

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE FESTIVAL RETURNS.

THE outcome of last week's Festival on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys has caused widespread disappointment among those who take special interest in this particular channel of Masonic benevolence, but at the same time there is a feeling of thankfulness for what has been done, coupled with a determination to use every effort to do better in the future. In view of the substantial sum raised on this occasion it would be ungracious to actually grumble at the result, still we may express regret the amount was not larger, and seek for a means of increasing it in the years to follow, for there is no gainsaying the fact that a series of annual totals such as that announced last week would not be sufficient to meet the actual requirements of the Institution, which would, consequently, either get deeply into debt, or would be forced to curtail its operations. Undoubtedly there is not one member of the Craft who would desire either of these alternatives, and yet there are none who can say how one of them is to be absolutely avoided. The time has arrived when something special must be attempted in order to increase the income of the Institution, and perhaps some of those who read these lines may be able to submit a proposal which may produce the desired result. We believe that any tangible suggestion would be put to the test of practical trial, so that brethren need have little fear their advice would be actually wasted. We must not, however, forget that the first essential of success in such matters is to secure the co-operation of a large and wide-spread body of workers, all of whom shall take a direct and personal interest in the task they have in hand. On this account we wish that all who have the opportunity of perusing these remarks would at once show their heartiness in the cause by determining to do something on behalf of the Boys' School—say, for its next annual celebration.

The Festival of the present year had more than one unfortunate surrounding; but the one which has perhaps had the greatest effect on its total, and has done it more harm than any other has been the round of festivities in connection with the Jubilee of Her Majesty's accession, which has attracted such attention during the last few months as to place all minor matters in the shade, more especially those of such a public character as one of the Masonic Charity Festivals. It may be urged that the other two Institutions equally had to suffer in this respect, but this is not the fact, as the first two Festivals of the year were concluded before active preparations for the Jubilee were in progress. Again, the decision of Grand Lodge to devote the proceeds of the Masonic Jubilee Gathering to the three Charities has kept back support from various quarters, where it might have been expected, as brethren felt a handsome sum would accrue to the Boys' School from this source, thus rendering extra contributions from the Craft unnecessary. No doubt the £2,000 which the Boys' Institution will receive as its share of the Albert Hall celebration will more than make up the deficiency under this head, but it cannot be overlooked that the other Institutions get similar sums without having had their support curtailed beforehand on account of it. Then the Institution was unfortunate in not having secured the services of a chairman until really the eleventh hour; this fact alone made no small difference in the total, and our only regret is that when our esteemed Bro. Tew did under-

take the office it was not deemed expedient to postpone the Festival in order to give his friends an opportunity of rallying more strongly than they were able to do in his support. This consideration brings us to what we consider the main drawback of the Festival. This is not, however, a disadvantage peculiar to this year's gathering, but one which is common to every Festival of this Institution; we have referred to it in the past, and again urge the rulers of the Institution to give the matter their serious consideration. We allude to the time of year at which the Festival is held. The disadvantages which surround the present arrangement are, we think, of such a character as to warrant an immediate alteration, more particularly in view of special features in connection with next year's Festival of the Girls' School, to which we shall refer later on.

There are, of course, considerations which may be urged in favour of a continuance of the Boys' Festival as a summer gathering, but there are, in our opinion, weightier arguments available on the other side. The winter months are essentially the working months of Freemasonry, and for this reason alone we would urge the advisability of a change. Then we have to consider the effect of crowding the three Festivals, as is now done, into a third of the twelvemonth, instead of, as we think more advisable, distributing them over the whole year, while the short interval available between the Girls' Festival and that of the Boys' School—usually little over a month—is wholly inadequate for a canvass of the Craft. We are decidedly of opinion that two Festivals cannot properly be pushed at one and the same time. The Benevolent Institution now has the run of the winter months, and the first claim on the new year, and until that gathering has been held we hear comparatively little of the Girls' Festival, which usually follows at an interval of about three months. For similar reasons the Boys' celebration is kept in the background until after the holding of the Girls' Festival, and then there are but four or five short weeks in which to make a stir—and, be it remembered, as most important of all, during these four weeks Masonry is virtually a dead letter, as something like nine out of every ten Lodges have adjourned for the summer vacation. We should like to see the date of the Boys' Festival altered to the end of October or the beginning of November, and believe that such a departure from established custom would prove beneficial to the cause of Charity in general, and of the Boys' Institution in particular. If November was decided upon, we should actually have Quarterly Festivals, leaving out of consideration the three summer months, during which Freemasonry may be said to be virtually at rest. There is one special feature connected with next year which should afford additional argument in favour of a change, as it may be expected to materially interfere with the support to be given to both the Benevolent Institution and the Boys' School, but particularly the latter. The next Festival on behalf of the Girls' School will be the One Hundredth Anniversary of that Institution, and we already hear of the most elaborate preparations being made for a Royal celebration of the Centenary. Anything of so special a nature as this must have an effect on the other Institutions, and it behoves the supporters of each of them to prepare accordingly. It is not really too much to expect that the Centenary Festival of the Girls' School will be the grandest Masonic Charity gathering ever known, and we simply ask,—Will it be wise to let the Festival of the Boys'

School follow such a gathering as may then be expected within the space of a brief month? Would it not be far better to give the Centenary—which in all probability will be the Masonic event of 1888—as wide a berth as possible?

We are afraid we have wandered far away from our original intention—that of reviewing last week's contributions; but whatever we may now say will not improve the result of this year's Festival, while there is hope that something may be suggested to advance the totals of the future. For this reason we feel no misgiving that our actions will be misunderstood on the present occasion.

The result of the Festival, as announced by Brother Binckes, the Secretary of the Institution, was a total contribution of upwards of £11,000. The figures published in our last issue were, as usual, amended up to the time of going to press, and, totalled up, they show an aggregate of £11,059 3s, with, apparently, seventeen lists outstanding. The Stewards were 287 in number, and may be said to have been equally distributed between London and the Provinces, if we include the "unattached" among the former, 142 brethren serving for each, with the remaining three accredited to Foreign Stations. The contributions were also about equal, for we find a total of £5,346 6s 6d to the credit of the London and unattached brethren, with £5,683 8s 6d from the Provincials, and £29 8s 0d from abroad. These figures place the Boys' School third among the three Craft Institutions for the current year in regard to total amount contributed, and second in regard to number of Stewards, which, to our mind, conclusively proves that the Boys' School in having the last of the three Festivals stands at a disadvantage. The average per Steward for the year was, in the case of the Benevolent Institution close upon £49 10s, on behalf of the Girls' School £42 7s, while in the case of the Boys' School it dropped down to a trifle over £38 10s. Is this very wide difference merely accidental, or is there a reason for it? In the answer to this question will really be found the solution of the difficulty under which the Boys' School at present labours, and as in our opinion the difference is to be accounted for on the grounds we have already mentioned, there should be no reason why a change should not speedily bring about an improvement. It is only necessary to point out the difference which exists in the average per Steward in the case of the Benevolent Festival and in that of the Boys, £11 per head, and to multiply it by the number of Stewards, to show that the Boys' Festival would have realised upwards of £3,000 more had the Stewards been as successful as those who served on behalf of the Old People, and is there any tangible reason why they should not be, if they had equal facilities for working? We urge there is not, and until actual proof to the contrary is forthcoming we shall be disinclined to alter our opinion. So far as we can see the Boys' School has been second favourite for the year, but it has been too heavily handicapped, with the result that it takes the third place.

We will now devote ourselves to the individual lists, which afford further evidence in support of what we have already urged. London, with the Committee Dinner Club, and those who figure as unattached, has but ten three figure lists, and only one of these exceeds the second hundred, the contribution being one of two hundred guineas from the Committee Dinner Club, at the hands of Bro. Richard Eve. Where is the "London list towering far above the others" which we last month said was seldom missing from the Festival returns? As if in mockery of our statement, it is missing now, for large as the Committee's donation is, we do not recognise it as "towering far above the others." What we should have liked to see, and hope to see in the future, is one or two lists of about £400 each, such as the Girls' School had the good fortune to announce in May. Then, again, the number of large lists is woefully small as compared with the preceding Festivals of the year, when one in eight among the London Stewards exceeded the century. The Boys' Festival only shows one three figure total to each fourteen London Stewards, which alone accounts for a large part of the falling-off in the general total. However, we will give the Stewards the credit we know they are justly entitled to. We are convinced they have done their best, and we trust it may some day be possible for them to labour under more favourable circumstances; if it is, they will then prove there is no lack of sympathy throughout the Craft on behalf of "Our Boys."

The list which, in point of amount, follows that of Bro. Eve, is the contribution of the Queen's Westminster Lodge, No. 2021, which sends up £162 15s, at the hands of Bro. C. P. Bellerby jun. The representatives of this Lodge are no strangers at the Festivals, as past returns will show; let us hope the kindly feeling and practical sympathy already displayed by the members may long be continued. The Lodge has been represented at each of the Festivals of the year, sending up £58 16s to the Benevolent, £28 7s to that on behalf of the Girls, and, as we have just said, £162 15s to the Boys. This gives a total for the year of £249 18s—a result sufficient to entitle the Lodge to the esteem of the whole Craft, even if it never did anything more, but we know enough of its members to feel that its good deeds are not yet at an end. The Burlington Lodge, No. 96, was represented, to the extent of £138, Bro. Major H. A. Joseph being the Steward; then follows the Grand Stewards' Lodge, with the veteran Bro. Fredk. Binckes as its representative, and a total of £132 12s as its contribution; after which we have £117 12s from Lodge No. 1178, £106 11s 6d from No. 1328, £106 1s from No. 1901, £105 each from Nos. 1383 and 1900, and a level £100 from No. 1076.

From the Provinces we have to record £600 from the Chairman's district of West Yorkshire, which appropriately heads the list, although we are convinced the sum is far below what it would have been had Bro. Tew's intention of presiding been made known to the brethren of his Province at an earlier date. The whole of the Provincial donations were distributed as follows:—

Province.	No. of Stewards.	Amount.
West Yorkshire	37	600 0 0
Kent	7	477 4 6
Somersetshire	3	420 0 0
Middlesex	11	410 2 6
Norths and Hunts	4	350 0 0
Monmouthshire	7	300 0 0
North and East Yorkshire	5	295 19 0
Staffordshire	3	245 14 0
Wiltshire	1	234 3 0
Nottinghamshire	2	231 10 6
Cornwall	1	194 5 0
Sussex	4	173 5 0
Berks and Bucks	5	171 12 6
Derbyshire	4	159 10 6
Surrey	7	158 0 6
Suffolk	3	156 8 0
Essex	7	139 17 0
Cambridgeshire	1	137 11 0
West Lancashire	7	131 5 0
South Wales (East Division)	1	120 0 0
North Wales	3	102 18 0
Durham	1	101 17 0
Oxfordshire	5	86 13 6
Gloucestershire	2	85 1 0
East Lancashire	5	73 10 0
Bedfordshire	1	36 15 0
Worcestershire	2	36 15 0
Hertfordshire	1	32 11 0
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	2	21 0 0

In conclusion, we desire to address a word to those brethren who are accustomed to judge of work done by its result—and fortunately they are numerous in Freemasonry, as elsewhere. We think that we have shown conclusively that a larger and a wider circle of supporters was secured for the Boys' School Festival as was enrolled for the other educational Institution, and in spite of this the result has been less satisfactory. It is therefore useless to urge that the Boys' School is less a favourite, or that its executive do not work as energetically as those of the sister Charity. The falling-off is in the results achieved by the Stewards, on whose behalf something must be attempted at an early date. They can only perform the work set them to the best of their ability, and any shortcomings on their part must be attributed to the work itself rather than to the workers.

As already announced in these columns, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Berks and Bucks will be held on Monday next, at the Albert Institute, Sheet Street, Windsor, under the presidency of R.W. Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., Prov. Grand Master. Special railway arrangements are set forth in the agenda papers sent to the brethren. The banquet will take place at the Town Hall at two o'clock.

The summer banquet of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192, is fixed to take place on Wednesday, 20th July, at the White Hart Hotel, Reigate.

