proposed the loyal toasts, which were duly honoured. Bro. M. E. Frost P.M. P.P.G.S.W. gave the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Officers of Grand Lodge. He referred to the connection between the Province and Grand Lodge, mentioning that Lord Charles Beresford, the first W.M. of the Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar Lodge, was now a Grand Warden, the Rev. J. N. Palmer, of Brading, Grand Chaplain, and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. J. E. LeFevre) a Grand Deacon. He also adverted to the Earl of Carnarvon's connection with Hampshire, adding that their Provincial Grand Master had initiated that distinguished brother. The Mayor, who was warmly applauded on rising, thanked the W.M. for the honour he had conferred upon him by inviting him to their magnificent banquet, and for having requested him to propose the next toast. The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P. He should not be doing his duty if he did not draw attention to the many rôles which he filled in the province. First, they saw him a good landowner, who thoroughly understood the wants of his tenants, because he had studied the times, and, recognising the agricultural distress, felt that the tenants must live on the land as well as the landlord. They recognised also in him a very distinguished patron of sports and a master of foxhounds, and therefore they were proud to greet him as a thorough going Englishman of the typical old school. Thirty years ago he was chosen to represent North Hants in Parliament, a position which he had occupied ever since, with honour to himself and credit to the division which he had so well and worthily represented. He was a safe and reliable man, who did not, like some, obstruct business, but who when he was wanted was always in his place to do his duty as a member of Parliament, a class of whom he should not be sorry if more were produced in a future House of Commons than were at present to be found there. But they were specially called upon to recognise Brother Beach as a distinguished Mason, who nineteen years ago took upon himself the office which he had so worthily filled. He had heard him say at a recent meeting that it was his duty and pleasure to visit Lodges in the province as frequently as possible. That was one of the best traits they could have in a P.G.M., and so long as he took cognizance of the Lodges so long would Masonry flourish in Hampshire. The Provincial Grand Master, who had an enthusiastic reception, thanked the brethren most sincerely for the very kind way in which they had received the toast, and also the Mayor for the manner in which he had introduced it. He assured them that it gave him very great pleasure to attend on an occasion so interesting as the present. It was very agreeable to attend an anniversary of one of the great Lodges of the province, and if it was the duty of the Provincial Grand Master to make himself acquainted with the qualifications of those holding office in the various Lodges he could not possibly do so better than by attending on occasions such as that and seeing them perform any duty devolving upon them. It was very pleasurable to come into Masonry from the strife to which the Mayor had alluded as occurring in another place. There they did not find that all were amenable to order, but there were unruly spirits whom the gavel of a Worshipful Master would bring to order if they were within the precincts of their Lodges. But he was afraid that the Speaker did not quite wield that power which a Worshipful Master possessed, although the Speaker had such qualities that he might be trusted to act fairly and impartially with any further powers that might be delegated to him by the House of Commons. He hoped that the results, if not as satisfactory as could be wished for, would be a little more so than they had been. The Mayor had alluded to those sports in which he had engaged, and he would not refer to them further than to say that he was very happy if he contributed to the pleasure of others. He regarded those sports not merely from a selfish point of view, but as being for the amusement and he hoped the gratification of those living around him and others who came from a distance, and he believed they contributed to the development of that manly spirit which existed in the province. With regard to his connection with Freemasonry, he expressed his most sincere thanks to the brethren of the province for the noble way in which they had come forward and contributed so largely to that great charity over whose Festival he had the honour to preside. It was not only gratifying to him personally but it was specially gratifying to those charged with the administration of that Charity, and they appreciated the noble way in which the brethren of this province came forward. He had the pleasure of going down to visit the Institution a few days after the Festival, and saw the regular quarterly allowances distributed. He had the opportunity of seeing the inmates of the Asylum, and of hearing the great pleasure afforded them by the very magnificent results which had accrued from the Festival. It gave them pleasure, how much more must it give to those who were waiting to know if they could be placed within the precincts of the Charity. It must have been many an aching heart to hear that through the liberality of the brethren the number of annuitants would be considerably increased. This would come home to every Masonic heart and afford gratification to those who had contributed so largely to it. He could only hope that this magnificent result was an indication of

the manner in which Masonic charity would be taken up by the various provinces, and particularly by this one, where they had every reason to congratulate themselves upon the liberality which had been shown. Bro. Alderman Cadlipp P.M. P.P.G.D.C., in eulogistic terms, proposed the Very Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master Bro. J. E. LeFevre, G.D. England, and Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and Bro. R. J. Rastrick Provincial Grand Treasurer responded. Brother J. T. Thackara I.P.M., in proposing the Worshipful Master, congratulated Bro. Boughton upon having been unanimously elected to fill the chair of that important Lodge, and also upon his rising position in the town. He thought that a man who managed well his own affairs could manage well the affairs of a corporation, and therefore he considered the management of the Portsmouth Lodge could be safely left in the hands of Bro. Boughton. The W.M., who was loudly applauded, in returning thanks said he was proud to meet so numerous and distinguished a body of Masons. He heartily thanked them for their great kindness and support. They had conferred upon him a very high honour by placing him in the chair of the Lodge for the ensuing year. When he became a Mason in that, his mother Lodge, some ten years since, he did not ever hope to attain that position, and he did not think he could do better than repeat the promise he made at his election, which was that in carrying out the duties of the office he should endeavour, as far as lay in his humble power, to copy the example which had been set by the many worthy Masters who had passed the chair before him. The other toasts were the Installing Master, proposed by Bro. J. G. Niven P.M. P.P.G.S.B., and responded to by the P.G.M.; the W.M.'s of Neighbouring Lodges, introduced by Bro. G. L. Green, and acknowledged by Bro. W. G. P. Gilbert W.M. Phoenix Lodge; the Visitors, proposed by Bro. R. W. Beale P.M. P.P.G. Std Br., and responded to by the Mayor and Bro. J. Griffin; the Officers; and the Masonic Charities, given by Bro. J. W. Gieve; Freemasonry and the Drama, which was to have been spoken to by Bro. A. M. Broadley P.P.D.G.M. Malta, and Brother Augustus Harris, W.M. of the Drury Lane Lodge, was omitted, owing to the unavoidable absence of those brethren. Those invited to the installation and banquet included Bros. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., R.W. P.G.M., Rev. J. Alloway P.G. Chaplain, G. F. Lancaster P.G. Reg., R. J. Rastrick P.G. Treas., E. Goble P.G. Secretary, H. E. Leader P.S.G.D., H. Lashmore P.S.G.D., J. Lowe P.G.J.D., F. Powell P.G. Dir. of Cers., H. Kimber P.G. Sword Bearer, J. Jackson P.G. Pursvt., F. Sanders P.G. Stewd., J. Palmer P.G. Steward, D. G. Gilmour P.G. Steward, J. M. Foster P.G. Steward, J. G. Niven P.M. P.P.G.S.B., Gilbert W.M. Phoenix Lodge, W. A. Hill W.M. Harmony Lodge, W. Buntell W.M. Royal Sussex Lodge, J. J. Bascombe W.M. Carnarvon Lodge, W. Smith, G. Whitehall, E. Pratt W.M. United Service Lodge, J. S. Senior W.M. Prince of Wales Lodge, J. Godding W.M. Landport Lodge, J. S. Gardner W.M. Connaught Lodge, Long W.M. Saxe-Weimar Lodge, W. Dart S.W. St. Clare Lodge, G. L. Hill W.M. Bosmere Lodge, M. E. Frost P.M., A. Cadlipp P.M., G. Bond P.M., R. W. Beale P.M., W. Ontridge P.M., H. P. Holley P.M., J. T. Thackara P.M., J. Woodhouse P.M., W. E. Atkins P.M., A. Addison, J. D. Antill, G. F. Brown P.M., T. Bailey, J. H. Bridle, W. Bolitho, H. P. Boulnois P.M., A. Bone, F. A. Baker, W. Bates J.W., W. Biggs, J. Biggs, A. Bramble, H. Croucher P.M., G. T. Cunningham P.M., J. H. Corke, C. E. Curtis, R. W. Curtiss, G. H. Dean, J. S. Dyer, S. R. Ellis P.M. P.G.A.D.C., J. Franckeiss, W. Gunnell P.P.G. Supt. Wks., G. L. Green, J. W. Gieve P.M., J. Griffin, A. R. Holbrook P.M., E. Hall P.M. P.P.G. Supt. of Works, J. Jenkins S.W., Dr. C. Knott P.M., L. Levy, A. Lewis, G. Miller, Dr. Mumby, G. Pearman P.P.G. Org., A. M. Rae, T. W. Scaddan, G. C. Sanderson, W. Suggett, Colonel Totterdell, W. W. Webber, Dr. Keith Welch, W. Warne, E. Wolstenholme, A. Perry, W. H. Hutchisson, C. H. Hardy, J. Reed, W. Maybour, J. C. Masterman, J. W. Willmott Past Master P.P.G.S.B., W. Porter, T. H. Fay, W. Green, R. Eames, &c. In the evening Brother Boughton gave an "At Home" in the Victoria Hall, which had been decorated with a number of plants, &c., for the occasion. The company, who commenced to arrive at nine o'clock, were received by the worthy host, who was ably supported by Bro. J. T. Thackara, R. W. Beale, H. P. Holly, G. Whitehall, G. H. Dean, J. H. Corke, T. W. Scaddan, and G. E. Curtis, who officiated as M.C.'s and were indefatigable in the discharge of their duties. Among the early arrivals were the Provincial Grand Master, who had kindly granted a dispensation enabling Masons to appear in the clothing and decorations of the Craft, which imparted additional brilliance to the scene. The catering, which was entrusted to Messrs. Antill and Co., left nothing to be desired. Save during an interval for supper dancing was kept up unflaggingly until after three o'clock, the music, played by the band of the Royal Marines, being thoroughly enjoyed by the company, who likewise heartily appreciated Bro. Boughton's considerate hospitality, which will cause his elevation in Masonry to be held in pleasing remembrance by a number of ladies as well as by the members of the sterner sex who participated in the "double event."

