

THE
Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

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A COUNCIL OF WAR.

WE have often tried to picture the feelings of a naval or military commander when, on the eve of a conflict, he calls his staff around him for the purpose of finally discussing the situation, and issuing orders for the morrow, which both in his own case and that of his hearers may be the last they will have an opportunity of fulfilling on this earth. We cannot imagine anything like the formality of an ordinary meeting being observed on such an occasion; there must be a certain amount of excitement in the breasts of all who take part in the consultation, and this, in all probability, would take the form of a silence "that might be felt"—the calm, in fact, preceding the coming storm. The leader would know exactly what he wished to communicate to his staff, and a few brief sentences would suffice to give the finishing touch to the plan of operations which he had been arranging for days, or perhaps weeks before, while his officers would be as ready to grasp the situation, which they also had been studying to bring about. And what would be the result of their deliberations? No power on earth could tell, all must depend on the fate of war! The honour of their country might be at stake, the homes of their families might be threatened, in fact, everything might depend on their ability, and the exertions of those who served under them, and yet it would be impossible for them to command success. They could, however, do more; deserve it.

About the time these lines meet the eyes of our readers there will be held, throughout the length and breadth of the country, various councils—we can hardly say of war, although it is a war against misfortune and suffering which is to be waged; at which will be discussed the final arrangements in connection with one of the great Masonic engagements of the year, the celebration of the first Anniversary Festival of 1888, in connection with the Central Masonic Charities, and we are convinced that at the majority of these councils the gravest doubts will be entertained as to the result of the approaching meeting, while from all we can learn we fear the gloomiest of forebodings are likely to be realised. We will not say that actual defeat is to be expected, but it is almost certain the supporters of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons will this year have to fall back considerably from the prominent position they have won in years gone by, and it only remains for them to retreat as gracefully and as orderly as is possible.

The engagement to which we have referred will take place on Wednesday next, at Freemasons' Tavern, London, on behalf of the Benevolent Institution, and will be under the leadership of Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., R.W. Provincial Grand Master of the Eastern Division of South Wales. We are con-

vinced that no stone will be left unturned to secure for the gathering as happy a result as has attended any of its predecessors, but this year the fates are against it, and it is impossible to gauge the result. It is true Sir George Elliot has a goodly array of Stewards on whom he may rely for assistance, albeit his forces are far below those of many of his predecessors in the command he has assumed, and we are also aware the Stewards have been hard at work, some of them for months past, in the good cause; while it is equally certain they will continue their exertions up to the very last moment. Is it possible then for them to fail? Unfortunately it is, and so far possible as to be almost regarded in the light of a certainty, in consequence of more attractive calls in another quarter. Yet, in spite of all this, we question if there is one among the body of Stewards who has given way to despair, or who will shirk his duty, simply because he is called upon to fight a severe up-hill battle. We would remind them that if the obstacles to be surmounted are exceptionally severe, the honours which would follow success would be correspondingly great, and the good that might result would be an ample recompense for all their increased efforts.

We have so frequently and so recently referred to the Institution which these Stewards are striving to maintain, that it would be out of place to give any lengthened details here. Suffice it to say there are at the present time upwards of four hundred and twenty old folk receiving annuities from its funds; two hundred and twenty seven widows, who each receive £32 per annum; one hundred and seventy nine aged Masons, who get £40 a year each; and fifteen widows, who enjoy one-half of their late husband's annuity of £40. These grants represent an annual outlay of nearly fifteen thousand pounds, and it is to provide this amount for the current year that the Masons of England will, by their representatives, assemble on Wednesday next, at Freemasons' Tavern. That their efforts will be crowned with success is our fondest hope, more especially as there are upwards of one hundred and thirty candidates already approved of as eligible to participate in the annual election which takes place in May next, and for which, at present, there are an insignificantly small number of vacancies. It is perhaps hoping for too much when we say we should like to see an addition made to the number of vacancies, by the creation of new annuities; but such is our desire, and it is a wish that is felt by many who know from experience the benefits which accrue from this Institution's work. Such an increase, however, could only be possible after an exceptionally grand result of Wednesday's gathering, and of that we are very dubious. However, there is still a ray of hope, for there is no knowing what surprises the two hundred and sixty-two brethren who have undertaken the office of Steward have waiting for us, and, although we

are anticipating a severe falling off in the returns, we are equally prepared for an agreeable surprise. That the latter may be in store for us and the Craft at large we fervently hope, as with the best of good wishes we close our anticipatory remarks in connection with the 1888 Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The cry is now, To arms! and the best of all advice we can offer is to repeat the well-known signal of Nelson: "England expects every man to do his duty."

TRIFLES AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES.

"Alas! how light a cause may move
Dissension between hearts that love!
Hearts that the world in vain had tried,
And sorrow but more closely tied;
That stood the storm, when waves were rough,
Yet in a sunny hour fall off,
Like ships, that have gone down at sea,
When heaven was all tranquillity."