WHAT DR. MEASE AND BRO. GOULD SAY
ABOUT PHILADELPHIA MASONRY.

BY BRO. JACOB NORTON.

DR. James Mease published, in 1811, a book, viz., "The Picture of Philadelphia," containing Masonic items about the "Moderns" as well as the "Ancients," which, as far as I know, were never published before. I shall, however, confine myself to what he wrote about the Moderns, which is as follows:—

"The early records of Masonry in Philadelphia have been lost, but it is known that a Society of the 'Moderns' was formed at an early date, and that it was composed of several of the most respectable and prominent characters of the day. The gazettes, the only authority existing on the subject, inform us of a Grand Lodge having been held so early as the year 1732, at the Tun Tavern, the fashionable hotel of the time, when William Allen, the Recorder of the City (afterwards a Chief Justice), was chosen Grand Master; it appears that regular meetings were annually held for several years afterwards.

"In the year 1737 a melancholy event occurred, which gave the brethren much uneasiness. A party of idle men, not belonging to the Craft, with a view of enjoying the fright which they supposed they would excite, either volunteered their services or acceded to the wishes of a young man to initiate him into the mysteries of Masonry, and accordingly instituted a variety of ridiculous operations at night in a cellar, to all which he submitted with fortitude, although they were painful and extremely trying to a young mind. Finding that their object was likely to be defeated, a bowl of burning spirit, into which he had been directed to look for some time, was thrown over him, and his clothes taking fire he was so much burned that he died in a few days afterwards. This melancholy event, justly excited the public indignation, and the chief promoter of the mischief, after a legal investigation, was ignominiously punished by being burnt in the hand; but, unfortunately, the scene having been conducted under the impression of a connection with Masonry, a considerable prejudice among those who were unacquainted with the principles of the Craft was excited, and to such a degree did it extend that the brethren deemed it necessary to come forward, and, after stating the occurrence in the newspapers, to declare the abhorrence of all true brethren to this horrid practice; and that the persons concerned were not of their society, nor of any society of Free and Accepted Masons."

[The said declaration was signed by the G.M., D.G.M. and G. Wardens.]

"On the 23rd September 1743, the Right Honourable Lord John Ward, G.M. of England, nominated Thomas Oxnard, Esq., Grand Master of all North America.

"On the 10th July 1749, Thomas Oxnard, Esq., appointed Benjamin Franklin, Esq., Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania, with authority to appoint the other Grand Officers, hold a Grand Lodge, issue warrants, &c.

"On the 5th September 1749 the first Grand Lodge was held, at the Royal Standard, in Market-street, under this warrant: Grand Master Franklin having appointed Dr. Thomas Bond D.G.M., Joseph Shippen S.G.W., Philip Syng J.G.W., William Plumsted G. Treasurer, Daniel Byles G. Secretary.

"At the same meeting a warrant was granted to James Pogreen and others to hold a Lodge in Philadelphia. The meetings were regularly held until the 13th March 1750, when William Allen, Esq., the recorder of the city of Philadelphia, presented to the Grand Lodge a commission from the G.L. of England (signed by William Lord Byron G.M.), appointing him Provincial Grand Master, which was recognised, and he appointed Benjamin Franklin D.G.M., and the other Officers above mentioned according to rank.

"From this time they proceeded in their business, granting new warrants in the city, in various parts of the State and other places, until superseded by the introduction of various Lodges of 'ancient York Masons,' and the ultimate establishment of a Grand Lodge of that Order.

"As far as the minutes of the modern Grand Lodge go, Dr. Franklin was never absent from a meeting."

After reading the above, the first question I thought of was, who was Dr. Mease? I consulted the history of Masonry in Pennsylvania, "Compiled and Published by the Library Committee," which for brevity's sake I shall call Bro. Meyer's history. Therein, I found the whole

sketch, as given by Dr. Mease, and some other interesting matter, to which I shall call attention hereafter; but not a word about Dr. Mease. At last, after consulting several works, I found the following brief notice in Alibone's "Dictionary of Authors."

"Mease James, M.D., an eminent physician of Philadelphia [author of] 1st, Geological Account of the United States, Phila., 1807, 18mo, pp 496, and Index Plates; 2nd, Picture of Philadelphia, 1811, 12mo; 3rd, On William Penn's Treaty with the Indians, 1836."

The above proves that Dr. Mease was highly respected, and may therefore be relied on; and it also proves that he was alive in 1836. The next thing I wanted to find out was, where did Dr. Mease pick up his information about Oxnard having appointed Benjamin Franklin Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1749, and of Allen's receiving a Deputation from England in 1750, with all the dates and particulars thereunto belonging? In the last paragraph above quoted our Dr. Mease said, "As far as the minutes of the modern Grand Lodge go," thus proving conclusively that he was in possession of the minutes of the Moderns at least as late as 1751. The question is, what became of the said minutes of the Moderns, which were in possession of Dr. Mease in 1811? To this question I could find no answer, but if even the said minutes no longer exist, we have in the first place the authority of Dr. Mease of Franklin's appointment by Oxnard in 1749; but the fact is further corroborated by the following entry in the Record of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Under date of Friday, 10th April 1752, I find,

"To the Lodge att Philadelphia, Bro. M. Daniel appeared, and paid for their Constitution £31 10s."

I must here explain that in 1752 the paper money in New England was worth very little—1s 8d was then called a pound; hence, £31 10s was equal to £2 12s 6d only, the sum that Oxnard's Deputation required him to pay to the Grand Lodge of England for every new Lodge constituted in his Province. As to why Franklin did not pay for his 1749 Lodge before 1752—I can no more answer than I could as to why the English Lodge, No. 79 of 1731, did not pay for its Charter before November 1732; and as to why the Boston worthies did not send Franklin's £2 12s 6d to the Grand Lodge of England, to whom the money belonged. The fact, however, is indisputable that the Philadelphia Masons paid tribute to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the Lodge chartered by Franklin in 1749.

The next puzzle I had was, what Lodge did Franklin charter in 1749? This question Bro. Gould answers, as follows:—He says,

"In the year last named [1749] July 10th, Franklin was appointed Provincial Grand Master by Thos. Oxnard, whose jurisdiction extended over the whole of North America, from which it seems to follow, as a logical deduction, that he eventually obtained in 1749 what he vainly applied for [to Henry Price] in 1734.

"At the first Grand Lodge, held under this Deputation 5th September 1749, Franklin appointed his Grand Officers, and 'at the same meeting a warrant was granted to James Pogreen and others, to hold a Lodge in Philadelphia.' So far Dr. Mease, whose sketch of the 'Society of Masons' is given in full in the official history of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and the latter informs us (on a later page) that the charter in question was granted to 'St. John's Lodge,' of which, however, the first Master is stated to have been James Pogrew. The same name apparently, though again we meet with a slight variation of spelling [which] occurs in the original document, showing the debts due for quarterage by the members of the 'First Lodge' in June 1752. In this the name of 'Jas. Polgreen' is given, his liabilities extending to December 1751, beyond which the record does not go.

"The Lodge of 1749 seems, therefore, not to have been a new creation, but a revival of the body over which Allen presided in 1731; and if such was the case, Franklin himself, in both instances, Grand Lodge and Lodge, served as a conduit pipe through which his anxiously sought 'authority from home' was derived."

But this is not all: for in a later document, to which I referred, it is stated that in 1755 the Pennsylvanian Grand Lodge was represented by three Lodges. Bro. Gould does not believe it. He says,

"The first Masonic Hall in America was erected in Philadelphia in 1754, and in the following year the same Grand and Deputy Grand Masters holding office. In 1750

we find that three subordinate Lodges were represented at the Feast of St. John the Baptist. In the official publication, upon which I am mainly relying, at this part of the narrative it is assumed that two of these were the First and Second St. John's Lodges, or in other words, the unchartered and the chartered bodies of 1731 and 1749 respectively. But the evidence with which we are presented by no means justifies this conclusion, nor can we be quite certain that more than a single Lodge was in existence before 1754."

In a foot note to the above, Bro. Gould remarks—

"All the subordinate Grand Officers appointed by Franklin on 5th September 1749 belonged to the First or St. John's Lodge, which body (it is said), in concert with the Grand Lodge, erected the Hall in 1754. But I strongly suspect that the subscribers were all members of the Lodge. The fact, moreover, that no other Lodges contributed to the expenses affords a strong argument against the possibility of there being any such in existence at that time."

The evidence against the Philadelphia "Masonic mother" theory may now briefly be summed up as follows:—

1. Had Allen received a Deputation in 1731, either from Coxe or from the Grand Lodge of England, Franklin would not have needed any authority from Price in 1734; and, furthermore, Franklin himself confirms the fact that up to 28th November 1734 he had no authority at all for his Lodge or Grand Lodge, for in the said letter he stated distinctly that his Province "seems to want the sanction of some authority derived from home." His need of "some authority" proves conclusively that up to that time his Province had received no Masonic authority from any one.

2. On 10th July 1749 Oxnard granted to Benjamin Franklin a Deputation, constituting Brother Franklin Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania.

3. Under Oxnard's Deputation, Provincial Grand Master Benjamin Franklin granted a charter to the St. John's Lodge, over which Allen presided in 1731.

4. There is no doubt that for the charter of the said Lodge in Philadelphia in 1749 the Massachusetts Grand Lodge received payment in 1752.

Now, with the above facts before us, I must frankly say that a man who now believes that either Coxe or the Grand Lodge of England had granted a Provincial Grand Master's Deputation to Allen in 1731 must entertain a very poor opinion of Franklin's character for common sense. For my own part I cannot believe that Franklin would have paid the Boston Grand Lodge for the Constitution of either the "Old Lodge" or for any other Lodge in 1749 if Allen had been authorised by Coxe's Deputation in 1731.

And this is not all. In Coxe's Deputation the Grand Master of England announced his right to appoint Coxe's successor. It was what may be called an out-and-out "home rule" Deputation. It ordained that after Coxe's time of two years expired that

"The said Provinces [New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania] shall, and they are hereby empowered, every other year, on the Feast of St. John the Baptist, to elect a Provincial Grand Lodge Master, who shall have the power of nominating and appointing his Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens."

Hence, had Allen been the legal and authorised successor of Coxe in 1732, as my Philadelphia friends claim, Franklin never would have applied to Price in 1734, or to Oxnard in 1749, for a Provincial Deputation; nor would Allen have needed a Deputation from the Grand Master of England in 1750.

I shall only add that Bro. Gould is in accord with my opinions about the worthlessness of the evidence claimed on account of the Dublin reprint of Smith's "Pocket Companion" in 1735, as well as about the "so-called" "Henry Bell Letter" of 1754. Want of space precludes me from giving here quotations from Bro. Gould's History on the above topics. I hope, however, that both my friends and opponents will not fail to read the said history for their own satisfaction.

Boston, U.S., 16th May 1887.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—Sores, wounds, ulcerations, and other diseases affecting the skin, are capable of speedy amendment by this cooling and healing ointment, which has called forth the loudest praise from persons who had suffered for years from bad legs, bad breasts, piles, abscesses, and chronic ulcers, after every hope of cure had long passed away. None but those who have experienced the soothing effect of this Ointment can form an idea of the comfort it bestows, by resuming inflammation and allaying pain. Whenever Holloway's Ointment has been once used it has established its own worth, and has again been eagerly sought for as the easiest and safest remedy for all such complaints. In neuralgia, rheumatism and gout, the same application, properly used, gives wonderful relief.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

—:o:—

ST. MICHAEL'S LODGE, No. 211.