LODGE OF CONCORD, No. 632.

AT the regular monthly meeting of this Lodge, held at Trowbridge, on Tuesday sen'night, Bro. James Lansdown was raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the W.M. Bro. F. Kelland performing the ceremony in a highly impressive manner; he was ably assisted by the Officers of the Lodge. Bro. G. H. Knight, of Westbury, then passed to the second degree. Subsequently Messrs W. H. Laverton, of Westbury, C. J. Hart, and C. J. Offer, were initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry. The W.M. conducted the whole of the ceremonies; these occupied about three hours and a half. Three candidates were proposed and seconded. An adjournment from labour to refreshment at the George Hotel was then very welcome. The Lodge was largely attended by brethren and visitors.

BEDFORD LODGE, No. 157.

ON Friday, 11th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, there were present Bros. Thomas Cubitt P.G.P. P.M. W.M., Ernest Jones S.W., C. Jenner J.W., J. T. Briggs P.M. Treasurer, W. Liddall P.M. Secretary, Larner S.D., J. C. Main J.D., W. Snodin P.M. I.G., G. Longstaff Tyler; P.M.'s T. Hall, J. Brander, J. Walton, J. Soper; Bros. E. F. Shoebridge, Dr. Donovan. Visitor—Bro. W. Drew J.W. 733. After the ordinary business had been got through, a pleasant surprise was in store for the members. The W.M. asked the Treasurer to withdraw the notice of motion standing in his name, and if it would meet the approval of the brethren he would wish to celebrate the Jubilee of Her Majesty's reign during his Mastership by presenting the Lodge with a suitable banner, to be unfurled at the next meeting. The Treasurer having cordially assented to such a course, the W.M. in a feeling manner presented to the Lodge for its acceptance a magnificent Bible, suitably inscribed. It was proposed by Bro. Liddall P.M. and Secretary, seconded by Bro. John Soper I.P.M., and unanimously carried, that the best thanks of the Lodge be, and are hereby given, to Bro. Thomas Cubitt P.G.P. P.M. and W.M., and ordered to be entered on the minutes of the Lodge, for presenting to the Lodge a suitable Banner and Bible in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, 1887. These acts of generosity on the part of the W.M. aroused the greatest enthusiasm amongst the members present. Bro. Walter Snodin P.M. I.G. announced his intention of celebrating Her Majesty's Jubilee by presenting the Lodge with a set of New Collars for the use of the Officers. Bro. Ernest Jones S.W. announced his intention of celebrating the same auspicious event by presenting the Lodge with a Box of Working Tools. It was proposed by the W.M., seconded by Bro. Thos. Walton P.M., and unanimously carried, that the best thanks of the Lodge be and are hereby given to Bro. W. Snodin P.M. and Bro. E. Jones S.W. for their very useful gifts. The Lodge then agreed not to meet in April, but to have a summer outing instead. W. Bro. Thomas Cubitt P.G.P. P.M. W.M. is so well known to our London Masons, and not a few country ones also, that anything new respecting him need scarcely be chronicled here. He joined the Bedford Lodge in 1857, and has rarely missed a meeting since. He has filled all the offices, and now occupies the chair for the second time. Genial to a fault (he will Box the Compass with any member), his presence is appreciated in Grand Lodge as at the Bedford; here he invariably responds to the toast of the Grand Officers, often alluding to the part he took when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was duly installed at the Albert Hall. As Father of the Lodge the brethren were deeply impressed by his hearty expressions in making the above presentations, and in his response to the toast for a Long Life, Health and Happiness. This meeting was indeed a red-letter day for the old Bedford Lodge, and will not soon be forgotten by those present.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE, No. 1426.

THE last meeting of the above Lodge for the season was held on Saturday, 12th instant, at the Cannon Street Hotel, Bro. F. W. Potter W.M. presided; Bros. H. Bertram S.W., Greening J.W.; P.M.'s Bros. N. B. Headon Treasurer, Blackie, Kibble, Baber Secretary, Seex, Keeble, and Fendick. The following Visitors were present:—Bros. Green 1804, C. Cousins P.M. 209, Brookham 1471, Church 1365, Tatun 169, Rossignol 167, Holloway 173, Karlherschan St. Andrew's, Christiania, Sweden, Williams 1790, Deacon 39, Bastene 1861. The preliminary business having been disposed of, and the necessary inquiries as to progress having been made, the Lodge was opened in the third, and Brother Hatcher was raised to the sublime degree, nearly the entire ceremony being gone through; a like form was taken in respect to Bro. Peterson, who was also a candidate for raising. The remaining part of the ceremony was then gone through, the W.M. giving the traditional history, and also an explanation of the tracing board. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when a ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. Thomas Owens; this proving unanimous he was in due form initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The next business was the election of a Worshipful Master, Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. On the first proposition being brought forward, and the names received of those who were eligible for election to the office, Bro. Bertram S.W. said he wished to make a personal statement before the question was submitted to the brethren; it appeared that according to the Constitutions of the Order no brother could hold the Mastership of two Lodges at the same time; he had recently been elected W.M. of another Lodge; that Lodge consisted of only 27 members; some of the members had served the office of Worshipful Master three times, and several twice, so that the number to select from was exceedingly limited. He had looked forward with anxiety to the time when he might be called upon to serve the office of Master in his mother Lodge, but in consequence of the great pressure put upon him he had reluctantly consented to be nominated to serve that office in the Lodge referred to; this would render him ineligible to fill the chair in The Great City Lodge on the present occasion; he did not, however, give up all hope of doing so, and trusted that when the next Worshipful Master appointed his Officers he would remember him. A ballot was then taken; it resulted in the election of the J.W. to the office. Bro. Headon was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Potter Tyler. Bro. Gwyn then moved that the P.M.'s jewel of the Lodge be presented to the Worshipful Master, Bro. F. Potter, on the termination of his year of office; this was agreed to. It was also agreed that the sum of twenty guineas be voted from the funds of the Lodge to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and placed upon the W.M.'s list. Bro. Greening J.W. moved that the subscription annually of the members be increased one guinea over the present amount, which was seconded by Bro. Kibble P.M. Bro. H. Thompson P.M. opposed the motion; he greatly regretted that this proposition should be again submitted to them, for the third time, considering the miserable

failures of the two former attempts to carry a similar motion. He saw no reason why this increase should be made, and he should vote against it. Some other members having expressed their views, the motion was put, and negatived by a large majority. A petition from a distressed member was signed by the Worshipful Master and Wardens for presentation to the Board of Benevolence, and a sum of money was voted to the wife of a member of the Lodge. The Secretary having read several communications, Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, Brother Fendick Immediate Past Master proposed the health of the Worshipful Master; he believed that during his year of office Bro. Potter had given general satisfaction. The W. Master, in reply, said he was gratified at the way in which the toast had been brought before the Lodge by the Immediate Past Master, and the enthusiastic way in which the brethren had responded to it was a sufficient reward to him for any efforts he had made to do his duty in The Great City Lodge. From the time he had been elected to the high office he filled he had done his best to keep up the prestige of the Lodge, and if he had done so as well as the worst Past Master who had preceded him the knowledge of that in itself would be to him a sufficient reward. The W. Master said the next toast he had the pleasure to bring under their notice was a most gratifying one to him, and he believed also to the members of the Great City Lodge. Ever since he had been a member, now something like thirteen years, they always had a goodly array of visitors, to whom they held out the hand of fellowship and gave a hearty welcome. Several of the visitors returned thanks, and expressed their gratification at seeing how the business of the Lodge was carried on. The W. Master next gave the health of their brother initiate, which was followed by the "Apprentice Song," by Bro. Headon. Bro. Owens in acknowledging the compliment which had been paid him by the brethren in admitting him a member amongst them, said that the present moment was the happiest in his life; he hoped they would accept deeds for words; he trusted he should prove he would be a worthy member of the Lodge. The W.M. next proposed the health of the W. Master-elect, and Bro. Greening replied, stating that he had not attended Lodges of Instruction, but would do so. The W.M. then gave in succession the Treasurer, Secretary, and the other Past Masters. They severally returned thanks, and the proceedings were brought to a close.