FREEMASONS, with all their teachings of Brotherly Love and Truth, might well take a lesson from the above beautiful lines of the poet Moore, and there are not a few of us but would reap a rich reward were we to fully grasp the sentiment here embodied. It is proverbial with mankind to make troubles out of trifles, to raise mountains out of molehills, and to sacrifice the best friends for some trivial grievance, more often imaginary than real. Can it, therefore, be wondered at that Freemasons who, after all, are but members of a human institution should occasionally err in the same direction, or that our Lodges should from time to time be troubled with "dissensions between hearts that love?"

Freemasonry teaches the practice of toleration among its members to such an extent as would almost lead to the hope that its votaries would be willing to overlook in their fellows grievances of a trivial or erroneous character, but experiences of the past do not prove this to be always the case, for in Freemasonry, as well as outside of it, the lightest of causes have occasionally moved dissension among "hearts that the world in vain had tried, and sorrow had but more closely tied." In Lodges we have seen a united band of brothers robbed of their peace and happiness by a trivial grievance which a few moments' argument should have put right, while some of Masonry's most promising sons have sacrificed their own and their friends' happiness over a disagreement which was not even worthy of consideration among men of the world, much less among those united by the stronger ties of Masonry. It may be useless for us to expect an even greater spirit of toleration in Masonry than has hitherto pervaded its members, but we can and do hope that the day is not far distant when the principles of Freemasonry may be so exemplified among its members as to put an end to the petty disturbances which even within the Lodge are occasionally to be met with.

We are aware that a Worshipful Master, the Past Masters, or other Officers of a Lodge may occasionally give offence to an over sensitive brother, by some trivial act, more often of forgetfulness than of malicious intent, wherefrom a coldness springs up, which neither side attempts to remove, lest its dignity be upset, or its position lowered in the eyes of its fellows. They forget that the average Mason, as well as an ordinary man of the world, looks with far greater scorn on the man who imagines he cannot err than on he who admits an error, and takes the earliest and most effectual means of remedying its consequences. They further fail to take into account the annoyance they entail on all around them by a continuance of unfriendliness or silent warfare, which not infrequently resolves itself into open opposition and a final estrangement. We admit, and so will all who approach the question in a proper spirit, that a ruler's position is a very difficult one to uphold with dignity, and at the same time with satisfaction to all who are governed. In a Masonic Lodge it may happen that the Worshipful Master finds it incumbent on him to stop a discussion, or call a brother to order for some little departure from the recognised line of procedure, and if the brother addressed happens to be a personal friend of the Master, the order may be couched in less persuasive tones than would be the

case if it were a comparative stranger who was erring, from the fact that the Master feels he knows his friend so well as to render any ceremonious form unnecessary, with a result entirely opposite to what was intended, for the brother addressed takes offence at the tone of the order; and although an explanation be tendered, refuses to see the words in the light in which they were used.

The same difficulties surround a Past Master or other member who takes a prominent part in the affairs of his Lodge; he is always open to the misfortune of being misunderstood, and the very efforts he puts forward with a view of smoothing matters may have the effect of rendering them more ruffled. Old age, experience, or the hundred and one other considerations which should command respect are forgotten by the member who takes offence at each trivial matter, and a disagreement ensues which threatens to involve the whole of the members of the Lodge, who should stand together a united family of brothers, above the influences of petty strife.

We do not desire our remarks should resolve themselves into too much of a sermon or indulgence, but it must be patent to the most casual observer that these petty grievances are the cause of most, if not all, the unpleasantness which arises in Freemasonry, and if anything we can say or do is the cause of uniting even two of those at present at variance our task will not have been undertaken in vain. Speaking personally, we may say our work in the Craft is a very difficult one, because self-imposed; we have no standard to emulate, or authority to refer to, as to what we should do under particular circumstances; all we can therefore attempt is to work to the best of our ability, observing a strict adherence to the principles of justice and truth, and using the strong power we possess to champion the cause of right and expose error. That we should occasionally hurt the feelings of some members of the Craft is, under such circumstances, not to be wondered at, but in nearly all such cases a word or two of explanation has usually set matters right. Our comments had been misunderstood, or perhaps the object of our criticism had been mistaken. It must not therefore be imagined we are writing on a subject on which we are ignorant, or concerning which we are unable to give a decided opinion. What we advise is the result of experience, and we can only hope it may prove as successful, wherever it is tried, as it has done in the few cases where remarks in our pages have been misunderstood or misapplied by our readers.

In the majority of cases where a disagreement arises in a Lodge, or among a section of brethren, we believe it will be found that a few moments friendly discussion on the grievance, together with a sincere desire on the part of the respective parties to make amends for any irregularity on their side, will have the effect of putting matters straight, while a careful study of the quotation with which we head these lines will convince the best of us how absurd it is to follow in the usual course of making troubles out of trifles.