AN emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday evening, 16th inst., at The Albion, Aldersgate-street, when the Worshipful Master, Bro. F. T. Bennett, presided, supported by Bros. A. Dickson S.W., Usher Back P.M. acting as J.W., A. Green P.M. Treasurer, W. Radcliffe P.M. Secretary, Alfred Withers P.M., W. W. Morgan P.M., F. J. Hentsch P.M., W. J. Dyer, F. H. Horscroft, Orlando Harley, A. H. Hancock, W. Kirkland, P. J. Barr, J. Banks Tyler, &c. The Visitors included Brothers Charles Lee 1624, C. Everett 1507, and H. J. Amphlett. Lodge was opened; after which the ballot was taken for Mr. James Withers, who had been nominated by his brother, Alfred Withers P.M. and seconded by Bro. W. Radcliffe Secretary. The result was unanimously in favour. Lodge was then advanced to the second degree, and Bro. Orlando Harley was passed to F.C., the ceremony being perfectly rendered by the Worshipful Master, assisted by his Officers. Resuming in the first, Mr. Joseph Withers was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, the working in this degree, and especially the delivery of the charge, being much appreciated by the brethren present. On the suggestion of Bro. W. Radcliffe, it was unanimously agreed to record on the minutes that the St. Michael's Lodge was represented by sixteen of its members at the great Jubilee Commemoration meeting at the Albert Hall, on Monday, the 13th inst. Hearty good wishes having been interchanged, the brethren adjourned to supper, which was well served, and at its conclusion the Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. In proposing the Queen and the Craft, the Worshipful Master observed that their Initiate missed a grand sight on Monday last—though it was no fault of his—when, at the Jubilee meeting, over seven thousand Masons joined in singing "God save the Queen." The scene that day in the Albert Hall was one never to be forgotten, and the Most Worshipful Grand Master there impressively reminded them—not that Masons needed to be reminded of the fact—that whatever Freemasons might be, they were at any rate loyal to the Throne. Speaking of the Prince of Wales as Most Worshipful Grand Master, he pointed out that His Royal Highness was always ready to do his duty to the Craft, in which he manifested so deep and active an interest. He was also most assiduous in the discharge of his public duties, being always engaged in some movement of benevolence or of national utility; and he reminded them that what might be deemed pleasure to some people, was to a man in the position of the Prince of Wales constant and arduous work. The toast of the Grand Officers having been disposed of, with fitting reference as to the zeal and ability with which they administer the affairs of the Craft; Bro. W. W. Morgan P.M. rose, for the second time that week, to discharge a duty—an unexpected, but nevertheless a very pleasurable, one—namely, to propose the health of the Worshipful Master of the St. Michael's Lodge. He recounted on Monday evening the excellent qualities Bro. Bennett had displayed during the period he had been connected with their Lodge; and, as he was aware that even the most eloquent speakers, in returning to the same old toast were apt to repeat themselves, and as he had received strict injunctions to be as brief as possible in his remarks that evening, he would submit the toast in a very few words. They were all cognisant of the estimable qualities Bro. Bennett had displayed during the part of his reign that had already elapsed, and they would all most cordially unite in the wish that he might have health and prosperity during the time he had yet to preside over the destinies of the St. Michael's Lodge. The toast was heartily received, and the Worshipful Master in acknowledgment thanked Bro. Morgan for the very kind way in which he had proposed the toast, and the brethren for the cordiality with which they had received it. As he said on Monday evening, when one was associated with brethren for whom he had real affection the work of the Master was comparatively easy, and he assured them his work in the St. Michael's Lodge was essentially a labour of love. Having an affectionate esteem for his dear old mother Lodge, he felt that whatever honours he had received, and whatever honours might be in store for him in the future, they all reflected credit, not upon himself, but upon the Lodge he had the honour to represent. He then gave the Initiate, observing that it was a toast of significance to old Masons, inasmuch as they saw in the new members who were admitted into the Lodge those who in the future would take up the work that they, of necessity, must lay down. To-night they had a double pleasure, for they not only welcomed an Initiate, but the brother of an old and highly esteemed Past Master of the St. Michael's Lodge. Bro. Withers need not smile, for he might rest assured he was held in the highest estimation by the brethren who failed not to recognise the good suit and service he had rendered to the Lodge. It was not necessary for him, as a young Mason, and in the presence of so many older than himself, to remind them that Bro. Withers had ever taken a prominent position in the charitable area of Masonic work. It was only recently that through his exertions an old member of this Lodge, Bro. Harper, secured participation in the advantages of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution—an act which would render that old man happy and comfortable for the remainder of his life. He was now the recipient of an annuity, and would never want. He (the speaker) hoped the Brother who had just been initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry would prove a second "Director of Ceremonies;" at any rate in Mr. Joseph Withers they had a very promising member of the Order. The toast was received with a "good fire," and the E.A. song was rendered by Bro. A. Green P.M. Treasurer. Bro. Joseph Withers, in replying, said they could not, in all conscience, expect a speech from him that evening, after all he had gone through. It had been a trying ordeal, and it was fortunate for him that he had plenty of nerve. He need

hardly tell them how pleased he was to have been admitted into the Masonic ranks. Since that time last year he had travelled many thousands of miles,—right round the world,—and had often wished he had been a Mason. No doubt in the various places at which he had called he would have been received with a far heartier welcome had he been one of the Order. His brother assured him that the fraternal welcome amongst Masons was so wide in its capacity that its conception was unknown to those who had not joined the Craft. He thanked them again for the kind way in which they had received him, and trusted he might realise the expectations of the Worshipful Master, and become a useful member of the Order. The W.M., in proposing the Visitors, observed that it was a toast that required no words of recommendation to render it acceptable in the St. Michael's Lodge. Visitors were always sure of a hearty welcome there, and although this was an off-night, they were just as welcome, notwithstanding the fact that they had not been fed on the stalled ox, but rather regaled with the dish of herbs. The toast was received with applause, and acknowledged by the Visitors, who spoke in eulogistic terms of the work they had seen in the Lodge room and of the harmony and fraternal feeling displayed at the festive board. With the Past Masters the W.M. coupled the names of their esteemed Treasurer and Secretary, referring briefly to the able manner in which they had discharged the duties of their respective offices. Bro. A. Green P.M. Treasurer was exceedingly obliged for the kindly manner in which the toast had been proposed and received. The W.M. was very kind in complimenting the Past Masters upon the assistance they had given him in Lodge that evening, but he was much afraid before long the Past Masters would become rusty in their working. They had such able Officers coming on, following in the footsteps of the W.M., that there was really no need to bring the services of the Past Masters into requisition; and, unless they saw bad times again, which he did not at all apprehend, the Past Masters would have to retire into the background, or attend Lodges of Instruction, so as to pick up again. Still it was their duty and privilege to attend the meetings of the Lodge, apart from the pleasant associations which always surrounded them, and he hoped that would ever continue to be the case. For himself he could say he never spent more pleasant evenings than he did in this Lodge, and in saying so he only re-echoed the feelings of every one of his brother Past Masters. Brother W. Radcliffe P.M. Secretary could certainly endorse all that had been said by their excellent friend the Treasurer. Bro. Green had so thoroughly gone into the subject that very little was left for him to say. With regard to himself, he had sometimes been called a "general utility man," and long might that cognomen be attached to his name. He prided himself that he could take any office when called upon. He might be getting a little "rusty," because he was not often called upon to do the work of the various offices; but in cases of emergency he had taken the place of Tyler or Inner Guard. It mattered not to him what he did so long as it conduced to the welfare of the St. Michael's Lodge, and so long as he had health and strength he hoped to do all he could to advance the true interests of the brethren. By special request of the W.M. Bro. A. Withers P.M. also responded, and in the course of his remarks said, after so long an absence he was delighted to come amongst them once again, and to receive so cordial a welcome at their hands. He need hardly say his absence from the Lodge, as a member and Officer, was entirely due to circumstances over which he had no control; but he hoped he should attend regularly in the future, and that they would be able to say, in every sense of the word, that they were really a band of brothers. He could not sit down without thanking them for the reception they had given to his brother; it had been most gratifying to him. His brother was a Mason at heart long before he was made one; and he was fully assured he would become an ornament to the Lodge and to Masonry at large. The W.M. next proposed the Officers, with repeated thanks to the Past Masters who had taken the places of those who were absent on the occasion. Bro. Usher Back P.M. responded for the J.W., and Bro. Hentsch P.M. for the I.G. The Tyler then in fitting manner closed the proceedings. During the evening some capital songs were rendered, notable amongst which were "When other lips" and "Home, Sweet Home," sang in exquisite style by Bro. Orlando Harley; "For Ever," by Bro. A. Withers P.M.; the "Skipper of St. Ives," by Bro. C. Lee; and "Green grow the rushes, O," by Bro. Kirkland. After spending a really happy and harmonious time, the brethren separated until the next session, which commences in October.

LEBANON LODGE, No. 1326.

ON Saturday, 18th June, the Election and Jubilee Meeting of this well-established Lodge was held at the Railway Tavern, Feltbam, Middlesex. Bro. W. R. Vassila W.M. P.P.G. Standard Bearer Middlesex presided, and there were present:—Bros. J. J. Marsh I.P.M. P.P.G. Standard Bearer Middlesex, J. Laurance S.W. and W.M.-elect, F. Dunstan W.S. acting as J.W., S. Page Treasurer, Frederick Walters P.M. Secretary P.P.G.D. Middlesex, C. W. Baker S.D., William Walters J.D., William Henry Walters I.G., H. Forss P.M. Steward, A. Lawton Steward, J. R. Cox Assistant Secretary, E. J. Wholen, F. Trinder, W. H. Davey, L. Schofield, W. Drew, R. H. Sworn, &c. Amongst the Visitors we noticed Bros. G. Graham P.M. 2024 P.P.G.S.D. Middlesex P.Z. 1540, J. Scudamore 749, James Williams 610, Union Park, Illinois, U.S.A., &c. The minutes of the meeting held on the 21st of May were read, unanimously confirmed, and signed by the W.M. The W.M. performed the work well. The ballot for Mr. Frederick Trinder was in favour of his admission. As usual in the Province of Middlesex, acting under the request of the R.W. P.G.M. Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., each candidate was introduced separately. Bros. Davey and Sworn were raised, and L. Schofield passed.

Messrs Drew and Trinder were initiated. The bye-laws were read, and the ballots and elections were unanimous. Bros. James Laurance S.W. for W.M., Samuel Page re-elected Treasurer, John Gilbert re-elected Tyler; Bros. Frederick Dunstan W.S., John Alfred Wilson D.C., Henry Forss P.M., and S. Stewart to be Auditors. The Audit is to be held at the Holborn Restaurant, on Tuesday, 5th July, at 5 p.m. It was resolved unanimously that, for the first time in the Lodge history, from the Lodge funds, a ten guinea Past Master's gold jewel be presented to Bro. William Robert Vassila W.M. for his efficient services to the Lodge. He has on several occasions (4 times) served as Steward at Masonic Charities, representing this his Mother Lodge. This year he served the three Stewardships, making now seven times he has been Steward. He left the room while the matter was being discussed. In thanking the brethren for the ten guinea jewel, he told them his interest would not relax in their Lodge. He had agreed to accompany Bro. C. W. Baker S.D. at the Centenary of the Girls' School, in 1888, as one of their Stewards, thus completing his eighth Stewardship. The usual amount paid for P.M.'s jewels in this Lodge was seven guineas. The veteran Secretary Bro. F. Walters heartily congratulated the Lodge on having secured the services of Bros. James Clark Goslin A.D.C. for the Benevolent Incitation Festival, William Robert Vassila W.M. and Charles William Baker S.D. for the Girls', and James Laurance S.W. and W.M.-elect for the Boys, as their Stewards for 1888. He hoped to see history repeat itself. When the late Bro. R. Wentworth Little P.P.D.G.M. Middlesex was Secretary he sent in, on one occasion, 12 members' names as Stewards for the Girls' School Festival in one year. He hoped, as it was the Centenary Festival of the Girls' School, to secure another twelve Stewards for 1888. There was a wish to concentrate a great deal of their efforts for the Girls' School next year. The Secretary informed the Lodge of the death of Bro. John Richardson Croft, aged 61, on the 19th of May. A letter of condolence was ordered to be sent to his family. Bros. Cosman Citreon and Albert Allen resigned their membership, which was accepted with regret. After some gentlemen had been proposed for initiation, business being ended, Lodge was closed. It was ordered that the Lodge meet on Saturday, 16th July, at two o'clock, the installation to take place at three. A good banquet followed.