SOUTHGATE LODGE, No. 1950.

THE installation meeting of the above Lodge was held on Thursday, 3rd inst., at the Railway Hotel, New Southgate. The gathering was attended by numerous members of the Lodge and a long list of visitors. Among the latter being Bros. Greenwood P.G. Sec. Sarrey, Bourne 1614, Wilkinson W.M. 1420, and many others. The minutes having been confirmed, Bro. Cooper S.W. and W.M. elect was duly installed into the chair in a most impressive manner, when the following Officers were appointed:—Bros. Clarke S.W., Lewis J.W., Lefebvre Treasurer, Trewinnard Secretary, Stretch S.D., Prupos J.D., Tryon I.G., Whare D.C., Duck Steward, Schlenker Assistant Steward. Messrs. Robertson, Bradley and Winsor, being candidates for admission, were duly initiated into the ancient and honourable Order, Bro. Cooper rendering the charge with great proficiency. Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the new banquetting-hall, which was gaily decorated with flags of all nations, a sumptuous repast being provided by Bro. Wooder the host. During the evening a very handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to the outgoing Master, Bro. Matthews, as a token of the great respect and high esteem in which he is held by the brethren. The usual toasts being honoured, the evening was enlivened with some very excellent singing. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. H. Schartau.

PRUDENCE LODGE, No. 2069.

THE most successful meeting of this Lodge since the installation of the present widely popular Worshipful Master took place on the 12th inst., at Leeds, when upwards of eighty brethren, some of them hailing from other Provinces, responded to an invitation to hear an address from that eminent Mason and scholar Bro. James Stevens P.M. P.Z., &c. The interest of the gathering was also increased by the fact that Excelsior, No. 1046, had been officially invited to partake of the hospitality of Lodge Prudence. Bro. C. Letch Mason P.M. P.P.G. Treas. W.M. was surrounded by the following Officers and Brethren of his Lodge:—Bros. Rev. Dr. Smyth P.M. Prov. G. Chap. I.P.M., T. Trevor P.M. S.W., W. Watson P.M. J.W., Abbott Treasurer, Middleton Secretary, Rev. J. Rosser Chap., S. Scott Young S.D., J. J. Fretwell J.D., M. W. Jameson I.G., T. Atkinson and Walter Storey Dirs. of Cers., Batterworth and Milling Stewards, L. Howarth Organist, Barrand Tyler, Rev. H. S. Butler, B. S. Bailey, Wilton Jones, Cryer, R. F. Smithson, A. Cooke. The visiting Lodge Excelsior, 1012, was represented by many of the Officers and Brethren, including Bros. T. Flockton W.M., W. M. Tyers I.P.M., W. T. Carter J.W., T. Thorp Secretary, R. Allison and T. Sutton. The other visitors included Bros. T. W. Embleton Prov. G.S.W., J. C. Malcolm P.P.G. Reg., Major Moore, Col. Harkey, W. F. Smithson P.M. 1001 P.P.G.D. W.M. 2128, R. Craig P.P.G.D., T. Winn P.P.G. Supt. Wks., H. France P.P.G.D.C., J. Richardson P.M. 1001 P.P.G. Pursvt., A. Scarth W.M. 1289, Glover P.M. 289, Jackson J.W. 289, E. Wales Smith Secretary 289, Rev. A. B. Coombe Chap. 1211, Rev. T. Greenbury Chap. 301, G. Marshall 1521, W. Matthews P.M. 1316, W. F. Tomlinson P.M. 301, Jaques P.M. 1211, H. E. Maynard 1426, C. Scriven I.P.M. 1211, Thrippleton I.P.M. 306, Gernan P.M., J. B. Jowell S.D. 306, E. J. Massie W.M. 1513, J. Gibbs 904, H. Oxley P.M. 495, R. Grabame 1221, J. Millington 1221, H. Fitzpatrick J.W. 495, J. Gerrard P.M. 154, and many others. Bro. J. Stevens P.M., author of "Uniformity of Masonic Ritual," "Chips from a Rough Ashlar," &c., Preceptor to The Great City Lodge 1426, de-

livered a lecture, entitled "The Ritual and Ceremonial of the Symbolic Degrees of Freemasonry, 1813-1816." In the course of an address lasting upwards of two hours Bro. Stevens held the unwearied attention of his large audience, and had he chosen to have spoken longer still he would have been listened to with gladness. In a report here we are unable to do anything like justice to the deep research, the undoubted knowledge and the felicity of dictation which characterised the discourse. It is an address to which every Mason should have an opportunity of listening. Much that is to the young Mason obscure or meaningless in the ceremonial is elucidated, and one cannot but be forcibly struck by the common sense which actuated the compilers of the ritual, for there is abundant reason given for every phrase and every direction. Bro. Stevens commenced by expressing the surprise and gratification that the Leeds brethren were in possession of such a beautiful and convenient Masonic temple. Such a building must conduce to the well-being of the Order, and be no small factor in the good working of the Lodges. He knew that he was about to lecture before veterans in the Craft, some of whom might probably entertain opinions divergent to his own upon the ritual and ceremonial of Masonry. He only asked of them to carefully weigh the reasons he adduced for the opinions he held, and even if those reasons did not convince them they were too good Masons to judge him harshly. He then went on to say that for the purposes of his lecture it was not necessary to stop to determine whether Masonry was ante-diluvian, or whether its origin dated from the time of the building of King Solomon's temple, or any other period antecedent to a couple of hundred years ago. Of course it was very pleasant and agreeable to make archaeological researches and to study the antiquarian facts that might be put before us. On this occasion he had nothing to do with anything antecedent to 1813. The Grand Lodge of England was constituted at that time, and a ritual was prepared by Drs. Hemmings and Williams, and adopted, a rule being passed to the effect that that ritual was not to be departed from. The lecturer, with this preface, proceeded to deal with the ritual in a manner which cannot here be further particularised, but to the Masons present the explanations were thoroughly instructive and interesting. In passing, Bro. Stevens laid great stress upon the necessity for strict caution being exercised in the admission of initiates, holding that both proposer and seconder should be thoroughly and personally acquainted with the candidate. He strongly condemned the practice—not followed in Leeds—of putting candidates' names on the summons by the command of the Worshipful Master, such candidates not having been proposed in open Lodge. The words "by the fiat of the Worshipful Master," had done more harm to Masonry than anything else. He pointed out, too, that in the Province a more earnest attention was paid to ritual than in London, because the Metropolitan Lodges had not the supervision of Provincial Officers. In conclusion, he pointed out that the more Masonry was studied the more would its beauties be seen, and he urged his hearers not to slacken in their researches after the truths that were symbolised in the system. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by Dr. Smyth, a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously presented to Bro. Stevens, after which Lodge was closed in peace and harmony. There was a large gathering at "high tea," and afterwards the proceedings in the banquetting-hall became, if possible, more interesting than those of the Lodge, because Bro. Stevens expressed his willingness to answer any questions that might be put to him. This permission was largely availed of, both by the Provincial Officers and junior brethren, and the amount of information thus pleasantly disseminated was a tribute to the interest taken in the subject by the Masonic students present, as well as to the fund of information possessed by the lecturer. The social circle was not broken until ten o'clock, when both brethren and visitors freely acknowledged that they had spent one of the pleasantest afternoons Masonry had ever given them, and Bro. Stevens expressed himself as deeply impressed by the earnestness and desire for knowledge evidenced by those brethren of West Yorks he had had the pleasure of addressing. It should be stated that Lodge Prudence, in common with the other eight Leeds Lodges, has decided to support the Imperial Institute.