QUIPS AND CRANKS OF A QUIZZICAL CRAFTSMAN.

IT has been written—"The remembrance of past pleasure is present pleasure," and of a truth it fitly applies to the recent visit to us of Brother Lord Carnarvon. The reminiscence, as it will recur again and again to the minds of those who attended that reception, will be a theme of pleasure and pride to them. It was a too brief experience; but it was one that has left an enduring and elevating impression behind it.

Barring the *extra-ordinary* unpunctuality which is a distinguishing characteristic of every S.A. Freemason's proceedings, it was otherwise a well-ordered ceremony. But why, after taking him to our bosom and heaping adulation upon him, should we have put him to the crucial test of receiving severally and individually the whole of the brethren present.

Verily, we felt our keenest sympathies aroused for him as the 250th bow was reached, and yet the cry was—"Still they come"—"Another and another yet appears." We listened in vain for the inspiring strains of music, and felt that an appropriate *obligato* accompaniment would have been—"As we go bobbing around about," varied by—"We're all nodding, nod-nod nodding."

However, the most unlooked-for trials must have

finality, and when about the 300th had bowed himself before the august presence, and the said presence was well-nigh bowed down with prostration, the processional "hims" came to an end.

Feeling that a duty was imposed upon me, and that the credit of the S.A. Masonic press was at stake, I could not allow a distinguished member of our Fraternity to leave us without waiting upon him as the self-constituted representative from your office. I say, I felt it incumbent on me to put the noble Mason through the usual and inevitable process of "interviewing," according to the rules of the ordeal made and provided for such occasions.

It is unnecessary to say he received me graciously, but an expression of pain flitted across his face when I explained my mission. But he expressed himself resigned, only stipulating I should not probe his knowledge or opinions too deeply, as he was only provided at the moment with Bro. Sansom's "Masonic Guide." And although he felt assured that if a Mason kept himself well within the circumscribed limits of that invaluable book he could not err, I might trench on points even more profound than were contained therein, which he might find it difficult to answer off-hand.

I assured him I would only touch lightly on topics, and would make no deep scrutiny into his mental Masonic stores. Seating myself, I "held him with my glittering eye," and thus began:—"Brother, do you seriously dec— Ahem! Ah! Yes; of course—thought myself in another place." Recovering my self-possession, I again addressed him.

Questioned as to whether in his experience in these latitudes he had found the sun very much more at its meridian with respect to Freemasonry and everybody and everything else than in other places? he replied, "Yes; certainly the grand luminary shone here with all its might, before which the blazing star 'paled its uneffectual fire.'" I may say that the Australian sun takes the shine out of most of us, and at times appears to play it down rather rough on this sublunary abode. But I have always been Masonically taught that its function was to rule the day, and I am prepared to say, without fear of contradiction, it makes it the rule and not the exception.

"Do I consider S.A. Freemasons all and sun-dried to be regular bricks? I have not the least doubt that they are so, though I am assured that my visit here has transmuted their feelings for me to the concrete."

Being asked his opinion on the benevolent aspect of Freemasonry, and urged to advance some practical proof of his sympathy in that particular by the loan of a shilling, he said he had a very high estimate of the giving power of the Craft in general, and as to making it personally a test question on this occasion, he would carefully study the propriety of the demand, and endeavour to find out whether by complying with it he could do so without detriment to himself or connections.

In reply to the question, whether he had anything to suggest for the good of Masons collectively, or ourselves especially, and if in his extensive experience of "knobs"—superfluous or otherwise—he had also extended his researches into the hidden mysteries of a "colonial nobbler?" the illustrious visitor replied—"Up to this moment I have not found the desirable opportunity of arriving at a definite solution of that mystery, but I hail this as a fitting occasion for doing so, and shall gladly join you in an investigation of the nature and properties of a 'nobbler,' to enable me to ascertain and determine the limits and proportions of its several parts." Having essayed, and proved it to demonstration, he, with a sigh of relief, bowed me out of his presence, assuring me, without the least reserve, he had had enough of me. Thus ended an interview which cannot but be regarded by every well-wisher of the Fraternity as a valuable addition to our records.

Bro. J. G. Jenkins, M.P., P.M.—our quaint and genial Jenks—the life and soul of our gatherings—who is wont to set the table in a roar, and discourse most excellent humour—has been elected unopposed Mayor of Unley.

More honours! more distinctions! more titles for the V.W. S.G.W. More offices in which to display his versatility and genius. All hail! proud possessor of innumerable affixes, brave militiaman, Semaphore's worthy Town Councillor and Mayor that shalt be hereafter!

Great yearning after municipal honours just now among S.A. Freemasons of high degree.

Proceedings of the "old Friendship" said to be voted "slow" by some of its misguided members. We don't know the "fastest" time in which the ceremonies have

been run through, but perhaps some gay and festive brother might supply the "tip," and enable the W.M. to try and break the record.