The summer banquet in connection with the Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65, is fixed to take place at the Pavilion, Brighton, on Tuesday, the 12th July, at two o'clock. A special train has been engaged to convey the brethren and their friends, of both sexes, from London Bridge Station, at 10.25 a.m., afterwards calling at East Croydon; and the same train will also be in readiness to return from Brighton at 9.20 p.m. The comfort of those who, with their lady friends, intend to participate in what promises to be a most enjoyable outing is thus ensured, and the arrangement with the railway company to supply first class accommodation at the low fair of 6s 6d is most satisfactory. Tickets for this train cannot be issued at the usual booking office, but may be obtained of Bro. W. Walker, 43 Milton Street, E.C.; R. Dyson I.P.M., 15 Australian Avenue, E.C.; J. Roberts P.M., 32 Lawrence Lane, Cheapside, E.C.; or the Secretary, Brother G. T. Brown P.M., 213 Devons Road, Bromley-by-Bow. The W.M. requests us to state that to secure this special train he has had to guarantee a definite number of tickets; therefore he will be obliged by an early application for them. Arrangements have this year been made that brethren and their friends may purchase refreshments upon their arriving at the Pavilion; and after dinner there will be the usual dance. At the closing meeting of the Lodge session, on Thursday last, held at the Guildhall Tavern, the W.M. and other members expressed their confidence that this year's excursion would be an unusually enjoyable and successful one, additional *éclat* probably being lent to it by the "Jubilee season." We are compelled to hold over our report of this meeting until next week.

The Board of Benevolence held its monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening, where there was a full attendance, under the presidency of Bro. J. Brett, Senior Vice President. Recommendations to the Grand Master, made at the May meeting, amounting in the aggregate to £410, were confirmed. Forty-five new cases were brought forward, of which six were deferred, and three dismissed; the remainder were relieved with a total of £1,148. One recommendation was for £100, two were for £75 each, four £50 each, seven £40 each, and seven £30 each. Six grants were made of £20 each, one of £15, seven of £10 each, and one of £3.

The annual Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Cumberland and Westmoreland will be held at Wellington, under the banner of the Derwent Lodge, No. 282, on Wednesday, the 13th July.

AN ORATION.

Delivered by Comp. the Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A., P.Z. 279, P.P.G.R., on the occasion of the Consecration of the St. George's Chapter, attached to the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1560, Leicester, on the 2nd March 1886.

I FEEL honoured by your command to address the Provincial Grand Chapter on this occasion—an occasion which has not occurred in the Province for many years. I had intended to preface my remarks with some historical notes on the existing Chapters of the Province, but, Most Excellent, after listening to your address, such notes would be superfluous. I content myself, therefore, with stating that there is material evidence that Brethren were exalted in the Royal Arch, in this town, irrespective of the Chapter of Fortitude, as long ago as A.D. 1805. I wear to-day a jewel which has been used time out of mind at the exaltation of Royal Arch Companions. It bears the name of "Robt. Wylie, No. 91, A.D. 1805." No. 91 was the old Lodge of so-called Atholl Masons referred to in your Address. The Chapter of Fortitude also possesses another jewel, dated 1818, both of which differ in some respects from those at present authorized.

The total number of subscribing members in the Province is only 160, of whom 92 are members of the Chapter of Fortitude. Many of these are old Masons, who may be considered to be on the retired list; whilst many more seem to regard the Royal Arch as of no more importance than any of the "Side Degrees" now worked in this country. The nett result is, that the average attendance at the Convocations of the Chapter of Fortitude, counting members and visitors of all ranks, is for the past five years just twenty. What the proportion may have been in the smaller Chapters I know not, but there is no reason to suppose it greater.

Why, then, is the Supreme Order of the Royal Arch in such a languishing condition, when the Mark Degree and other Masonic systems now worked in our midst are continually gaining accessions of strength, and, so far as one is able to judge, prospering exceedingly?

A chief cause, no doubt, is novelty. To many minds the multifarious clothing, jewels, and paraphernalia of these various Orders have a great attraction, and whereas a principal charm of Masonry is the consciousness of secret knowledge, which gives a sense of superiority over those who have it not, this feeling is intensified by the multiplicity of Degrees taken; and the young Mason is tempted to wander off the beaten track in search of abstruse and complicated instruction before he has acquired the genuine secrets of a M.A., and the allurements of office sometimes lead him to seek employment outside his Lodge before he has qualified himself for promotion within it.

Another cause is the want of more instruction during a brother's novitiate. Are not degrees conferred in too quick succession? Is not the feeling growing that candidates have a sort of claim and right to the succeeding degrees at the earliest possible date allowed by the Constitutions? And do not many of our rising brethren in consequence claim office as a right, whether qualified or not? If a candidate is led to suppose within three months of his initiation that, having taken the third degree, he has arrived at the summit of his profession, is he not apt to feel disappointment, and can we wonder that he should seek after novelty and try to quench his rising thirst for knowledge at every fresh fountain to which he can gain access, rather than rest content under the vine of his own Lodge and drink of his own cistern? A Craftsman may lawfully travel, as his ancient brethren did, from east to extremest west to seek out new Masters and learn new modes of work; but he should at least know well how to indent on the rough and try the smooth before he sets out. So long as minute instruction in the three degrees is little attended to, so long as slovenly signs and tokens are tolerated, tracing boards neglected, and the work of a Lodge restricted, by common consent, to the ceremonial conferring of degrees, on the principle of "the more the merrier," quality in candidates being held secondary to quantity, the Royal Arch being never so much as hinted at all along, it is to be feared that the Supreme Order will not conquer that place in the estimation of the brethren at large with its importance demands. There are even in Leicester too many Masonic meetings of one kind or another; and time is devoted to other degrees

which would perhaps be better spent in striving to attain the "climax of Freemasonry," for the ritual is extensive and complicated, and can hardly be mastered on the few occasions set apart for the exercise of it. When oral tradition was the rule, personal instruction was necessary, and therefore available; we have now to rely too much on other means of obtaining the requisite knowledge, the correctness of which is doubtful, and the Companion who does his best in that direction too often fails to satisfy either himself or his predecessors in office.

But, happily, there are landmarks and limits within which an aspirant cannot widely err.

In ritual we are apt to attach too much importance to our own views of verbal accuracy, whereas the doctrine of limits, which runs like a thread throughout the Craft Degrees, appears to me as applicable to ritual as to morals.

In the first degree, we have brought to our notice the two grand parallels between which, so long as a brother confines himself and marches steadily onward with the eye of faith fixed on that star of hope which illumines the immense vista, he cannot err.

The point within the circle conveys the same idea. The landmarks bound the horizon, and whereas the limit of every circle is a rectangle contained by the radius and half the circumference, the Mason standing in the centre can still discern the two great parallels of the law of God and the rules of the Craft, stretching along on either side towards the distant Royal Arch—like the lines on a railway. For if a material circle be divided into a large number of equal sectors, and these be arranged side by side, alternately point to base, it will be seen that they approximate to the rectangle above mentioned; and here I see the origin of the indented or tessellated border and the pattern of a Companion's badge. And the idea of two grand parallels is dominant in the Royal Arch itself. Not only are there two pairs of them within the jewel, but the limit of the curve called catenary is two parallel straight lines; for the two parts of a flexible cord suspended by its two ends, are (if very long in proportion to the distance between them) practically parallel to one another. In the Royal Arch we have impressed on our minds the strength and durability of a vault or dome constructed on the principle of the true Catenarian Arch, standing complete in itself without buttress or load of any kind. Such an Arch stands self-supported only when the curve from which it takes its name can be accurately traced between the limits of the outer and inner edge of the voussoirs. This again reminds me of the path of a steadfast Mason amid the landmarks of his Order, containing his words and very thoughts within the compass of propriety, and going on his humble way rejoicing in the light which God has shed around him.

I have endeavoured to suggest the possible causes which prevent the brethren at large from entering the Supreme Order and hinder them from pursuing it steadfastly. If I am right, these causes will not be removed by merely increasing the number of Chapters, but the lack of a centre of instruction and a standard of comparison in our Province will be supplied to-day.

The St. George's Chapter commences its career with every advantage; it possesses in its Principals the chiefs of the Order in this Province, three illustrious Companions, second to none in Masonic skill and extended experience. They will be, I understand, supported by a body of Companions selected for their approved conduct and zeal, and who will fulfil the expectations of the Founders by setting up for our imitation such a standard of ritual and finished working as will instruct the minds and gladden the hearts of all who are privileged to behold it. May T.G.A.O.T.U. prosper them one and all. May He direct and approve their work on earth and finally exalt them in the Heavens.

MASONIC HALLS NOT DANCE-ROOMS.—Our brethren on the other side of the globe are as well aware as any of the Masonic proprietaries, as witness the following, from the *New Zealand Freemason*: "It appears to us as amounting to a desecration when Masonic Halls are converted into dance rooms, and we cannot comprehend why a place consecrated and dedicated for the solemn proceedings of the Fraternity should be deemed of a less holy character than churches or chapels. No good Jews or Gentiles would think for a moment of permitting any secular amusements to be carried on in their places of worship; then why, we ask, should the floor of a Masonic Lodge room be utilized for any purpose but that for which it was intended?"

WHAT KIND OF MEN MASONS ARE.

FREEMASONS have the reputation of being companionable men, easy to become acquainted with, possessed of sterling qualities of mind and heart, easily approached by persons in distress, and generally distinguished by those qualities which are ascribed to a citizen of the world. From our knowledge of Freemasons we can affirm that they do not belie their reputation, and furthermore that these distinguishing characteristics are due in large degree to Freemasonry itself. True, they are all severally possessed in a measure by different profanes, but Freemasons as a rule possess them in the aggregate, and we can attribute this to no other influence than that of the Craft itself. The environment of the Lodge moulds and educates the initiate so as to develop the qualities we have mentioned, and repress others which are less desirable to have, so that the Freemason who has been long in the Fraternity comes to be recognized, not only by his brethren, but generally by all his associates, as a good fellow, a well-rounded man, gifted with common (which is the most uncommon) sense, in fine, a citizen of the world, who, meet him where you will, is agreeable, affable, intelligent, ready to give and take a joke, to impart and receive information, and generally to be of use to his fellows, and agreeable to them and to himself.

What is it in Freemasonry which tends to fashion this symmetrical man? Why is it that you do not meet the genus crank in our Lodges? Why do smiles crowd the scowls out of a Mason's face? It is the composite influence of all of the teaching, usages and customs of the Craft. We cannot name them all, nor a tithe of them, but we may specify one or two of those most prominent and influential, which unmistakably exercise a governing power in broadening, elevating and humanizing the views, so that the Freemason naturally comes to be regarded as a pleasant man to meet, a good citizen, a good neighbour, a man with a conscience, who knows the force and value of an obligation, a man you can trust farther than you can see him, and whether at home or abroad is companionable, sensible, good humoured and happy—and calculated to make others happy.