VITRUVIAN LODGE, No. 87.

ON Wednesday, the 9th inst., the installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. There was an unusually large attendance of brethren and visitors. Bro. Minstrell, the Worshipful Master, presided, and was supported by Bros. Birch S.W. (W.M. elect), Lambourne S.D., Chamberlain J.D. (acting J.W.); P.M.'s Irving, Willing, Harmer, Thurkle, Bale, Davis, Skewing, Hopkins, Janeway, Stuart (Secretary), and others. Bro. Freer was passed to the second degree; the W.M. elect having been presented, was duly installed into the chair of King Solomon. During the evening a valuable Past Master's jewel was presented to the retiring W.M. in recognition of the valuable services he had rendered the Lodge during his year of office. In making the presentation the W.M. expressed the hope that Past Master Minstrell would live long to wear the honorary badge, with which he had great pleasure in investing him. Bro. Minstrell briefly replied, and after the transaction of other Masonic business the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet-room, where an excellent repast was served.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The Great Need.—The blood is the life, and on its purity depends our health, if not our existence. These Pills thoroughly cleanse this vital fluid from all contaminations, and by that power 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 commends them to the favour of debilitated and nervous constitutions, which they soon resuscitate. They 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 who from some cause have become so.

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

Chief Patroness:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Grand Patron and President:

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

Grand Patroness:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

IN compliance with a requisition delivered to me, and signed by the Treasurer, and seven others, being Patrons, Vice-Patrons, or Vice-Presidents, a SPECIAL GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Monday, the 21st day of March 1887, at twelve o'clock precisely, to consider Notices of Motion as under.

NOTICES OF MOTION—

By Bro. RALPH CLUTTON, J.G.D., Vice-Patron, upon recommendation of the House Committee:—

"That the negotiations between the House Committee and Mr. Wm. Evill, for the purchase of the two houses and grounds adjoining the Junior Schools of the Institution, for the sum of £2,500 be approved, and that the Trustees be authorised to carry the same into effect."

By Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., Grand Registrar, Vice-Patron:—

To add to Law XXIX.:—"Provided that no Candidate shall be disqualified by reason of her age exceeding eleven years at the time of Election in cases where such excess would not have arisen had the Election been held on the second Saturday in April of that year."

By Bro. Wm. P. BROWN, Vice-President:—

"That in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, five further vacancies be declared for the Election in April next, thereby admitting of the whole of the Candidates on the List without contest."

By Bro. ROBT. GREY, President Board Benevolence, Patron:—

That the following Law (No. LVI.) be rescinded, viz.:—"No girl shall be eligible for Election, or for admission by purchase, or otherwise, who has a sister in the Institution, unless the number of vacancies is in excess of the number of Candidates."

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

OFFICE—5 Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street, W.C.
14th March 1887.

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

Chief Patroness:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Grand Patron and President:

H.R. HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

Grand Patroness:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

THE NINETY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of this Institution will take place

On WEDNESDAY, the 11th MAY next,

UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF

Sir OFFLEY WAKEMAN, Bart.

R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Shropshire,

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

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

OFFICE—5 Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street, London, W.C.

PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX.

R.W. Col. SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, Bart.

Past Grand Warden of England, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, Provincial Grand Master.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Town Hall, Twickenham, on Wednesday, the 30th March, at 5 p.m. There will not be any banquet.

By command of the Prov. Grand Master.

J. F. H. WOODWARD,

Prov. G. Sec. Middlesex.

Comberton, Mowbray Road, Norwood, S.E., 17th March 1887.

AGENDA.

1. To consider the Report of the Bye-Laws Committee appointed at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge on the 5th June 1886.
2. To adopt the revised Bye-Laws, if approved.

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From 6 to 14 Years of Age.

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APRIL ELECTION, 1887.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers of the

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys

Are earnestly solicited on behalf of

JOHN FAWCETT,

AGED NINE YEARS.

Whose Father, Bro. JOHN GASCOIGNE FAWCETT, late of the "Limes," Herne, Kent, was initiated in the "St. Augustine's Lodge," No. 972, on the 18th of May 1881, and continued a subscribing member until February 1886. He was one of the Founders of the Ethelbert Lodge, No. 2099, and was Senior Deacon of that Lodge up to the time of his death, which took place (after a protracted and severe illness) on the 6th of August 1886. He was always ready to help in the cause of charity and his fellow creatures. He has left a widow and six children almost totally unprovided for.

The case is strongly recommended by the following Lodges:—
ETHELBERT, 2099, and St. AUGUSTINE, 972;

Also by the undermentioned brethren:—

- V.W. ROBERT GREY President of the Board of Benevolence, 41 Russell Square, W.C.
- *C. F. WACHER P.P.G.D. Kent I.P.M. 2099 P.M. 1209, Wrayton House, Broadstairs.
- GEO. PILCHER P.P.G.D.C. Kent P.M. 972, St. Peter's-street, Canterbury.
- *T. B. ROSSITER P.M. 972, Fleur de Lis Hotel, Canterbury.
- S. F. PRINGUER P.M. 972, 37 London-road, Canterbury.
- *S. NEWMAN W.M. 972, St. George's-street, Canterbury.
- R. WESTWOOD S.W. 972, Nunnery Fields, Canterbury.
- *H. F. PRINGUER J.W. 972, 70 Northgate-street, Canterbury.
- *J. F. COZENS P.M. 972, 16 Longport, Canterbury.
- EDWIN BEER P.M. 972 P.Z. 31 P.P.G.S.B., St. Paul's, Canterbury.
- *EDWARD AYRE W.M. 2099, Herne, near Canterbury.
- *HENRY GREY W.M. 1820, Ridley House, Herne, Canterbury.
- *F. A. PULLEN P.M. 742, Herne Hill, S.E.
- *F. S. ROTHSCHILD P.M. 1238, 7 Marina, Herne Bay.
- *T. M. BENTON P.M. 521, Royal Avenue, Chelsea College.
- *E. C. FENOULHET S.W. 2099, Herne Bay, Kent.
- *H. C. JONES J.W. 2099, Kenwood, Herne Bay.

* BY WHOM PROXIES WILL BE THANKFULLY RECEIVED;

Or by Mrs. FAWCETT, Ridley Villas, Herne, near Canterbury.

STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, KEW BRIDGE,

BROTHER JOHN BRILL, PROPRIETOR.

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A SUITE OF ROOMS, MOST CONVENIENTLY ARRANGED FOR MASONIC MEETINGS.

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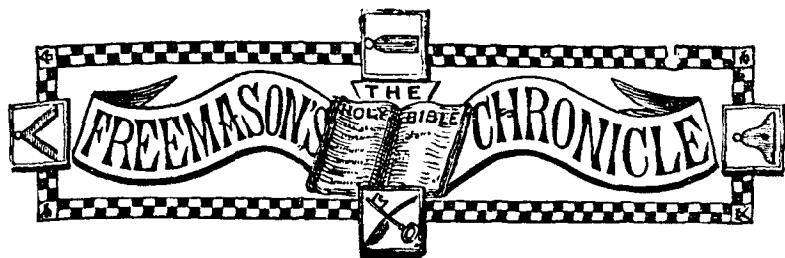
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Particulars on Application to H. CLOOTS, Proprietor, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria St., Westminster, S.W.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:0:—

THE SUB-DIVISION OF LONDON.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The proposal of Bro. James Stevens, submitted to last meeting of Grand Lodge, for the division of London into Provinces is a good one, and I hope it will be taken up in earnest at no distant date. I was for many years connected with a country Lodge, which, however, assumed such large dimensions that it was admitted to have become unwieldy and unworkable; so that there was little chance, amongst two hundred and fifty members, of any young Mason attaining to a position within a reasonable time. The result has been that since I left the place the then existing two Lodges, which had both grown to enormous size, have resolved themselves into five, by the formation of three new ones, and had I remained there I might have reasonably expected by this time to have passed the chair, and in all probability have attained Provincial rank. In London it is almost a forlorn hope to strive after the purple collar and apron, and that being so many good Masons are disheartened and dispirited by the hope deferred which maketh the heart sick. By the sub-division of London into Provinces I am convinced, with many others, that a vast amount of stimulus would be given to the members of Lodges generally, the result of which would be the promotion of the best interests of the Craft in the metropolis. Therefore, let us hope the matter will not be lost sight of.