Our Ebenezer—the old Ebenezer! not the young Ebenezer!—has made out a strong case in favour of further additions to our building in Flinders-street, and of great reforms in the general arrangements of the establishment. May he drive at it until he gets our urgent wants supplied.

The United Service Lodge rests for a while on its laurels. It has called a truce, and retires with all its munition of war (*vide summons*) into summer quarters. As the campaign must have been a trying one, we can only wish its members *bon repos*, and more successes when they once more renew the attack.—*South Australian Freemason.*

HINTS TO LITERARY PIRATES.

WE copy the following from the American magazine *The Century* (February 1888):—

NO SUCCESSFUL SUBSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE.

"It is somewhat surprising that the agitation in favour of abolishing, by means of just laws, the disgrace of American literary piracy should have been until lately carried on almost exclusively by those supposed to be directly interested—namely, writers and publishers.

Only lately have there been signs that the clergy take any vital interest in the subject, or that the people at large are aroused to the national dishonour. But the stolen books with which the country is deluged are read by the country. How many among our citizens are alive to the shameful fact that American pirates and the American public have for generations been living upon stolen literature. Congress has been blamed for its indifference, but who among us can escape reproach—who among us has done his whole duty in attempting to right this gigantic wrong; to wipe out this unendurable national disgrace?

Mr. Lowell, in presiding over the successful Authors' Readings in New York, last November, added to the number of his admirable sayings in favour of international copyright. He repeated two most fortunate phrases of his own on the subject; phrases used by him in his first notable address to a Committee of Congress: 'There is one thing better than a cheap book, and that is, a book honestly come by.' 'Our authors are the only workers among us who are forced to compete with men who receive no wages at all.'

In the course of his Chickering Hall address, in which the above words were again given out, Mr. Lowell said: 'To steal a book I have bought is theft; to steal a book I have made—what is that?' In referring to the effect of the absence of international copyright upon the country at large, he puts the question, 'Whether it is prudent in a nation to allow its literature to be made for it by another nation; in other words, to allow the shaping of its thought, and therefore its character, to be done by that other?' But the deepest word of all was this: 'I prefer that the argument should rest not upon interest and expediency, but upon honesty and justice. No successful substitute for justice has ever been discovered—nothing with a lasting quality of justice.'

These are golden words, the keynote of a great national reform; or, to take another figure, shafts of light heralding the dawn of a new era of justice—a new era of literature of the English-speaking race."

Efforts are being made in the Masonic world to obtain votes for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, on behalf of Mrs. Mary Cooke. The appeal possesses especial interest to the Freemasons of Kent, Mrs. Cooke being the widow of the late Bro. C. J. Cooke, who, thirty-five years ago, was connected with the *Maidstone Journal*, and in 1853 joined the Belvidere Lodge at Maidstone, of which Lodge he was afterwards Secretary and Worshipful Master. He joined the staff of the *Standard* in London, and died about eight years ago. In 1856 he was Senior Grand Warden of the Province of Kent. His widow, in whose behalf the appeal is being made, is sixty-four years of age, and the case is strongly recommended by many leading Masons of the metropolis and elsewhere, among the latter being Bro. F. Hall W.M. Invicta Lodge, Folkestone, and Bro. John Brothers (P.M. of the same Lodge) of Ashford.

Bro. Charles Skipp, of the St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211, of the firm Messrs. Skipp and Harper, Dental Surgeons, announces that, owing to the great and rapid increase of practice, the firm have removed from 31 St. Martin's Lane to more extensive premises, 20 Regent Street, W., where Messrs. Skipp and Harper may be consulted from 10 till 4.

FUNERALS properly carried out and personally attended in London and Country, by Bro. G. A. SUTTON, 17 Newcastle Street, Strand, W.C. Monuments erected. Valuations made.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

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CLASS MASONRY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—If I may be allowed the expression I think you and some of your correspondents are harping too much on the string of Class Masonry. I cannot see the evils which you appear to recognise in the desire of certain Craftsmen to keep themselves, as far as possible, to themselves. I recognise a Masons' Lodge as being as sacred from intrusion—not only from cowans, but also from members of the Craft—as an Englishman's castle, and I fail to recognise the right by which one Mason can force his presence on a Lodge or assembly of Masons met for the practice of Freemasonry.