The leading reason why Freemasons are as we have stated is, that they meet "on the level" men of all shades and varieties of religious, political and social opinions. In the world, as a rule, democrats associate with democrats, republicans with republicans, Episcopalians with Episcopalians, Methodists with Methodists, Presbyterians with Presbyterians—in other words they classify and clanify themselves to death. While they are moulded in several moulds, the different classes are not brought into juxtaposition or thrown together. Now in the Lodge the democrat and the republican, the Baptist and the Presbyterian, the Unitarian and the Trinitarian, the nobleman and the commoner, the man of lofty social position and him of humbler associations, the intellectual giant and the ordinarily gifted man, all meet "on the level," all contribute something of their own qualities to the remainder, and thus round, polish, educate each other. Did Freemasonry accomplish nothing else than to bring the best men together into the most intimate relationship, thereby to the advantage of all, it would possess a reason for its being which would amply justify its existence. Long live the Craft that practically abolishes the distinction between the rich and the poor, the learned and the unlearned, the aristocrat and the plebeian. This is a long step towards the millennium. This renders socialism and anarchism unnecessary and inexcusable. It teaches a man to be unselfish, to put himself in another's place, to look at things through his neighbour's eyes, to be considerate, kind, tender hearted and forgiving. The world could not afford to do without such an institution. It makes no boast of its influence in the directions we have named, but it is certain that it possesses it, and continually exercises it beneficially for mankind. And yet certain religious cranks yecept anti-Masons would expropriate, if they could, Freemasonry from the world. Not that they overcome and overturn the plans of the Grand Architect of the Universe Himself, will they be able to abolish Freemasonry. It is a civilizing, humanizing, moralizing power, which always has existed in some form from the earliest ages, and always will exist a til the end of time.—*Keystone.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

CLIQUISM IN CHAPTERS AND LODGES.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have been away for some days and did not see "SOLO'S" communication in your issue of the 28th ult. until my return. If "SOLO" will re-read my letter he will find that he simply re-states some of the general principles which I urged should, as a rule, be followed in the election of the Z. of a Chapter and the W.M. of a Lodge. My contention is (which he does not deny) that, conceding all this, a Chapter or Lodge does not reflect credit upon itself if, after a Companion or Brother has served the minor offices faithfully and well, he is passed over at the last moment when within a measurable distance of the goal of his ambition, at the whim of the majority, or as I asserted in the case of the Chapter to which I referred, to please the fancies of a "clique." I notice that "SOLO" does not defend the proceedings in question, and which I should presume are within his own knowledge, or why should he seek to excuse them? "SOLO" tells us that "merit" should prevail, although he carefully abstains from saying that the Companion who was so badly treated did not possess that qualification. Had he gone so far he would have said that which five out of six P.Z.'s of the Chapter would have contradicted. The majority of the founders of the Chapter have privately condemned the cliquism which they, with regret, admit has sprung up in the Chapter, and which has shown itself not on one occasion only. If "SOLO" is a member of the Chapter the fact that this evil spirit of cliquism does exist will have made itself too apparent to his own mind to be denied. His principle that no Mason should be a P.Z. of more than one Chapter, or P.M. of more than one Lodge is excellent in theory, but impossible in practice. I hope "SOLO" has not transgressed his own precept. Would he care to be S.E. or P.Z. of a Chapter capable of perpetrating the injustice to which I have drawn attention? I think not. I should not, more particularly when I remember that the Companion who is the victim of these proceedings assisted the Chapter out of its difficulties by taking office when there was no other candidate, excepting the P.Z.'s, eligible for the duties.

Yours faithfully,

COMPANION.

THE LADIES AND THE JUBILEE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—I was almost going to continue "and Brother," as I see most of your correspondents say, but, although my husband prides himself as being a Mason of long standing—a sentiment with which I most heartily agree—I suppose I am not entitled to use the fraternal appellation. But, without any tinge of "woman's curiosity," of which my husband declares I have less than any other of our sex he ever knew (not that I believe in my heart he ever knew many, much less admired them)—the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE is always left upon our dining-room table, and there is not the slightest secrecy about it, or any veto against its being read, either by myself or any members of our family. There is something open and above-board about that which I like, and which strengthens my admiration for the Craft, which I have always entertained from the "Masonic surroundings" of my own and other homes. I flatter myself I am not a biassed individual, and I am not dissuaded from being jealous by the knowledge that ladies are not admitted into Masonic Lodges. If they were, my husband assures me upon his honour that I should be the very first to be proposed. But, not to be too profuse in what may be called the "introduction" to my letter, let me come at once to the suggestion recently made in your paper by a correspondent on the subject of "The Ladies and the Jubilee." I made a note or two on the subject at the time, but Spring-cleaning coming on we had to go away for a week or two, and on our return I thought I would like to write and thank the worthy writer—"Brother" I suppose—who spoke so nicely as to the ladies being permitted to join in some of the excursions that are in contemplation during the summer, and which, as he said, were to be exceptionally enjoyable in consequence of Jubilee year. I am sure all my lady friends who have the opportunity of seeing your excellent paper will appreciate, as I do, the noble exertions that are being put forth by the members of my husband's and other Lodges in taking us all for a pleasant day in one or other of the "sequestered nooks" in the suburbs, which he describes so graphically. I can assure him, on behalf of my "Sisters" and myself, we will do our best to render these little picnics enjoyable, and what affair of the kind could be enjoyable without our presence? I am looking forward to our summer banquet with the most keen anticipations of pleasure, and I know are many of my friends, whose husbands, brothers, or lovers are members of your noble Craft. My husband has, as he calls it, "revised" this letter, and cut a lot of interesting matter out of it, but I suppose he knows best. I am a little disappointed. I confess I was rather more so when he said it was "the province of the gentleman to talk rather than to write to newspapers;" but I made up my mind to do so, being strongly of opinion with the poet who said—

What's a table nicely spread
Without a lady at its head?

I trust you will accept this as an acknowledgment on the part of your lady readers of the contemplated kindness of the Masonic brethren, and their consideration for us.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,

A P.M.'S WIFE.

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

H.R. HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER.
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KINTORE
MOST WORSHIPFUL PRO GRAND MASTER.

THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL
IN AID OF
THE MARK GRAND LODGE BENEVOLENT FUND
WILL BE HELD

On Wednesday, 20th July 1887, at the
HOLBORN RESTAURANT.

The Rt. Hon. the **EARL AMHERST**,
M.W. PAST GRAND MASTER OF M.M.M., AND
PROV. G. MASTER OF THE CRAFT PROVINCE OF KENT,
In the Chair.

Officers of the Board of Stewards.

PRESIDENT.
V.W. Bro. Robert Berridge (P.G.M.O.) G.D.C.
HONORARY PRESIDENTS.
R.W. Bro. Rev. Thomas Robinson, M.A., Prov. G.M. Kent.
R.W. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clarke P.G.W.
V.W. Bro. James S. Eastes P.G. Overseer.
TREASURER.
W. Bro. John E. Dawson D.P.G.M. Herts.
SECRETARY.
R.W. Bro. C. F. Matier P.G.W. (Secretary of the Benevolent Fund).

Subscriptions and donations are urgently required, and the names of Brethren willing to act as Stewards will be most thankfully received.

Dinner on the Table at 6 o'clock p.m. precisely.

TICKETS:—LADIES 15s. GENTLEMEN 21s.

Morning Dress—Mark Collars and Jewels.

OFFICE—8A Red Lion Square, London, W.C.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER AND LODGE OF
LONDON AND THE METROPOLITAN COUNTIES.

THE KNIGHTS COMPANIONS will meet in COUNCIL, at 33 Golden Square, W., on Saturday, 16th July, at 2.30 p.m. for 3 o'clock precisely, and the R.W. Provincial Grand Master desires the attendance of all duly qualified brethren.

Names and addresses of Candidates, with name of Lodge and Chapter, must be sent in to the Prov. G. Sec., not later than the 11th July.

The Annual Banquet will be held at The Trafalgar, Greenwich, at 6.30 precisely, Members paying 10s, and Visitors £1 1s.

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Bro. the R.W. Sir DANIEL GOOCH, Bart.

DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER:

V.W. Bro. the Rev. J. STUDHOLME BROWNRIGG, P.G.C.

BY command of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, a Provincial Grand Lodge will be holden at the Albert Institute, Sheet Street, Windsor, on Monday, the 27th June 1887.

ROBERT BRADLEY,
Prov. Grand Secretary.

Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened at 1 p.m.

All Master Masons of the Province may attend. Every Lodge should be represented by the W.M., Immediate P.M., or one of the Acting Wardens. Morning Dress.

The Banquet will take place at the Town Hall, Windsor, at 2 o'clock punctually, tickets for which, at 6s 6d each, can be procured of the following Provincial Grand Stewards:—

George Totle, High Wycombe; G. B. Valentine, Stony Stratford; H. D. Marshall, Windsor; Major Taylor, Sandhurst; W. Frampton, Benson, Wallingford; H. Perks, Hounslow.

Railway Arrangements.

Return Tickets at Single Fares will be issued, on production of the Summons, at the Booking Offices of the Great Western Railway from the following stations:—London, Slough, Reading, Oxford, Newbury, Abingdon, Swindon, Wallingford, Faringdon, Aylesbury, Wycombe, Marlow Road, Taplow, and Maidenhead; and at all Stations on the London, Wokingham, and Reading Railway, between Waterloo and Windsor.

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ON

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THE HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.*

THE completion of any work of history is always a matter of satisfaction and congratulation, both for writer and reader, especially if the work be distinguished by the abiding characteristics of truth, honour and conscientiousness. There are, as we all know, "histories and histories," but he who speaks the words of "truth and soberness," with the praiseworthy aim, moreover, of substituting the soundest conclusions of fact for the often more popular but fallacious theories of imagination and unreliability, deserves the approbation of all thinking students, and may fairly be enrolled amongst those true labourers in art, history and science who have done honour to themselves, and compiled their useful and pleasant pages for the furtherance of intellectual culture and historical certainty amongst men.

To Bro. R. F. Gould the whole body of Masonic students and of searchers after truth—and indeed all investigators of history and archæology, Masonic or non-Masonic,—owe a great debt of gratitude for the completion of his able, lucid, and conscientious work.

Whatever else may be advanced by any against Bro. Gould's method or (Bro. Gould's conclusions),—there will always be honest differences of opinion amongst honest readers,—no none can allege that he has in any measure failed either in the "rôle" or aim of the historian; but, on the contrary, has succeeded where others have notably failed, and in his great and completed work has left us a striking example and a standing model of intellectual expression, admirable arrangement, and epigrammatic power.

We may not, in truth, accept all his "deliverances;" we may, it is probable, not concur in all his conclusions; we may demur, it is very likely, to some of his most startling "nihilisms;" we may regret this pretty legend, or that fairy tale, which in sternness and pitilessness he has swept away; and we may reluctantly exchange much of the glamour and romance of Masonic traditions for the more naked and common-place dulness of uncompromising reality. And yet who can blame Bro. Gould? He was writing as an historian, as a student anxious for students, as one seeking to establish truth on safe ground and staple foundations, and who could not conscientiously pamper in any way to the tastes of the fastidious, or the fads of the sciolist. His motto, and a very good one by the way, has ever been

Fiat justitia ruat cœlum, magna est veritas et prævalebit.

He has, therefore, exhausted the claims of all possible origin, and probed the sources of all reliable evidence.

His labours may appear to some to take too wide a field, but they were rendered absolutely necessary by the com-

* *The History of Freemasonry, its Antiquities, Symbols, Constitutions, Customs, &c.* Embracing an Investigation of the Records of the Organisations of the Fraternity in England, Scotland, Ireland, British Colonies, France, Germany, and the United States. Derived from Official Sources. By Robert Froke Gould, Barrister-at-Law, Past Senior Grand Deacon of England; Author of "The Four Old Lodges," "The Atholl Lodges," &c. Volume VI. London: Thomas C. Jack, 45 Ludgate Hill. 1887.

plex history of Freemasonry itself, which, the more we seek to draw it out, to analyse it and to measure it, is bound up with other complex systems, whether of thought, materiality, secrecy, or mysticism; and requires, if justice is to be done to it and its reality, and its far extending range clearly demonstrated, to be traced up to its actual or hidden origin, to those causes and those conditions which have been its potent factors through the onward march of time. Amid many other admirable works and efforts to-day for the same good end, and the same good cause, whether original or compiled; when we consider the satisfactory and thorough results of honest and painstaking energy, as represented by the valued and valuable manifestations of student-endeavour, for which we are indebted to a Hughan, a Murray Lyon, a Kloss, a Findel, a Lane, a Carson, a Fort, and a Clifford McCalla; this "magnum opus" of Bro. Gould comes before us in its completed character as a subject of befitting commendation, and of always grateful remembrance. If doubt still rests on some portions of our annals, if we are still unable fully to pierce the haze which hangs over hasty entries and incomplete minutes, if the evidence of past generations seems to point to carelessness and irregularity, and habitual inaccuracy and unconcern, we must admit that Bro. Gould has made a most admirable and artistic use of evidences which are of the most chaotic, statements which are most haphazard, and a juxtaposition of assertions which are most incongruous.