Believe me to remain,

Yours very fraternally,

AN OLD MASON.

MASONIC RITUAL AND CEREMONIAL.

A FEW REMARKS ON BRO. STEVENS'S LECTURES.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am one of those who for a considerable time after the first introduction of Bro. Stevens's Lectures to the Masonic public entertained a firm belief that our worthy brother was "pegging away" at his pet scheme (some of us called it "fad") for securing uniformity of ritual throughout the Lodges under the English Constitution. As I look upon the attainment of one absolutely perfect and universal system of verbatim et literatim ritual, even if desirable, almost if not quite impossible, and was not desirous of lending myself to any apparent support of the scheme, I kept away from his earlier Lectures.

Within the last year, however, the "tongue of good report," as to the usefulness and, as I was informed, necessity of these Lectures, broke down the barrier of prejudice which had held me aloof, and on a recent occasion I had the gratification of hearing our brother discourse. It is only in accordance with Masonic obligation that I should freely admit that my original belief was an injustice done to his purpose and interest, and I make that admission so freely that I say to every earnest Mason desirous of knowing more of the symbolism of Masonry than is expounded in our so often reiterated ceremonials, and of learning the *common sense* interpretation of our words and actions in connection with Masonic work,—Go, and hear him!

On the occasion I refer to his Lecture embraced the three Symbolic Degrees, and in the course of an address which fixed the attention of his audience for rather more than two hours, I could not discover an expression which did more than suggest a consideration of the arguments he advanced for improving certain portions of the verbiage and practice in general use amongst us. I anticipated a somewhat dictatorial enforcement of his views, but, on the contrary, heard a modest disclaimer of all authority, and an acknowledgment that a condemnation of those who might differ from him would be intrusive and narrow-minded. It pleased me greatly, and induced me to think more highly of his efforts. My former prejudice was completely swept away, and now I have no doubt that Bro. Stevens is doing a good and meritorious work, which surely, though perhaps slowly, will have the desired effect of purging and purifying our ritual in very many respects. His address is extempore, and here and there the faults which seem natural to extemporaneous addresses are observable, but a fluency of language and an unhesitating delivery are set off against such defects, to the great advantage of the Lecture as a whole.

These remarks of mine find an echo in the minds of many brethren of my acquaintance, and setting aside my personal regard for the

Lecturer I have thought it well to make them, and ask you to publish them for the good of the Craft in general. I sincerely hope that Bro. Stevens's Lectures may become still more popular than even they are at present, as well in distant provinces as near the centre of our Masonic organization.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

ONE CONVERTED.

LATE HOURS AT MASONIC GATHERINGS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Reading the article quoted in your columns a short time ago from the *Freemasons' Repository*, under the above heading, suggests that our Masonic friends on the other side of the Atlantic are uncommonly "late birds." Either they spend a vast amount of time in the celebration of the ceremonies, or tarry long over the "social occasion," seeing that the former are prolonged until after ten o'clock at night, and the latter "until midnight or later, before the brethren separate and depart homeward." I am not acquainted with the *modus operandi* of conducting Masonic business in America, but it would be an unusual thing in this country for the working to be continued up to so late as ten o'clock in the evening, and there are very few cases indeed in which the "subsequent proceedings" are not concluded long before the midnight hour. It may be that the peculiarities of business in American towns prevent the brethren from opening their Lodges, as we do here when there is much work on the agenda, at an early hour; but seeing that Lodges meet only at comparative long intervals, it may surely be thought that members might snatch an hour or two, once a month or so, to attend to their Masonic duties. Here, as you are aware, when there is any work of importance, Lodges invariably meet at times ranging between three and five o'clock in the afternoon; labour is usually got through by seven or eight; and so there is ample time for refreshment and social enjoyment afterwards. All must agree with your contemporary that "it would be altogether better if the work and business of every Masonic organisation could be so arranged as to close by ten o'clock;" that "two hours are ample for a Masonic ceremony, if its full impressiveness is to be brought out;" and that "it would be better to increase the number of meetings rather than to crowd so much into one evening." Do we not frequently see a large amount of work done in our own Lodges, in the three degrees, and all the ceremonies impressively rendered, in reasonable time, leaving plenty of leisure for social amenity afterwards? I am not in a position to compare the arrangements which obtain in English and American Lodges, but certainly the impression conveyed by the article referred to would seem we "manage things better" here than do our respected brethren "across the pond."

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

QUIZ.

MASONIC FANCIES AND FOIBLES.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—From some points of view your strictures last week upon the fancies of some of us, and the foibles of others, may hold good; but you will admit there are two sides of every question, and I will trust to your fairness and impartiality to allow me to give one or two ideas adverse to the general tone of your article. I wear a Masonic pendant to my watch chain, and now and then a Masonic ring, but so far from doing so as a matter of personal vanity or as a trade advertisement, let me assure you it is nothing of the kind. I am weak enough to believe that Masons, wherever they may be, should make themselves known to each other as such, and it has not infrequently happened in my own experience that emblems worn in this way act as a mute but eloquent introduction to men with whom I should never otherwise have become acquainted. Travelling quite recently on the railway I was faced by a gentleman whose ring bore the familiar square and compasses, and by mutual recognition we at once became friends, enjoyed a most agreeable, and I hope instructive tête-à-tête during a long journey, which under other circumstances might have been tedious and silent. "I perceive you are a Mason," was the opening of an interesting chat, which naturally opened up a great variety of subjects—the names and localities of our respective Lodges, the social and moral advantages of our connection with the Craft, the probabilities attendant on the then pending election of Grand Treasurer, the enormous value of our Masonic Charitable Institutions, the suggested Jubilee Commemoration, the Lodges we had visited, and a host of other matters in which we felt a reciprocal interest. Had it not been for the simple emblems we each displayed we might have remained "strangers yet;" as it is, we became firm and fast friends by the time we reached our destination. Singularly enough, we were both going to the same town—a watering-place in the West of England; by arrangement we met, and I was introduced by my new acquaintance to two Lodges, and with the members I spent pleasant evenings, the most pleasant amongst all the rest of the ten I had occasion to sojourn in the neighbourhood. If such a result is experienced in our own home circles how much more would a similar recognition be of value on the Continent or abroad?

My own opinion is that the "flashing" of jewels, and "talking loudly in company of the advantages which accrue from connection with the Order" are more honoured in the breach than in the observance. A man who commits such egregious folly would be scouted and tabooed in a commercial room, a restaurant, a billiard

saloon, or in private society; and would speedily be taught to hold his nursery tongue. I have myself on one or two occasions—travelling constantly as I do in my line of business—seen men who ostentatiously proclaimed themselves Masons so completely snubbed that they have felt glad speedily to take themselves off to a well-deserved “Coventry.” The men of whom you speak are in a very small, contemptible minority; usually young puppies, or fledgling Masons, who have not learnt better, but who are sure to find their level, sooner or later.

And now one word with regard to the “publican” element in Freemasonry—and by that I presume you include the very large body of licensed victuallers and hotel proprietors in the kingdom. For my part, I see no very great harm in such people displaying our emblems on their coats or billheads; and as a rule I always prefer to stay at a house the proprietor of which is a Mason than at any other. Take the best hotels we have in London, Anderson’s, Ship and Turtle, Guildhall Tavern, Holborn Restaurant, Imperial, and how many others; are they not all ably managed by members of the Craft? And so are most of the excellent establishments of the kind all over the country. And my experience is, without going into unnecessary details, that you find greater comfort and economy, better attendance and accommodation, at such places than at those which are not governed by proprietors who belong to “us.” The painted daubs you see on the fronts of inferior and common public-houses are no criterion whatever. In the first place, men of any rank or position in Freemasonry never go to such places at all; and in the next, those who are their habitual customers are not Masons, and are therefore ignorant of the meaning of such symbols.

I will not trespass further on your valuable space just now, but may at some future time vindicate our friends the publicans from any aspersion as to the holding of Lodges of Instruction at their houses. Where else could one get the necessary accommodation and comfort? Surely not in a cold and cheerless school-room, vestry hall, or hired room. But of that anon. I have carefully read and weighed all the arguments you advanced as to the “prostitution of the emblems of the Craft to personal and interested objects,” but fail to see that every man is to be stigmatised who wears modest Masonic jewellery or displays the ordinary signs on his trade announcements. Any how, Sir, whilst lifting my hat in profound admiration of your well-intentioned efforts to promote Masonic morality, I most respectfully decline to divest myself of the emblematic ring and pendant, or studiously to shun those places of refreshment in the towns which I am called to stay at because some of them intimate to me that they are under Masonic management. Apologising for the length of these remarks,

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours very fraternally,

A COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER.