Freemasonry is essentially an exclusive Institution, and I do not think its members do wrong if they carry the same principle of seclusion within their individual Lodge as they practise in the Craft at large. What harm can possibly arise from such a practice? Or how is it possible to prevent it if a number of Masons band themselves together for the purpose of carrying it into effect? Surely if a number of "Class" Masons secure a Warrant and establish a Lodge for the furtherance of their particular crotchet, they cannot be accused of doing wrong. The wrong comes from those who would attempt to force their presence where it is not wanted, and where their attendance might create a spirit of reserve in speech and action which I maintain it is Masonry's object to allow. Nowhere outside of Freemasonry do I consider it is possible for more staunch friendships to be established, and I cannot see that Freemasons are wrong in fixing to the very fullest extent the limits within which they will seek to make such acquaintanceships. This is a sufficient excuse—if excuse be needed—for so-called Class Masonry, which I think may, even with benefit to the world at large, be widely extended throughout the world, so as to give to every class or section of the community a Lodge to which they may look for especial consideration.

Hoping I am not trespassing too much on your space in thus expressing my views,

I am, yours fraternally,

TOLERATION.

ENTHUSIASM.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I thank you for the publication of my letter, in your last issue, and for the explanation you give of the title I referred to.

I also think you are deserving of thanks for the views you express in your leading article on the subject of enthusiasm. Too many brethren, young men in particular, neglect to throw enthusiasm into their Masonic labours, while on the other hand there are some who, as you say, display such an amount of it, for the first year or two, as seems to exhaust their supply, and leave them as drones in the hive of Freemasonry, which, to my thinking, should be a centre of industry. I do not lay claim to be a very enthusiastic Mason, but I take considerable interest in looking into its principles and practices, perhaps because I live in an out of the way part of the country, far removed from the many forms of amusement which are to be met with around our great cities. I assure you I find there is a great deal more to be found in the study of the every-day doings of Freemasonry than many would believe, and I would strongly urge on my brother Masons the desirability of searching for themselves a little below the outside crust of Freemasonry. They should, in fact, enter more enthusiastically into the study of its principles, and try to discover a little more of its beauties than are apparent to the casual observer. The concluding paragraph of your article exactly expresses my views on the subject, and I would, therefore, like to hear that it was read and acted up to by every member of our beloved Order.

Yours, &c.

STUDENT.

MASONIC PATRONS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—May I crave a few lines of your valuable space to call attention to a matter which somewhat exercises my own mind, in common with those of many of my Clerical Masonic brethren? If *Brotherly Love* and *Relief* are, as we are taught, two of the fundamental principles of our Order, how is it that Masonic Patrons of Livings, in making their appointments, so seldom give the preference to the unbeneficed Masonic Clergy, and so frequently bestow their preferments upon comparatively young and untried men who are not Masons? Of course, I do not for a moment wish to imply that because a Clergyman happens to be a Mason he ought necessarily to have precedence of every one else. Far from me be any such intentions; but I do venture to think that, all other things being equal, he ought to have the preference over outsiders—i.e., if Masonry means anything.

No doubt many of our private Patrons, of whom we have a goodly number occupying high positions in the Craft, have relatives and personal friends whose interests they very justly feel bound to consider before those of any one else; but, after allowing for this, it

would be interesting to know how many of them, when appointing some one who has neither claim nor connection, ever think it worth their while to seek for a suitable nominee amongst their Brethren of the Mystic Tie, though a little inquiry on their part would soon furnish them with the names of various good men and good Masons, only lacking preferment through want of personal interest, and not from any fault of their own.

Then, with regard to public Patrons. The present Lord Chancellor is, I believe, a member of the Craft. What of his preferments? It is commonly supposed that the object of placing so large a number of livings at the disposal of this exalted functionary was to enable him to promote the interests of those clergy who have no private or episcopal influence. As a matter of fact, this patronage is almost universally dispensed as a reward for political services, or to oblige influential private or political friends; but, as Masons, we may surely fairly look to a Masonic Lord Chancellor to partially, at all events, break through this self-imposed rule, and thereby earn the gratitude and respect of a large number of his poorer brethren. For myself, I can only say that, after about 25 years' active work as a Mason, while I cannot but acknowledge the truth and beauty of its teachings, in theory, I am becoming sadly awakened to the fact that (with the exception of the support rendered to our Masonic Charities) there is little beauty and less truth in the practice of the tenets and principles of our Order.

Fraternally yours,

P.M. P.Z. P.P.G.C. 18°, &c.

20th February 1888.

OUTSIDE TITLES IN FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I desire to thank your correspondent "ETIQUETTE" for the advice he kindly offers me in the letter you published last week, and I assure him I will take it to heart. He must, however, excuse me if I say his reply is no answer to my query; he treats the subject purely as a matter of etiquette, while I desire a Masonic opinion. I do not mind using the titles to which I referred outside of Freemasonry, and I think I am as particular in honouring them as any one could desire; but I wish to know if it is right to bring them into our Lodges? and, if so, where we should draw the line. I think, Bro. Editor, you are the cause of my publishing my ignorance to the world, as it was you who first objected to "Bro. Churchwarden This, Bro. Town Councillor That, or Brother Vestryman So-and-So." Under these circumstances, I hope I may yet be satisfied, through your columns, as to what is right for me to do in my position as

I.G.