For the first time we have a happily delineated panorama of the world-wide spread of Freemasonry. Wherever its tents have been set up, wherever its assemblies met, there the historian follows its records, and discovers their commencement and progress, their prosperity and their adversity; the inevitable weaknesses which have marred their programme, and yet at the same time their onward and triumphant march, which in some striking instances has cheered the hearts of the brethren, and honoured the name, and emblazoned the fair banners of Freemasonry. How many anxious students, in both hemispheres and in all jurisdictions, taking up Bro. Gould's six volumes to-day, will find what the Germans term a "stand-punkt" place from which to begin "de novo" honest researches, modest or striking lucubrations? How many a later seeker after Masonic reality and Masonic truth will thank Bro. Gould for the anxious toil, the thoughtful studies, the elaborate investigations of years?

It will be impossible, in this short notice, to go over the salient points even of this Sixth Volume, to do justice to its interesting chapters, or even the invaluable aids to all honest inquirers of the Masonic truth and reality afforded by the whole work.

But, as a striking illustration of the peculiar force of Bro. Gould's writing, and as an example of his antithetical and epigrammatic verbiage, in which so much is summed up in a few most forcible and telling words, we take the following little gem, from p 425, Vol. VI.

"With the names of Daniel Coxe and Henry Price the generality of Masonic students will be familiar. The former received a Deputation as Prov. G. Master, but there is hardly a scintilla of evidence to show that he ever exercised any authority under it.

"The latter, on the other hand, exercised all the authority of a Provincial Grand Master, though no absolute proof is forthcoming that he was at any time in lawful possession of a Deputation."

Those who know the ground and facts which these apparently simple words cover will realize at once the force and clearness of a writer who is able to set before us, in short yet weighty sentences, what constitutes in fact the sum and substance of many and seemingly unending controversies. The rival claims of Philadelphia and Boston are hardly settled, nevertheless, by Bro. Gould's exhaustive treatment, and though there is much that is inexplicable in Franklin's apparent ignorance of Daniel Coxe's patent, and his correspondence with Price, which to us at this distance of time seems utterly unaccountable, we still think the presumption remains in favour of Philadelphian claims.

But these inquiries serve and suggest a sad commentary on the reckless confusion and imperfections of our then Grand Lodge office arrangements, and we are afraid that the Colonial brethren had indeed good cause to complain of the almost cruel neglect of their interests and wants by good old Mother Country Grand Lodge.

In conclusion, though other and later discoveries may affect the validity of some of Bro. Gould's most striking

conclusions, and may shake the effective value of many of his ingenious criticisms, just as they may weaken the force of many of the proofs of his constructive and destructive skill, yet his work will remain a stately monument of industry, investigation, penetration, and power, invaluable as an aid to Masonic students, and truly, if not infallible, at any rate a veracious history of Freemasonry. For Bro. Gould's objections are never easy to refute, nor are his most Nihilistic positions always possible completely to confute. He has shown us what can be done to make the history of Freemasonry readable and reliable, and we must honestly concede to him, in this our age of Masonic study and research, a foremost place, if not the foremost, amongst those loyal workers who have sought to give truth, form, and vitality to the legends and myths of our Order.

REVIEWS.

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

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Picturesque Wales. Handbook of Scenery accessible from the Cambrian Railways. Edited by Godfrey Turner. London: W. J. Adams and Sons, 59 Fleet Street, and Simpkin Marshall and Co., Stationers' Hall Court, E.C.

Now that the holiday season is in full swing, and business men who have the means and opportunity are flocking away in all directions from the "stuffy" confines of the great City, seeking rest and invigoration on breezy downs or at quiet seaside haunts, the question "where shall we go?" recurs with the regularity of clockwork. Time was when nothing but a trip to the Continent could be the "correct thing," and there are not a few people who measure their enjoyment to a great extent by the amount of money which can be expended in a given time. Undoubtedly to those whose position in life enforces them to perpetual leisure, and consequently a need of frequent change, a cruise to the Mediterranean, an excursion on the Danube or the Rhine, scaling the Alps or basking near Norwegian fjords may be a beneficial form of relaxation; but, after all, we question whether the real kernel of its enjoyment is not in the thought that such luxuries are attainable only by the affluent and favoured few. Of late years, however, there seems to have come a "change o'er the spirit" of holiday dreamers, who are awakening to the fact that there is no need to cross the Channel in search of lovely scenery, of exhilarating and life restoring climate, combined with all the other pleasures of a Continental journey except perhaps—if that can be called a pleasure at all—the puzzling perplexity of asking for everything you want in "broken" foreign jargon, and having your meals served up in mysterious fashion, about which too many questions should not be asked. Samuel Weller jun., when invited to regale on meat pies, mildly suggested that he always liked to "know the lady as made 'em;" sagely observing that "when cats is in fruits is out; and when fruits is out cats is in." To a majority of those who look forward regularly to a fortnight's or a month's holiday in the summer, there is no necessity of making a toil of pleasure by bridging the "silver streak," and floundering about in as many fusty old Continental towns as can be crammed into the programme of a tour. At home, within a few hours' reach, are scenes of natural beauty unsurpassed by those of any other country, and it is some gratification to find that English people are beginning to appreciate that fact by visiting in increased numbers yearly our own favourite resorts, both inland and along the coasts. Valuable aids to tourists of this class are issued from time to time by able writers who, abandoning the stereotyped form of the ancient "guide books," which were but an advertising puff for the respective districts with which they dealt, give to their readers a "round, unvarnish'd tale" of where to go, the best and cheapest routes, the most charming spots at which to halt, and, in fact, a bird's-eye view of how to condense within a given time the greatest possible amount of enjoyment at the most reasonable expense. Another of these handy little works has just made its appearance, from the pen of Mr. Godfrey Turner, entitled "*Picturesque Wales*," and is a handbook of scenery accessible from the Cambrian railways. It is plentifully embellished with maps and illustrations, showing the chief points of interest to be visited in the Principality, the result of personal and recent observations during a panoramic tour to Gwynllt Wales, or the Wild Wales of legend and history. Mountain and dell, lake and mere, with the pastimes peculiar to each, climbing, fishing, boating and the rest, are all described with facile pen by the compiler, and in such a manner as to make one long to be up and off at once to the scenes so graphically presented to us. We will not attempt to follow our "tourist's guide" through the labyrinths of rugged, romantic, and sequestered scenery which he delineates in a book of one hundred pages, but will leave the reader, and especially he who contemplates a "run out" somewhere, and who does not know exactly where to go, to secure this handy little brochure for himself, assured that he will be charmed away by the pardonable enthusiasm of the writer in his admiration of the scenes through which he has passed. Information is given of the best hotels at which to stop, the local industries, the most accessible means of reaching desirable spots, both inland and on the coast, and the principal points, such as the reef at Aberystwyth, the University College and Castle ruins there, the Craiglas rocks and cave, Teify Lake, Monk's Cave (Thunder Hole) near Aberystwyth, Falls of the Myrach and Rheidol, Devil's Bridge, Aberdovey Town, the Bird

Rock and ruins of Castell-y-Bere, Towyn, near which is the Tal-y-llyn lake and pass—a wildly rugged looking spot; Barmouth and its pretty surroundings, Dolgelly with its outskirts of trees and rocks, "torrent walks," &c., the ruins of Harlech Castle, and a great many other features of antiquity and history are pointed out in the wood engravings with which the handbook is profusely illustrated.

Black and White. An Illustrated Weekly Journal. Manchester: 58 Cannon Street.

THE peculiar interest to us, attaching to this new venture, which has just attained the ninth week of its age, is the space devoted to local Masonic matters, and an excellent portrait of Brother Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire. We are somewhat surprised that the illustration was not accompanied by some kind of notice of the career of a Mason who is so deservedly popular in his Province and in the Craft; but the editor contents himself with a summary of the proceedings of Provincial Grand Lodge held at the Manchester Free Trade Hall, on the 11th of last month. Notices appear of Local Lodges, which give to the journal a distinctive feature, so far as the Provinces are concerned. The other contents of this little work appear to be judiciously and smartly put together, a wide range of subjects being covered, including treatises on art, the drama, sketches and "inklings" in black and white, which combine to make up a literary pennyworth that will doubtless find many an appreciative favour in its own especial district.

ROYAL ARCH.

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CONSECRATION OF THE GEORGE PRICE CHAPTER, No. 2096.

ON Saturday last another addition was made to the number of Royal Arch Chapters in the Province of Surrey, when the George Price Chapter was consecrated by M.E. Comp. General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., Grand Superintendent, at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. He was assisted in the ceremony by Comps. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke G. Scribe E., Rev. A. F. A. Woodford P.P.G.S., F. West Provincial Grand H., Charles Greenwood Provincial Grand Scribe E., H. E. Frances P. Prov. G.D.C., and other Provincial Grand Officers. For some time past a wish had been expressed that the success attendant upon the George Price Craft Lodge should be further developed by the establishment of a Royal Arch Chapter in connection with it. Efforts to obtain this desirable end were put forth, and a warrant was in due course obtained, the founders being Comps. Hugh Marcus Hobbs Scribe E. 463 P.A.G.D.C. (R.A. Surrey) M.E.Z. designate, Joseph David Langton J. elect 1319 H. designate, James Shepherd Frazer P.Z. 214 and 1519 P.P.G.A.S. (Middlesex and Essex) J. designate, C. H. Woodward P.Z., Arthur Adams, A. Stewart Brown, Maitland H. Dicker, M. L. Levèy P.Z., F. Cambridge, Gordon Smith, E. C. Holdsworth, R. W. Wilson, C. Holden, and F. Carter. All were present with the exception of Comp. Woodward, who expressed regret at being unable to attend; and a similar letter was received from Comp. George Price, who sent his heartiest wishes for the success of the Chapter. The Consecration was looked forward to with considerable interest, and there was consequently a numerous muster of Companions from all parts of the Province. The Principals pro tem having opened the Chapter, the Comps. entered in order and saluted, after which the M.E.Z. addressed the assembly on the nature of the meeting, and called upon Companion J. to give the introductory prayer. Acting Scribe E. then stated the wishes of the Companions and the proceedings they had taken with respect to the Chapter, subsequently addressing the Principals and reading the Petition and Charter. The Companions having signified their approval in Masonic form, the M.E.Z. proceeded to constitute them into a regular Chapter according to ancient rite, and an eloquent oration on the nature and principles of the Institution was delivered by Comp. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford P.P.G.S. Then followed the anthem, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity," and the first portion of the dedication prayer was said. All the Companions turned to the East while the M.E.Z. gave the invocation, and portions of scripture were read. The ceremony of consecration then proceeded in the usual form. The Chapter having been duly dedicated and constituted, the anthem, "God of love whose love unceasing," was sung, and the installation of Principals was performed by Companion Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke Grand Scribe E. The following is a complete list of the Officers for the year:—Comps. Hugh M. Hobbs M.E.Z., Joseph D. Langton H., James S. Fraser J., C. H. Woodward acting P.Z. and Dir. of Cers., A. Stewart Brown Scribe E., Maitland H. Dicker Scribe N., Arthur Adams Treasurer, M. L. Levèy P.S., F. Cambridge 1st A.S., Gordon Smith 2nd A.S., E. C. Holdsworth Steward, W. Lane Janitor. On the motion of the M.E.Z., the Consecrating and Installing Officers were unanimously elected hon. members of the Chapter, and a vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes for their kindness in assisting at the ceremonies. Comps. General Brownrigg and Col. Clerke briefly acknowledged the compliment paid them. Several propositions for exaltation and joining were handed in, and after the usual business the Chapter was closed in form. The musical portions of the ceremony were admirably carried out, under the direction of Comp. F. Cambridge P.P.G.O. Surrey, and added very materially to the impressiveness of the proceedings. In the evening the Companions sat down to a sumptuous banquet, served under the personal superintendence of Brother F. W. Bridle, manager of the hotel, whose arrangements were all that could be desired. Amongst the Visitors present were