Hastings.

THE THEATRES, &c.

—:O:—

Globe.—After postponement for a fortnight, owing to the sudden illness of Mr. Penley, “The Snowball” was produced on Monday. Notwithstanding the delay, it was found necessary to leave Mr. Penley out of the cast, but in his stead we have Mr. C. H. Hawtrej. How much the piece has gained or lost by this change we cannot say; Mr. Penley would certainly have created roars of laughter, but we scarcely think he would have been suited to the part. “The Snowball,” by Mr. Sydney Grundy, is a farcical comedy in three acts, originally produced in the early part of 1879. Though short, the work is highly amusing, and has the advantage of being devoid of anything objectionable. The humorous situations are naturally brought about; the fun is fast and at times furious, but never spun out; in short, “The Snowball” is kept rolling just long enough and then it melts. The three acts all take place in the sitting room at Mr. Felix Featherstone’s house, where the ball is sent off by Felix going to the theatre to see a piece which is the talk of the town, but where he does not wish to take his wife. Ethel Granger, his ward, induces the wife to believe her husband is going to a select whist party. Judge then his surprise when on entering the theatre he sees the two ladies, in company with the latter’s lover, in a private box. Not wishing to let it be known he has himself been to the theatre, at the same time longing to call his wife to account, Felix plots against her, while in return she formulates a counterplot. The way in which the servant of the house, Penelope, is brought into the affair, with the humorous situations arising therefrom, are well carried out. Felix at last confesses, and promises to be more confiding in future. The piece was well acted, and will go even better when taken at a faster rate. As Felix Featherstone Mr. C. H. Hawtrej is to be congratulated on his success; he acted with spirit, while his display of agitation was excellent. Mr. W. J. Hill has another of the characters he knows so well how to make the most of; his Uncle John was a finished sketch. Miss Fanny Brough, as the maid Penelope, was highly successful, her conception of the character was perfect. Miss Vane Featherstone had but few opportunities, still she made the most of these. Miss Blanche Horlock looked prettily as Ethel, while Mr. Wilfred Draycott enacted well the lover. The piece was preceded by a one act comedieta, by Mr. A. Elwood, of an interesting character, notwithstanding its being based on familiar material. The trifle was done full justice to by Messrs. Stewards Dawson, Wilfred Draycott, W. Lestock, the Misses Florence Hayden and Blanche Horlock. The musical absurdity “Crazed,” by Mr. Alfred R. Phillips, brought the programme to a conclusion.

Opera Comique.—The revival of “The School for Scandal” here last Saturday was perhaps made more interesting than usual by

the fact that two of our most popular performers made their first appearance in a new character, Mr. James Fernandez as Sir Peter Teazle, and Mr. Forbes Robertson as Charles Surface. Mr. Fernandez’s impersonation was essentially a finished one, always within bounds. Mr. Robertson exhibited plenty of spirit and real humour as Charles Surface, but he should remember Charles is not given to drinking to such an extent as to make him reel as Mr. Robertson did on Saturday. Miss Kate Vaughan once more gave us her finished portrayal of Lady Teazle; perfect in every point. Mr. Forbes Dawson was a most unsatisfactory Joseph, he did not develop the sentiment or the polish requisite for the part. Mr. Lionel Brough was good as Moses, while Mr. Stephen Caffrey was effective as Sir Oliver. Mrs. John Billington (Mrs. Candour), Miss Julia Gwynne (Lady Sowerwell), and Mr. Charles Fawcett (Rowley), ably assisted the representation.

Avenue.—“Robinson Crusoe” still continues to draw good houses here. The principals have been supplied with new songs and fresh “business,” and most successfully do they work it up. The excellent chorus do their part of the work satisfactorily. Mr. Arthur Roberts, though not having such a taking part as usual, is most entertaining; his side play being especially amusing. Miss Wadman sings and acts charmingly, as likewise does Miss Lydia Yeamans. Miss Phyllis Broughton has some new dances, which she executes gracefully. Messrs. Henry Ashley, C. W. Bradbury, Sam Wilkinson, Charles Sutton, and Fred Storey all render service. The harlequinade which follows is one of the best we have ever seen, and we advise those of our readers who go to see “Robinson Crusoe” to stay for this feature of the programme.

Olympic.—After a most successful run, of over one hundred nights, “The Churchwarden” comes off this Saturday evening, to make room for “In Chancery,” by A. W. Pinero, which will be played, by special desire, the last twelve nights of Mr. Terry’s tenancy of the theatre. This expires on Saturday, 2nd April.

Gaiety.—Miss Amy Roselle will give a special matinee on Thursday, the 24th instant, at this theatre, when will be produced a new and original comedy, in three acts, by H. M. Paul, entitled “The Great Felicidad.” Miss Roselle will be supported by the following company:—Miss Cissy Grahame, Mrs. Canninge, Miss Christine Mayne, and Miss Mitchell. Messrs. F. H. Macklin, Brandon Thomas, F. M. Paget, Geo. Canninge, Stewart Dawson, Eric Lewis, Frank Fenton, De Verney, and Arthur Dacre. The play will be produced under the direction of Mr. Brandon Thomas.

Mohawk Minstrels.—As has been the custom here for some years, St. Patrick’s Day was celebrated by this troupe of minstrels providing a selection of Irish songs and recitations. The capabilities of the troupe are well known, and as the result every available seat in the hall at Islington was filled. Encores were numerous, the audience thoroughly falling in with the different sentiments expressed in the songs. A more successful Irish Festival could not have been wished for, either by the management or by those who were present.

Olympia.—A most interesting gymnastic fête, under the auspices of the National Physical Recreation Society, will be held at Olympia on the evenings of the 4th, 5th and 6th of April. The programme, which embraces gymnastics of all kinds, will include musical, dumb bell, and Indian club drill, indoor football, lacrosse, hurdle racing, tugs of war, the running musical maze, by several hundred competitors, and the final competition for the 200 guinea challenge shield. The object of the society, which is an excellent one, is to promote physical recreation among the working classes, and the labours of its promoters are already beginning to meet with success. One of the features of the fête will be the massing together and performance of the musical drill by the honorary teachers and pupils from the various affiliated gymnasia. The band of the London Rifle Brigade, under the direction of Mr. Hiram Henton, has been engaged. The fête will be under the patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who it is believed will honour one of the performances with his presence.

Creton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1791.—At the meeting on Thursday, 16th inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk Road, W., there were present Bros. Sims P.M. W.M., Davies S.W., Crofts J.W., Austin Treasurer, Chalfant P.M. Secretary, Pardoe P.M. S.D., Jennings J.D., Ridgley I.G., Carvers Steward; P.M.’s Cubber, Spiegel, Child; Bros. Wood, Williams, Cochrane, Lichtenfeld, Stockhill, Smyth, Larver, Cotton, Higginson, Benton, Stroud, Klein, Hardy, Burbrook, Head, Lindfield, Hurd, Kennett, and several others. Lodge was opened in usual form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Cross candidate. The W.M. gave the lecture on the tracing board in this degree. Lodge resumed to first, when the second and third sections were worked by Bro. Spiegel, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Head and Kennett, of the mother Lodge, also Bro. Cramp 193, latter 1664, and Lichtenfeld, were elected members. Bro. Davies was appointed W.M. for next Thursday.

The installation meeting of the Wallington Lodge, No. 1892, took place on Thursday. Bro. Francis Carter was installed by the outgoing Master, Bro. Alfred Bishop. A full report will be given next week.

MARK MASONRY.

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ST. JOHN'S LODGE (T.I.), BOLTON.