DIBDIN'S GRAVE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I think very many of your readers must be interested in what you published last week in reference to Dibdin's grave, and perhaps there are some of them who would like to be associated with any movement started to provide a monument for so worthy an Englishman. Personally I would contribute a trifle to bring about the desired object, and other of your readers might also like to do so; but considering the very many and severe claims Masonry has on its resources, on behalf of the living, I do not think the subject is one which ought to be taken up by Freemasons as a body, although it is one with which many Craftsmen might sympathise. As our good Bro. Cumberland—whom I have had the pleasure of meeting—is taking some interest in the matter, he may perhaps keep us posted, if we approve, through your columns, as to what is going on in reference to the memorial.

Yours faithfully,

A LOVER OF DIBDIN'S SONGS.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

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HOLY CROSS PRECEPTORY.

AT a meeting at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth, on Friday, the 17th inst., Sir Knight E. B. Thompson, M.D., was installed as Eminent Preceptor for the year ensuing. The ceremony was ably rendered by the Very Eminent Sir Knight Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.E.P. P.G. Prior of Devon 31°. Officers were invested as follows:—E. Sir Knights W. F. Westcott P.E.P., W. Derry Constable, Fritz P. Regar Marshal, Wm. Whittlely Prelate, W. F. Westcott Treasurer, G. S. Strode Lowe Sub-Marshal, G. Whittlely Registrar, R. Lavers Capt. of Lines, R. Pengelly Standard Bearer, J. Gidley Guard, W. H. Phillips Equerry.

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—Those who frequent the Zoological Gardens, whether on the fashionable Sunday afternoons or week days, will learn with satisfaction that the refreshment department will henceforward be placed in the capable hands of Messrs. Spiers and Pond. Many children are taken to visit the gardens, and they are naturally clamorous for buns, cakes, and other dainties of a like nature. It is most important then that the sweets and refreshments supplied should be absolutely pure and wholesome, and the reputation of the firm is a guarantee that such will now be the case at the Zoological Gardens. Special attention, too, will be given to the beverage and the concomitants of Afternoon Teas, and these it is believed will be very fashionable at "The Zoo" during the ensuing season.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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SINCERITY LODGE, No. 189.

At a meeting held on Monday, the 13th instant, at St. George's Hall, Stouehouse, Bro. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.M. and Chaplain of the Lodge, P.P.G. Chaplain, presented to the Lodge two handsomely framed photographs of "The laying of the foundation stone of the new Masonic Buildings of the Devon and Cornwall Freemasons' Hall and Club Company, Limited, No. 1 Princess Square, Plymouth, by Bro. the Viscount Ebrington, M.P., P.G.M. of Devon, Wednesday 28th December 1887," and "The Temple, Freemasons' Hall, London, as it appeared after the fire, 4th May 1883." On the panel of each picture was the following inscription:—

"Presented to Lodge Sincerity, No. 189, by W. Bro. Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.M. and Chaplain 189 (70, 1205, and 2025 Hon.), P.P.G.C. of Devon, February 13, 1888."

In making the presentation Bro. Lemon explained that these pictures completed the series which he proposed giving the Lodge. He had given all the Masonic pictures published—and the twelve plates formed a most interesting record of Masonic history in themselves—being the most complete set out of London. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Lemon for his munificence, on the motion of Bro. A. S. Hendry, seconded by Bro. J. B. Moulder J.W. The W.M., Bro. John Ward, referred to Bro. Lemon's Masonic zeal and ability, and enlarged on the fact that other Lodges in the Three Towns had received noble gifts at the hands of Bro. Lemon. A vote of condolence with the family of the late Bro. W. Ollis P.M., on the loss they had sustained by his death, was unanimously passed, on the motion of Bro. Lemon seconded by Bro. C. Croydon.

FRIENDSHIP LODGE, No. 202.

THE Worshipful Master (Bro. J. Leonard) and brethren were "at home" in their Masonic Hall, Granby Street, Devonport, on the evening of the 16th inst. The invitations were necessarily limited, but this annual "at home" has proved in former years to be such a pleasant gathering that it is almost unnecessary to add that all the tickets issued were eagerly "caught up," and the result was that a goodly number attended that evening. Mr. Browning's Quadrille Band was in attendance. The arrangements were most complete, reflecting considerable credit on the Committee, consisting of Bros. J. Leonard W.M., H. Welch P.M., Viggers P.M., Burns P.M., J. Jackman P.M., Sandys P.M., Knight P.M., Carter S.W., Bray J.W., and Alkaster. The evening was most enjoyably spent by all present, and this is in a great measure due to the bonhomie and genial manner of the W.M. Bro. J. Leonard. A word of praise should also be given to Bro. J. Viggers P.M. and Mr. E. J. Leonard, son of the W.M., who officiated as M.C.'s, and carried out their duties capitally. Bro. Thomas Shears Tyler and Mrs. Shears attended to the ladies and gentlemen's cloak room in a most efficient manner. Bro. Sylvester, who was suffering from a severe cold, sang "You and I," with great ability, and ably accompanied on the pianoforte throughout the evening. Bro. Herbert possesses a rich and powerful baritone voice, and sang "True till Death" and "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep" in excellent style, and was loudly applauded. Master Serle cleverly played a violin solo, Miss Serle accompanying. Bro. Leonard gave one of his amusing sketches, and Bro. Trethewy contributed a violin solo. Other brethren kindly assisted in the musical programme, and the company separated shortly after 2 a.m.