Comps. C. Atkinson 302, Hamer Owens P.P.P.S. Surrey. G. Houlton Bishop 1194, Howell P. Cater, W. A. Frost 1706, Hugh P. Vivian 450 S.E., J. F. H. Woodward Prov. G.S.E. Middlesex, F. Brown P.Z. 174 538, C. E. Ferry P.Z. 65, E. J. Bell 1524, W. E. Sampson 8, T. S. Taylor Z. 932, W. W. Lee 1524, W. W. Morgan, H. Sadler 169 G.J., J. Steel 452 P.G.P.S. Surrey, &c. At the conclusion of the repast the Loyal and Royal Arch toasts were duly honoured. In proposing the Grand Officers, the M.E.Z. congratulated the meeting upon having so many distinguished members of Grand Chapter amongst them. It afforded him great pleasure to be supported by such eminent Companions. When he was installed as the second W.M. of the George Price Lodge he had the honour of being presented by Bro. General Brownrigg, and on the occasion of his being installed as M.E.Z. of this Chapter the ceremony had been performed by such a well-known Mason as the Grand Scribe E. The Companions were deeply indebted to Col. Shadwell H. Clerke for his kindness in attending. Comp. Clerke, in responding, thanked the M.E.Z. heartily for the cordial manner in which he had introduced the toast, and the Companions for the kindly reception they had accorded to it. The Grand Officers of Royal Arch Masonry, as in the Craft, were always highly gratified at the kind recognition they received. As a rule, they were Companions who had worked long in the Order, and had done their utmost to advance its welfare. Personally it afforded him genuine pleasure to be present that day, inasmuch as he knew many members of the Chapter; he congratulated them upon having, in so brief a time, attained the dignity of a Chapter in connection with the George Price Lodge. He was fully aware of the excellent work done by that Lodge, and had no doubt the Chapter would follow in the same path. In proposing the Grand Superintendent of Surrey, Gen. J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., the M.E.Z. observed that many of the Companions now present were members of the George Price Lodge. At the consecration of that Lodge they had to regret the absence of General Brownrigg, in consequence of indisposition; but all would remember the valuable assistance they received from the Grand Officers of the Province of Surrey. It was a most successful gathering, and the only matter of regret was the absence of their Prov. G. Master. On this occasion, they were exceedingly fortunate, for in the consecration of the Chapter they had the presidency of their esteemed Grand Superintendent, whom they were delighted to welcome in their midst. He was convinced that General Brownrigg possessed their highest regard and admiration, and they sincerely thanked him for the honour he had done them in attending and conducting the consecration ceremony. Companion General Brownrigg, C.B., Grand Superintendent, prefaced his remarks, in replying to the toast, by expressing his regret, which he was sure would be shared by all present, that Companion George Price had been unavoidably prevented from attending on that occasion. Undoubtedly he was with them in heart and spirit, but it would have given them all much pleasure had he been able to be present. Formerly it took a longer time to get a Chapter attached to a Lodge, but happily those times had changed, for it assisted to cement the Masonic bonds, and gave an improved tone to a Lodge. He desired that the Scribe E. would always advise him as to their meetings, and he promised to attend as often as he possibly could. At the time he was appointed Grand Superintendent, fifteen years ago, there were only three Royal Arch Chapters in the Province, now there were thirteen; and it would be seen they had increased more rapidly than the Craft Lodges. This proved the interest that was taken in Royal Arch Masonry, and he was rejoiced to find it. The M.E.Z. next proposed the Prov. Grand H. and J. of Surrey, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers. He thanked them for their attendance, and also for consenting to become honorary members. More especially he thanked Comps. F. West and Charles Greenwood for the admirable arrangements they had made for this meeting. Comp. F. West Prov. G. H. considered it a privilege to meet a Mason of such great experience as Comp. Hobbs. As a Prov. Grand Officer he felt it a pleasure to be present to assist in the completion of a work that was started in honour of Comp. George Price. If this Chapter performed its ritual, and carried out the principles of Masonry with the same spirit as had been displayed in the Lodge, the M.E.Z. would have as much reason to be proud of the one as he was of the other. It might be of interest to some to know that during the past year the George Price Lodge had contributed £800 to the Charities, which for so young a Lodge must be regarded as highly creditable. From what he knew of the members of the Chapter, he felt sure they would sustain the high character the Lodge now enjoyed, and that they might look forward at no distant date to hear from the Grand Superintendent that they had not misplaced the confidence he had reposed in them. The Prov. Grand Superintendent then briefly proposed the Principals of the Chapter, observing that those three Companions formed a triumvirate, or trinity, and when he said there was, or should be, unity amongst them, they would know what he meant. Comp. Hugh M. Hobbs in the course of his response said the three Principals were extremely obliged for the manner in which the Grand Superintendent had introduced the toast. He was delighted to think they had pleased him in the way he had thought fit to express. He could confidently say that since he had been a Mason he had never willingly given offence to a Brother or Companion, and he hoped that during his year he should not do or say anything that would make them think less of him. If at the end of his term of office they looked upon him with the same regard they evinced now, he should be more than gratified. Responses were also made by Comp. Langton H. and Fraser J. In responding on behalf of the Consecrating Principals, Comp. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford said after the kind way in which the M.E.Z. had spoken of the Grand Officers, and the able replies of the Provincial Grand Superintendent and their excellent friend the Grand Scribe E., it would require no little ingenuity to make a third speech on the subject. They were pleased to be associated with the consecration of a Chapter in honour of a Companion so worthy and well known in the Province of Surrey. He

could say, from a long experience of Royal Arch Masonry, having been exalted in 1813, that the longer he was connected with it the more he appreciated it. His brother Officers would agree with him, if the Companions studied the principles and ceremonials of R.A. Masonry they would be more than repaid for their investigation. He assured the members that their wishes were for the prosperity and success of this new Chapter. A hearty welcome was given to the Visitors, and in acknowledgment Comp. J. F. H. Woodward Prov. G.S.E. Middlesex, returned thanks for the hospitality shown them. It had afforded them much pleasure to be present, and it had given no one greater pleasure than himself to see his old friend Comp. Hobbs installed as M.E.Z. He knew him within a few days of his initiation, and had seen him rise more rapidly than any Mason he had known; but he was quite sure he would not have risen to his present position if he had not thoroughly deserved it. The toast of the Officers was next given and responded to, and the list was closed by the Janitor. An attractive programme of music was given between the speeches. Comp. F. Cambridge being assisted by Comps. E. J. Bell, F. C. Atkinson, and W. A. Frost. In addition to the Consecrating Officer, and the Companions who assisted him, Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke (Grand Scribe E.) was elected an honorary member of the Chapter. The Founders also pay the same compliment to Companion George Price, Provincial Grand Treasurer, after whom the Chapter is named.

MARK MASONRY.

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CHISWICK LODGE, No. 357.

THERE was a satisfactory gathering of the members of this Lodge held on Saturday, the 18th inst., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge. Amongst those present were Bros. G. Gardner Prov. G.D.C. W.M., F. J. Taylor S.W. W.M.-elect, John Edwards J.W., F. Lawrence, M.D., Treasurer acting M.O. in the unavoidable absence of Bro. R. J. Taylor, J. Boswell acting S.O., W. Clowes J.O., J. L. Mather Grand Treasurer Secretary, A. Pringle S.D., N. Defries I.G., J. Brill, W. G. Coat, J. J. Boswell, J. S. Barton Wilson S.G.W., &c. Several letters of apology for unavoidable absence were received from Officers and members, the chief reason given being pressing engagements in connection with the preparations for Jubilee festivities. Lodge having been opened, and the customary routine business disposed of, the ballot was taken for the advancement of Bros. Keeble P.M., E. Ayling P.M. P.Z., and Dr. Wheeler. The attention of the brethren was called by the W.M.-elect to the severe loss the Lodge had sustained by the death of Bros. Alfred Meadows I.P.M. and W. Gomin R. of M. The brethren all appeared in Masonic mourning, and the Provincial Grand Organist, Brother Graham, played the "Dead March in Saul." In token of respect for the deceased the Lodge was also draped in mourning. The ceremony of advancement was then carried out in an able manner by the Worshipful Master, assisted by his Officers. Bro. John Edwards J.W. then begged the acceptance by the Lodge of a portrait of the Worshipful Master and Founder, Bro. G. Gardner, the gift being received amidst acclamations, the picture being admired as a work of art. A cordial vote of thanks for the presentation having been accorded, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, Bro. J. L. Mather assumed the chair, and installed Brother F. J. Taylor as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed in the most perfect and impressive manner. The newly-installed Master, having received the usual salutations, invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. G. Gardner I.P.M., J. Edwards S.W., R. J. Taylor J.W., W. Clowes M.O., A. Pringle S.O., N. Defries J.O., G. Thomas R.M., F. Lawrence, M.D., Treasurer, J. L. Mather Secretary, W. G. Dickey S.D., W. G. Coat J.D., W. Ellis I.G., and F. W. Wheeler, M.D., D.C. The investiture of the other Officers was deferred until the next meeting. Notice of motion was given by the W.M. for altering the number of days of meeting, in a way he considered would be beneficial to the Lodge. He then presented to Bro. Gardner a handsome Past Master's jewel, as a mark of esteem, and in recognition of the valuable services he had rendered during his year of office. In accepting the gift the I.P.M. expressed the pleasure it afforded him to witness the continued prosperity of the Lodge, and he trusted the alterations suggested by the W.M. might prove advantageous to the Lodge, and help it to make its mark in the Province. Business over, the brethren partook of an excellent banquet, provided in the manner for which Bro. J. Brill has long enjoyed an enviable notoriety. The post-prandial proceedings were characterised by speeches of commendable brevity and point, and were interspersed by some capital songs rendered by the brethren, Bro. Graham efficiently acting as accompanist. A very happy and harmonious evening was passed.

WORKING MEN'S JUBILEE FESTIVAL AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—As our readers are probably aware, a great holiday programme has been provided for the thousands who will, we feel sure, flock to the Palace to-day (Saturday) for this great event. The proposer and seconder of the Congratulatory Address to the Queen from the industrial classes will represent the trades and working men's societies of the United Kingdom. Numerous Members of Parliament are among those who have already accepted invitations to the meeting. The Provinces will be represented by the Lord Mayor of York, and the Mayors of Brighton, Croydon, Darlington, Derby, Folkestone, Guildford, Grantham, Margate, Maidstone, Nottingham, Portsmouth, Stockport, Stoke-on-Trent, Winchester, Worcester, Wigan, and Warrington.

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, 25th JUNE.

- 1179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8 (In)
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 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)
 1541—Alexandra Palace, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1871—Gosling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In.)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 R.A. 1044—Mid-Surrey, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 R.A. 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
 1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhithe
 1531—Chiselhurst, Bull's Head Hotel, Chiselhurst
 1965—Eastes, Parish Rooms, Bromley, Kent
 1982—Greenwood, Public Hall, Epsom
 R.C.—Stanhope, Queen Hotel, Chester

MONDAY, 27th JUNE.

- 22—Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Bell and Bush, Ropemaker St., Finsbury, E.C., at 7 (In)
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst)
 1425—Hyde Park, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Gardens, at (In)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park, at 7.30 (In)
 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, High Street, Putney, at 8. (In.)
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King Street, Smithfield, at 7 (In.)
 1707—Eleanor, Seven Sisters Hotel, Page Green, Tottenham, S. (Inst)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 2021—Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, Criterion, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 K.T. 128—Oxford and Cambridge, Masonic Hall, Golden Square
 Prov. Grand Lodge of Berks and Bucks, Albert Institute, Windsor, at 1 p.m.
 48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead
 62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
 149—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon, at 7. (Inst)
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool at 8. (Instruction)
 999—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1177—Tenby, Tenby, Pembroke
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)

TUESDAY, 28th JUNE.

- 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 141—Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria Street, S.W., at 8. (Inst)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 212—Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High Street, Camden Town, at 8. (Inst.)
 259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 861—Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
 1158—Southern Star, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge
 1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (In)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1391—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1446—Mount Edgcombe, Three Stags, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich. (Instruction)
 1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8. (Inst)
 1719—Evening Star, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1839—Duke of Cornwall, Bibra Restaurant, Cannon Street, E.C., at 7. (Inst.)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich Road, East Brixton, at 8 (Instruction)
 2108—Empire, Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, Cannon Street, at 6.30
 R.A. 704—Camden, the Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 1269—Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 R.A. 1339—Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 M.M. 3—Keystone, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle 7.30 (In)
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
 299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
 310—Unions, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle
 463—East Surrey of Concord, Kings' Arms Hotel, Croydon, at 7.45. (Inst.)
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
 788—Crescent, Island Hotel, Twickenham
 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton
 1566—Ellington, Town Hall Maidenhead
 1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1636—St. Cecilia, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 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. 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 K.T.—Plains of Tabor, Swan Hotel, Colne

WEDNESDAY, 29th JUNE.