A MEETING was held on Thursday, 10th March, at six p.m., when there were present Bros. E. G. Harwood W.M., W. Wadson S.W., N. Nicholson J.W., W. Court M.O., John Barrett S.O., G. P. Brockbank P.G.W. Treasurer, W. Cooper Past Provincial G.S.D. Secretary, R. H. Phillips, James Eckersley S.D., Robert Jones J.D., John Nightingale I.G., John Higson Tyler, P.M.'s James Horrocks Past Prov. Grand Standard Bearer, John Partington Prov. G.S.D., John Kenyon Past Prov. G.S.D., John Harwood Past Prov. G.S.D., Thomas Morris Past Prov. G.S.B., John Alcock Past Prov. G.S.D.; Bros. H. Critchley, J. W. Thompson, Frederick W. Brockbank, J. H. Heyes, G. Hindley, J. Hibbert, R. H. Swindlehurst, John F. Skelton, E. Gregory, Charles Holgate, Robert Johnson, John Harper. Lodge was opened and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Two brethren who were proposed for advancement were balloted for and elected, and Bros. John Hardcastle and William Greenwood, being in attendance, were advanced to the honourable degree of Mark Master by Bro. Partington; the concluding portion of the ceremony was conducted by Bro. Kenyon, who also explained the working tools of the degree. The W.M., Bro. E. G. Harwood, Bros. John Kenyon and John Barrett announced their intention of acting as Stewards at the next Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund. Heartly good wishes were expressed by brethren from Grand and Provincial Grand Lodges. Lodge closed in peace and harmony at 7.30 p.m.

ROYAL ARCH.

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GALLERY CHAPTER, No. 1921.

THE installation convocation of this Chapter was held on Saturday last, at the Brixton Hall, under the presidency of Comps. Massey Z., Minstrell H. (Z. elect), and W. M. Duckworth J. The other Companions present included Comps. J. H. Thomas P.Z. Scribe E., R. J. Albery Treas., H. Knight, J. Duckworth, Greenwood, Brown, Manning, Drysdale, Read and others. Comp. Thomas Minstrell was installed in the chair of First Principal, and Comp. W. M. Duckworth in that of H. Comp. Massey P.Z., was elected to the chair of J., and in the course of proceedings a handsome P.Z.'s jewel was presented to him for his services as M.E.Z. during the year which has just passed. Companion Thomas (to whom also a valuable P.Z.'s jewel was presented, the previous Saturday) was reappointed Scribe E., Companions Albery Treasurer, J. Duckworth N., H. Wright Principal Sojourner, and Greenwood Assist. Sojourner. The installation ceremony was admirably performed by Comp. Drysdale, an honorary member. On the motion of Comp. Minstrell, a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to him for his services to the Chapter on that and on other occasions. The M.E.Z. said that it was a source of great satisfaction to the Chapter to find one of their honorary members taking so lively an interest in it, and to be so frequently amongst them; he also remarked that the Companions were deeply indebted to Comp. Drysdale for presenting the Chapter with the floorcloth. Comp. Drysdale warmly thanked the Companions, and the Chapter was closed in due form.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

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ANCIENT EBOR PRECEPTORY, No. 101.

THE installation meeting of this Preceptory was held on Tuesday, the 9th instant, in the Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate, York. In the absence through illness of the E.P. Fra. Christopher Palliser, the throne was assumed by Fra. T. B. Whytehead. There were also present Fras. W. Brown Constable, W. H. Cowper Marshal, J. T. Seller Sub-Marshal, Major MacGachen Herald, J. Marshall P., and many others. The E. Preceptor elect, Fra. W. H. Cowper, was presented by Fra. J. Marshall P., and was forthwith installed in the usual manner by the acting E.P., who subsequently invested him with the jewel of an honorary member of Mary Commandery, Philadelphia (an hereditary distinction of the Preceptories of Ancient Ebor), and entrusted to his care the sword and banner presented by Mary Commandery in 1876. The E.P. then appointed his Officers, as follow:—Fras. William Brown Constable, J. T. Seller Marshal, Major MacGachen Sub-Marshal, T. B. Whytehead P. Registrar, J. T. Belk 1st Herald, W. B. Dyson 2nd Herald, M. W. Williams V.B., Augustus Harris Beauchamp, W. Watson S.B., W. P. Cochrane C. of Guards, P. Pearson Equerry. The report of the Auditors showed a balance in hand. The alms were collected, and the Fraters adjourned to the refectory, where they enjoyed a frugal repast.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

A MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge and Chapter of Yorkshire was held in Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate, York, on Thursday, the 3rd inst. R.W. Bro. the Rev. Wm. Valentine Prov. G.M. presided, supported by Bros. T. B. Whytehead D.P.G.M., W. H. Cowper P.S.G.W., Capt. Grant P.J.G.W., Wm. Brown Prov. G. Sec., W. H. B. Atkinson Std. Br., W. B. Dyson Grand Marshal, and others. Bros. J. M. Meek and Col. Monks having been accepted, were admitted and advanced to the degrees. The Prov. Grand Master presented a set of daggers and trowels, and received a vote of thanks for his gifts. The brethren afterwards dined together in the Supper Room, and enjoyed an excellent repast and a pleasant evening of Masonic converse.

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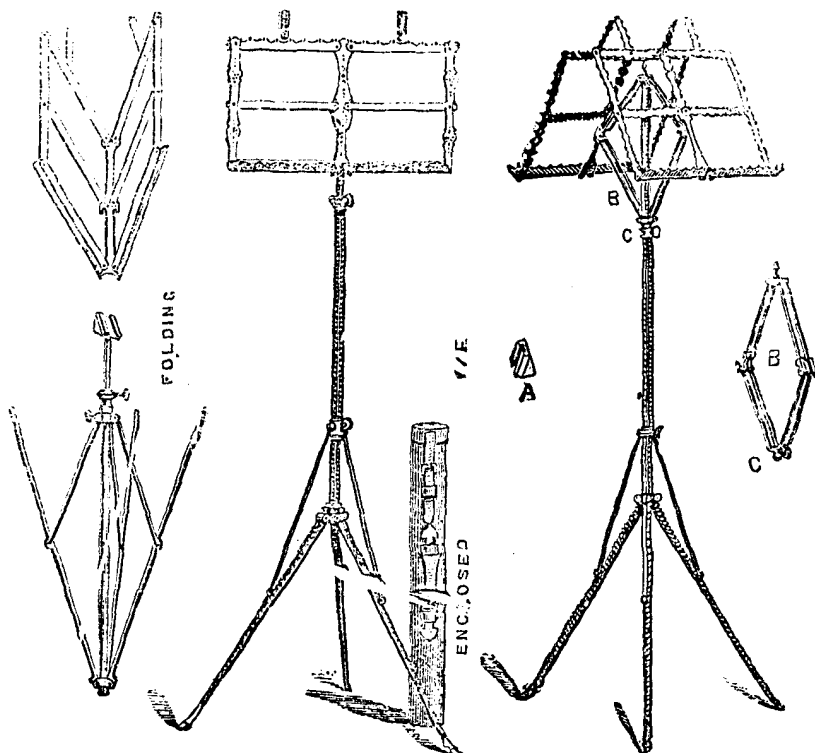
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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meetings, &c., as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

SATURDAY, 19th MARCH.

- 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8 (Inst.)
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 715—Pannure, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Mare-street, Hackney
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1621—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1732—King's Cross, Anderson's Hotel Street, Fleet, E.C.
 1767—Kensington, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, W.
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street
 1811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 1194—Villiers, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1556—Addiscombe, Harewood House, High Street, Croydon.
 1597—Musgrave, Angel and Crown Hotel, Staines
 2035—Beaumont, Royal Hotel, Kirkburton
 2147—Crays Valley, St. Mary Cray, Kent
 R.A. 68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol

MONDAY, 21st MARCH.

- 1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 8—British, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 21—Emulation, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 22—Longborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 45—Strang Man, Bell and Bush, Rope-maker St., Finsbury, E.C., at 7 (Inst.)
 1174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street at 7. (Inst.)
 1180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 185—Tranquillity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 248—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 720—Pannure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
 862—Whittington, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 901—City of London, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1159—M. quis of Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1425—Hyde Park, Portchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Gardens, at 8 (Inst.)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1537—St. Peter Westminster, Criterion, W.
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, High Street, Putney, at 8. (Inst.)
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, N-w Market Hotel, King Street, Smithfield, at 7 (Inst.)
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1707—Eleanor, Seven Sisters Hotel, Page Green, Tottenham, S. (Inst.)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Barclay's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1901—Seaford, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 1910—Shadwell Clerke, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill
 2021—Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, St. Andrew, George Street, Baker Street, W., at 7.45. (Instruction)
 2060—La France, 68 Regent Street, W.
 R.A. 12—Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 R.A. 1593—Trafalgar, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
 K.T. 127—Bard of Avon, 33 Golden Square, W.
 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 241—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 331—Phoenix Public Room, Truro
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
 382—Royal Union, Public Rooms, Uxbridge
 424—Longhough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead
 466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton
 622—St. Outhberga, Masonic Hall, Wimborne
 725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 931—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield
 955—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport
 1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
 1141—Mid Sussex, King's Arms Hotel, Horsham
 1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1199—Agriculture, Hoey Hall, Congresbury
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1502—Isaac, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1909—Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
 R.A. 40—Emulation, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 R.A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
 R.A. 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
 R.A. 482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth
 R.A. 734—Londesborough, Masonic Hall, Duffield
 R.A. 779—St. Augustine, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 R.A. 1051—Rowley, Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Leicester
 M.M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Asaton-under-Lyao
 K.T.—Edmund Plantagenet, Knowsley Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury
 K.T. 39—Fearnley, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury

TUESDAY, 22nd MARCH.