PHILANTHROPY LODGE, No. 940.

THE ceremony of installation took place on the 16th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Stockton. Bro. Thomas F. Pearce was installed as W.M. The following brethren were invested as Officers:—Fowler S.W., Atkinson J.W., Fowler Treasurer, Hart Secretary, Prudames S.D., Waller J.D., Bradley D.C., Atterby I.G., Turner Organist, Beatty S.S., Faber J.S., Smith Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony the annual banquet was held.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 1247.

THE annual banquet was held at Bro. Rontly's Farley Hotel, Plymouth, on the 14th instant, the W.M. Bro. W. H. Hamblyn presiding, the vice-chairs being filled by Bros. R. C. Wyatt S.W. and Major M. Tracy J.W. Eighty-three brethren sat down to an excellent spread, which was admirably served. A Secretary's jewel was presented to Bro. P. G. L. Pearce P.M., in recognition of his services as Secretary. Excellent songs were rendered by Brothers Rider, Barter, Rendle, Major Tracy, and Herbert. Bro. Greenlaw gave an admirable recitation.

LONDESBOROUGH LODGE, No. 1681.

ON entering the Londesborough Lodge, on Wednesday of last week, we were reminded of the oft-repeated assertion that our world is a very small one. Only the night before we had been present at the anniversary meeting of the Drury Lane Lodge, where the name of Lord Londesborough, its first Worshipful Master, was in every one's mouth; at the Café Royal, where the Londesborough meets, we found the same, or even greater, honour being paid to his lordship, as the members of this Lodge are very proud of being designated by the title Londesborough. The meeting on Wednesday was presided over by Bro. David Hart W.M., who was well supported. Having opened the Lodge, he submitted the minutes for confirmation, and these having been approved, the Lodge was advanced to the second degree, when Bros. Ogg and Rayner were passed. Mr. Charles W. Rayner was then balloted for as a candidate for initiation, and, being accepted, he was regularly admitted a member. The installation followed,