- 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roma Road, Barnsbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 72—Royal Jubilee, Mitre, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, George Inn, High Street, Borough, at 8. (Inst)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 223—United Strength, The Hope, Stanhope Street, Regent's Park, at 8 (In)
 533—La Tolerance, Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, at 8. (Inst)
 720—Panmure, Batham Hotel, Batham, at 7. (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's Court, Fleet Street, at 8. (Instruc.)

- 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 398—Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Poplar
 902—Burgoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 513 Old Kent Road, at 8. (Instruc.)
 124—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mars Street, Hackney at 8. (Inst)
 1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1604—Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st., S.W., at 7.30 (In)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1681—Loudesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, Mary Fair, at 8. (Inst.)
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air Street, Regent Street, at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 720—Panmure, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond
 R.A. 933—Doric, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)

- 86—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescott, Lancashire
 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
 580—Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
 697—United, George Hotel Colchester.
 910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canons-street, (Instruction)
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
 1083—Townley Parker, Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester
 1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower Street, Derby. (Instruction)
 1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Moseley, near Manchester
 1219—Strangeways, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1283—Hyburn, Central Buildings, Town Hall Street, Sowerby Bridge
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 R.A. 226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough
 R.A. 329—Brotherly Love, Choughs Hotel, Yeovil
 M.M.—Howe, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 M.M. 174—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham

THURSDAY, 30th JUNE.

- General Committee Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, Collyer-street, Loughborough, at 8 (Instruction)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 749—Belgrave, The Clarence, Aldersgate Street, E.C. (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 879—Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd. (In)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Swan Tavern, Bedford Green Road, E. S. (Instruction)
 1306—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Masons' Tavern, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerton Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
 1571—Leopold, Austin's Hotel, 7 London Street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddleton, 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—Tredegar, Wellington Arms, Wellington Road, Bow, E., at 7.30. (In.)
 1673—Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, E.C., at 5.30. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst)
 1744—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1791—Creaton, Wheatsheaf Tavern, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush. (Inst)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 1623—West Smithfield, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Darlington
 116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel Colne
 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden
 286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bolton
 337—Candour, New Masonic Rooms, Uppermill, Saddleworth
 341—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Rye
 344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, Lancashire
 636—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth
 659—Bingdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blythe
 807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre Street, Norwich
 904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
 966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
 1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. Germain's, Cornwall.
 1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
 1576—Dec, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull
 R.A. 1130—De Mowbray, George Hotel, Melton Mowbray
 R.A. 1235—Phoenix of St. Ann, Court Hotel, Buxton
 M.M. 34—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester

FRIDAY, 1st JULY.

- Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 8.3
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7
 25—Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hotel, Great Portland Street, W., at 8. (In)
 167—St. John's, York and Albany Hotel, Regent's Park, N.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 765—St. James, Princess Victoria Tavern, Rotherhithe, at 8. (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8. (Instruction)
 831—Ranelagh, 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)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (In)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1442—E. Carnarvon, Lambrooke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, 79 Ebury Street, Pimlico, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1815—Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 R.A.—Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London Street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Improvement)
 R.A. 899—Hornsey, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Square, Paddington, W. (Improvement)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 44—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 81—Doric, Private Room, Woodbridge, Suffolk
 219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorton
 242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster
 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
 375—Lambton, Lambton Arms, Chester-le-street, Durham
 452—Caigwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughdon, at 7.30. (Instruction)

521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 566—St. Germain, Masonic Hall, The Crescent, Selby
 837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1387—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Harly
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1528—Fort, Masonic Hall, Newquay, Cornwall.
 1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham.
 1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
 1648—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
 1664—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Gosforth
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham, at
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
 R.A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's Place, Halifax
 R.A. 271—Lennox, Royal Pavilion, Brighton

SATURDAY, 2nd JULY.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8. (In)
 198—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)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7. (Inst)
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air Street, Regent Street, W., at 8
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 303—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood
 463—Chigwell, Forest Hotel, Chingford
 1223—Amherst, Amherst Arms Hotel, Riverhead, near Sevenoaks
 1567—Elliot, Railway Hotel, Feltham
 1929—Mozart, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon
 2148—Walsingham, Masonic Hall, Walsingham, Kent

Obituary.

BROTHER J. DALBY.

It is with sincere regret we have to announce the death of Bro. J. Dalby, of the Gresham Lodge, No. 869, which occurred on Monday, the 20th instant, after eighteen weeks' illness. The funeral took place yesterday (Friday) at Waltham Abbey, in the presence of a concourse of sorrowing relatives and friends, by whom our deceased brother was deservedly respected.

PRESENTATIONS.

THE Masonic friends of Bro. Michael Mullen P.M. P.Z. 600, entertained him to a farewell banquet on Friday evening, 10th June, at the Masonic Hall, Bradford. The chair was occupied by Bro. C. B. Ampt W.M. 600, and the Vice-chairs by Bros. A. Assenheimer W.M.-elect and William Wroe P.M. 1018, 600. There was a very numerous gathering, amongst whom were the following:—Bros. Swithenbank W.M. Prince of Wales Lodge, Revell W.M. Eccleshill Lodge, Hutchinson P.M. P.P.G.R., J. W. Monckman P.M. P.P.G.D. of C., Jas. Wright P.M. P.P. Grand Chaplain, and Chas. Unna P.M. An illuminated address, photographic album, and a purse of gold were presented to Bro. Mullen, by Bro. Past Master Welsman, who, in doing so, expressed the hope that in the New World Bro. Mullen would have a happy and prosperous career. Bro. Mullen suitably responded.

Another presentation was made to Bro. Michael Mullen on Monday evening, when he was the recipient of a purse of gold and an illuminated address from the choir and congregation of St. Augustine's Church, Bradford, and a few friends. Bro. Mullen has been voluntary choirmaster at St. Augustine's Church for the past ten years, and the congregation has been indebted to him for numerous other services during that period. The presentation on Monday evening took place at Leuchters' Restaurant, in the presence of fifty or sixty leading members of St. Augustine's Church. The Vicar (the Rev. J. Shepherd) occupied the chair, and Mr. Christopher Nicholson (the oldest member of the choir) presented the purse and address. The address was in book form, the cover being of morocco, and bearing the initials "M.M." in gilt letters. The text was tastefully illuminated, and in the ornamental design were included a photograph of Bro. Mullen and a water-colour drawing of St. Augustine's Church, as it will appear when the complete scheme has been carried out. The illuminated address is the work of Mr. W. F. Denbigh. The address was signed by the Vicar, the Churchwardens, and the Testimonial Committee. Bro. Mullen responded, reviewing his connection with St. Augustine's Church, and alluding to the pleasure which he had always derived from it. The evening was spent in a social manner.

Mrs. James Brown Potter will make her first appearance at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday, 27th instant, when will be produced through arrangement with, and by kind permission of, Mr. Henry Irving, "Civil War," (from M. Delpit's "Mlle. de Brassier"), a drama in four acts by Mr. Herman Merivale. Mrs. Potter will be supported by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Messrs. James Fernandez, Kyrle Bellew, Lewis Waller, Arthur Dacre, Sydney Brough, John Maclean, Stephen Caffrey, J. L. Shine, the Misses Amy Roselle, Julia Gwynne, and Fanny Brough. Mr. Edward Hastings will be the stage manager, while Mr. F. J. Potter will look after the front of the house.

We have pleasure in informing our readers that Mr. R. D'Albertson, the acting manager of the Avenue Theatre, will take his annual benefit on Monday afternoon, the 4th July. A most attractive entertainment will be presented, several leading artistes of the day having promised assistance.

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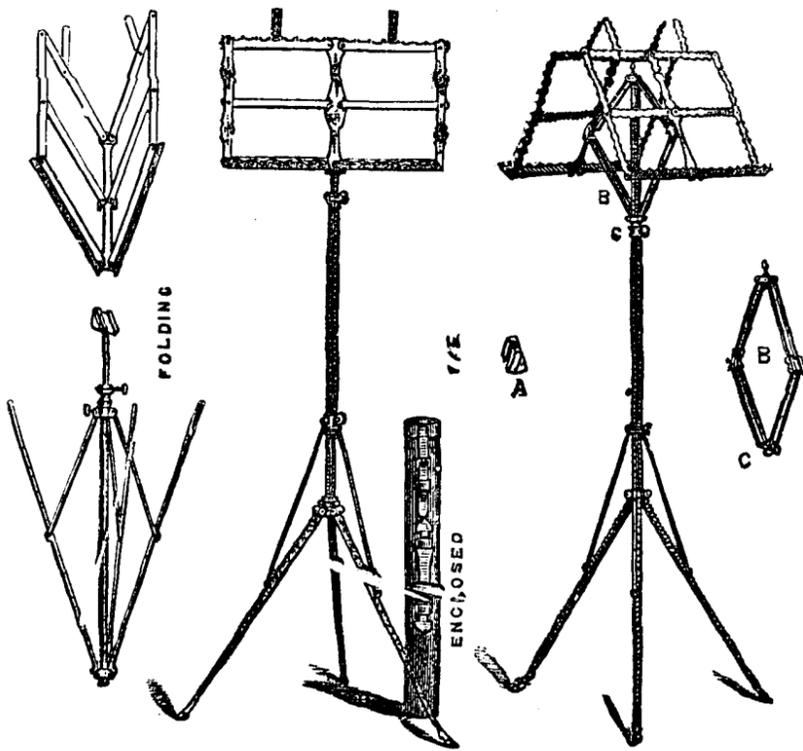
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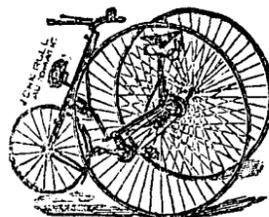
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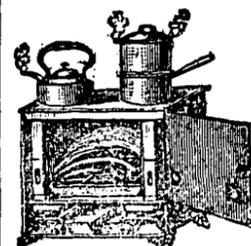
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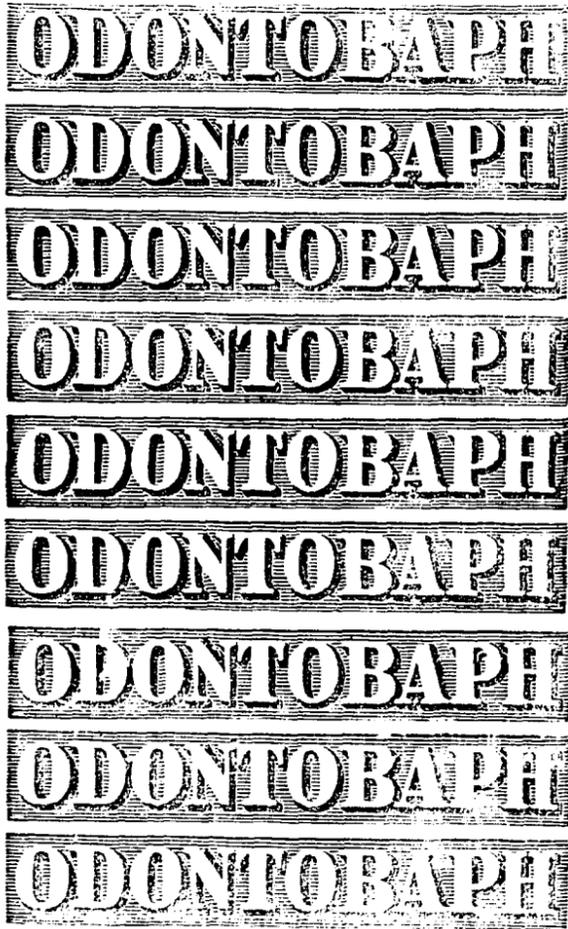
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