- 14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
 56—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-street, Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 92—Moir, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 141—Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria Street, S.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 265—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 212—Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High Street, Camden Town, at 8. (Inst.)
 250—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 654—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Steapsy (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 890—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Fennell-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 861—Finsbury, King's Hall, Thoroughfare Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1021—Wandsworth, East End Hotel, Abina Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
 1158—Southern Star, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge
 1211—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (Inst.)
 1348—Ebury, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, W.
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Cannoning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1363—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)

- 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1441—Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road
 1446—Mount Edgcombe, Three Stars, Camberwell Road, S.W., at 8 (Inst.)
 1471—Finsbury, Chamberlain, Abbersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
 1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1595—New Finsbury Park, Hercules Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst.)
 1719—Evening Star, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1744—Royal Savoy, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, Cannon Street, E.C.
 R.A. 21—Cyprus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 R.A. 228—United Strength, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street
 R.A. 704—Camden, The Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 8 (Inst.)
 R.A. 1275—Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
 R.A. 1642—Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle 7.30 (Inst.)
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
 463—East Surrey of Concord, King's Arms Hotel, Croydon, at 7.45. (Inst.)
 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1675—Ancient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 2025—St. George, St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, Devon
 R.A. 103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 510—St. Martin's, Masonic Hall, Liskeard
 R.A. 815—Blair, Town Hall, Hulme, Manchester
 R.A. 1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, 23rd MARCH.

- Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C., at 6
 2—Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lizard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 72—Royal Jubilee, Miter, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, George Inn, High Street, Borough, at 8. (Inst.)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 212—Euphrates, Masonic Hall, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street, E.C.
 214—United Strength, The Hope, St. James's Street, Regent's Park, at 8 (Inst.)
 578—La Tolerance, Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, at 8 (Inst.)
 720—Pannure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Budefford-road, E. (Instruction)
 892—Whittington, Red Lion, Poplar-street, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 902—Fargoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
 1017—Montefiore, Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, W.
 1056—Victoria, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 1175—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst.)
 1589—St. Dunstan's, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street
 1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1601—Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria St., S.W., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1682—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Wandsworth, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1681—Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Instruction)
 1818—Clapham, Grosvenor Hotel, Victoria Station
 1820—Sir Thomas White, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 435—Mount Lebanon, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 R.A. 720—Pannure, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
 R.A. 907—Royal Albert, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch Lane
 R.A. 933—Doric, 202 Whitechapel-road, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 R.C.—St. Andrew, Cafe Royal, Regent Street, W.
 32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Sarsbury
 220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Liverpool
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
 1039—St. John, George Hotel, Lichfield
 1255—Dundas, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
 1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley Street, Bury, Lancashire
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1723—St. George, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, Bolton
 1967—Beacon Court, Ghuzee Fort Hotel, New Brompton, Kent
 R.A. 225—St. Luke's, Freemasons' Hall, Soane Street, Ipswich
 R.A. 605—De Tabley, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead
 R.A. 606—Segontium, Carnarvon Castle, Carnarvon
 M.M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

THURSDAY, 24th MARCH.

- House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 66—Greadiers', Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 90—Shakespeare, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 147—Just ice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 507—United Pilgrims, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 749—Belgrave, The Clarence, Aldersgate Street, E.C. (Instruction)
 751—H. H. Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 76—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
 86—Finsbury, London Tavern, Fenchurch-street
 878—Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd. (Inst.)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1278—Bardet, Gaults, Swan Tavern, Botolph Claydon Road, E., at 8. (Instruction)
 1305—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Masons' Tavern, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1534—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Canonwell, at 8 (Inst.)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse Tavern, Liverpool Road (corner of Theberton Street) N., at 8. (Instruction)
 1612—West Middlesex, Bell Hotel, Ealing, at 8. (Instruction)
 1614—Covent Garden, Criterion, W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1625—Frederic, Wellington Arms, Wellington Road, Bow, E., at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1658—Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1673—Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, E.C., at 8.30. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Cherkwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1714—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1741—Finsbury, Whitechapel Tavern, Whitechapel Road, Shepherd's Bush. (Inst.)
 1816—Victoria Park, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park Road
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 5—St. George's, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Alwyn Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 1—Hiram, Greyhound, Richmond
 M.M. 118—Northumberland, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street

- 51—Angel, Three Cups, Colchester
 78—Imperial George, Ascheton Arms Hotel, Midleton, Limerick hire
 243—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
 348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 591—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington Square, Salford
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer Street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1437—Liberty of Havering, Rising Sun, Romford
 1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, nr Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1580—Cranebourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1633—Browrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Park Road, Norbiton, at 8. (Instruction)
 1892—Warrington, King's Arms Hotel, Cheshire. (Instruction)
 R.A. 292—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 394—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Albion Terrace, Southampton
 R.A. 412—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough
 R.A. 732—Royal Sussex, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 R.A. 1037—Portland, Masonic Hall, Portland, Dorset
 K.T. 8—Plains of Mamre, Bull Hotel, Burnley

FRIDAY, 25th MARCH.

- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7
 25—Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hotel, Great Portland Street, W., at 8. (In)
 60—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 167—St. John's, York and Albany Hotel, Regent's Park, N.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 19—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 669—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, E.C.
 765—St. James, Gregorian Arms Tavern, Jamaica Road, Bermondsey, at 8. (In)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 834—Kaulagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith. (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1156—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1185—Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1295—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (In)
 1366—Clapton, White Hall, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall, N.
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbrooke 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.)
 R.A. 95—Eastern Star C. of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall Street
 R.A. 134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Improvement)
 R.A. 890—Horusey, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Square
 Puddington, W. (Improvement)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 M.M. 355—Royal Savoy, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30. (In.)
 K.T. 26—Faith and Fidelity, Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.
 453—Chigwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton
 1303—Pelham, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes
 1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion, Burnet
 1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1621—Castle, Crown Hotel, Bridgnorth
 1712—St. John, Freemasons Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
 1821—Atlingworth, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 2039—Londonderry, Y.M.C.A., John Street, Sunderland
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham, at 8
 R.A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 R.A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster
 R.A. 471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock Street, Newport, Monmouthshire
 R.A. 597—Loyalty, Masonic Buildings, Hall Street, St. Helens
 R.A. 945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chambers, Abington
 R.A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 K.T. 20—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 26th MARCH.

- 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8. (In)
 190—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross Road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1297—West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1621—Ecclesdon, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7. (Inst)
 1679—Henry Mugeridge, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.
 1706—Orpheus, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In)
 Simul Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air Street, Regent Street, W., at 8
 1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
 1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
 1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst
 1777—Royal Hanover, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 R.A. 1777—Royal Hanover, Town Hall, Twickenham

A STORY OF HULLAH.—A paper of Reminiscences of John Hullah LL.D., in *Cassell's Family Magazine* for March, gives this story of the composer:—Another of Mr. Hullah's peculiarities was an occasional fit of perfect abstraction, which yet did not prevent him from receiving vivid impressions through one or other of the senses. In illustration of this habit, Mr. W. A. Barrett related the following anecdote to the present writer:—He and Mr. Hullah were sitting side by side at a concert which, being largely made up of Wagner's music, did not much interest the latter, who gradually became absorbed in his own thoughts, and sat motionless for a long while, evidently unaware of what was going on around him. His abstraction continued even after Miss Antoinette Sterling, for whose singing he had an ardent admiration, had commenced to sing his own "Three Fishers," nor did he make the slightest movement until the last phrase was pealing forth in Miss Sterling's fullest notes, when slowly rising to his feet, he murmured—"What a fine song that is!" It was quite clear, Mr. Barrett commented, that it was not for some seconds after he had spoken that Mr. Hullah awoke to a consciousness that what had fallen so pleasingly on his ear was of his own composing.

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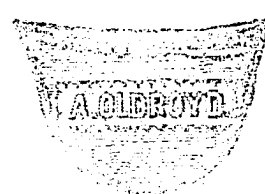
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