Bro. George Dickinson being the W.M. elect. He was installed by Bro. George Read P.M., the Secretary of the Lodge, who gave the company a splendid example of his ability as an Installing Officer; for this he is justly famed throughout the metropolis. The following members were then appointed and invested as the Officers for the year:—Bros. Wood S.W., Rayner J.W., Barfield P.M. Treasurer, Read P.M. Secretary, Maidment S.D., Cursons J.D., Oliver Organist, Corry I.G., Dolsen D.C., Robinson and Sharratt Stewards, Schofield Tyler. Bro. Read then gave the addresses, and completed the ceremony of installation amid the applause of the brethren. The reception of the report of the Audit Committee was the next business on the agenda. This was of a most satisfactory character, all obligations having been discharged, while the balance in hand was of a substantial amount. Some matters of a routine character then received attention, and the Lodge was closed. At the banquet which followed, Bro. George Dickinson, the new Worshipful Master, presided, and in due course he offered the toast for the acceptance of the brethren. With the one in honour of the Grand Officers was associated the name of Bro. F. Binckes Past Grand Sword Bearer, who in response said that some years ago he had visited the Londesborough. He was pleased to renew the acquaintance, and to see the progress the Lodge had made. He hoped it would continue its career of prosperity. The Immediate Past Master, in proposing the health of the Worshipful Master, referred to the night when Bro. Dickinson and himself, as twin Masonic brothers, sat side by side as initiates in the Lodge. They had worked side by side since that day, and had spent many happy hours together in the Lodge. He had particular pleasure in proposing the health of Bro. Dickinson. That brother, in reply said, he modestly recognised the kindly spirit which prompted their reception of the toast. He felt assured he should have the co-operation of his Officers, and he relied on them to assist him in maintaining the Lodge in a state of efficiency. Before sitting down he had the pleasure of proposing the health of the Installing Master, Bro. George Read. Both to him, and to Bro. Barfield their esteemed Treasurer, the Lodge was much indebted. Both were Founders of the Lodge, and had worked together to place it in the proud position it now occupied. The Worshipful Master next referred to Bro. Barfield's candidature for the office of Grand Treasurer of England. He, in common with those around him, regretted that Bro. Barfield's condition of health rendered it incumbent on him to refrain from attending the Lodge on this occasion. Still, they were gratified to know the state of his health was improving. He would now call upon them to do honour to the toast of their Installing Master. Bro. Read gracefully acknowledged the compliment paid him. He felt it a pleasure in working at all times for the Londesborough Lodge. He trusted he might long be able to assist in the conduct of its affairs. He appreciated the kind sympathy that had been accorded to Bro. Barfield; he had seen him that afternoon. Brother Barfield possessed, in an eminent degree, the grand quality that had been accorded him of having "A Good Heart." All hoped shortly to see him again taking a prominent position in the Lodge, where he would ever receive a cordial greeting. The next toast was that of the Initiate, and to this Bro. C. W. Rayner briefly replied. He had arrived certainly at a period of maturity, and trusted he might never have occasion to regret his association, even at his advanced period of life, with the Mason Craft. In proposing the health of the Immediate Past Master Bro. Dickinson referred to the happy allusion that brother had made to the day of their initiation. He also well remembered that day. Bro. Hart had ably fulfilled the duties of Worshipful Master, and on behalf of the Lodge he now had the pleasure of presenting him with a Past Master's jewel. In reply Bro. Hart thanked Bro. Dickinson for the way in which he had introduced the toast, and recognised the kindness of the brethren which had prompted them to present him with the jewel. He was beholden to them for the many kindnesses he had received during his ten years' association with the Lodge. Bro. G. Read now spoke on behalf of the Masonic Institutions. He referred to the depressing prospects that surrounded the approaching Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and feared that the Boys' School would also participate in the evil effects that might result from the monopoly the Girls' School Centenary Festival would occasion during the current year. Brother Binckes in responding to the toast made a special appeal for help on behalf of the Boys' School. Unquestionably the Girls' School was monopolising the sympathies of the Craft during the current year, and the two other Institutions were undergoing a crucial test. Under these especial circumstances they must be content to realise the fact that crumbs now were equivalent to loaves. It was no light undertaking to provide for two hundred and sixty-two sons of Freemasons, to whom they endeavoured to give the best education that could possibly be provided. This was fully realised by the majority of the scholars, who, on leaving the school, sought by every means in their power to sustain that spirit of association which had arisen through their connection with it. The truth of this was borne out by the fact that the "Old Masonians" had now enrolled some seventy or eighty old pupils in its membership. Undoubtedly there must be, amongst the 1800 lads who had been educated in the Institution a certain percentage of failures. Whatever might be said in favour of the old men and women it was palpable that without our boys and girls we could never have the old folks. With respect to the three Institutions, they all stood on one common basis. For himself, his first love was for the Girls' School, and he took some credit to himself for having introduced there the improved system of education. It was he who recommended the appointment of Miss Davis, and all recognised the beneficial results which had ensued from that appointment. It was Bro. John Hervey who had induced him to take up a crusade on behalf of the Boys' School, and he could point to the fact that they were now educating 262 lads against 60 when he first undertook to plead on behalf of that School. He knew the hearts of Masons were large enough, and he hoped that, in spite of all that was being done this year on behalf the Girls' Institution, they would yet

strive to do a little on behalf of the Boys. The toast of the Visitors was next cordially proposed by the Worshipful Master, and with it was associated the names of Bros. Dehane, Morgan and others. Bro. Morgan was the first to reply. As there seemed to be some hesitation as to which of the guests should take the lead, he ventured to enter the breach. On behalf of the numerous visitors who had not been personally called upon to respond, he felt assured he was expressing their sentiments when he thanked the Worshipful Master and Brethren of the Lodge heartily for the reception they had given their guests. Personally he had anticipated the pleasure of meeting their esteemed Treasurer Bro. Barfield, who they must all be gratified to know was improving in health. Much as they might regret his absence on the present occasion they felt he was doing right in exercising caution in not venturing from home too soon. With respect to their Worshipful Master, it seemed to him (Brother Morgan) only the other day that Brother Dickinson was received into the Lodge, but he had made a mark therein, and it was gratifying to know the brethren had honoured him by placing him in the chair. The remark had often been made that you may sometimes entertain an angel unawares; he did not desire to ascribe any angelic proclivities to their W. Master, but it was given to every man to adorn a sphere. In the sphere of life wherein Bro. Dickinson moved he was frequently called upon to exercise the benevolent qualities that pervaded his disposition. There were many Institutions and Benevolent Funds with which he was associated; moreover, the exigencies of those engaged in his profession frequently entailed accidents, and losses that had to be met with promptitude. Bro. Dickinson had shown himself ever ready to respond to any legitimate appeal fairly brought under his notice. By strict integrity and honourable conduct throughout life he had gained the respect and esteem of all with whom he was associated in business, and the members of the Lodge doubtless looked forward with confidence to an agreeable year under his genial rule. Bro. Dehane and other of the Visitors also replied. Other toasts were given, and in due course the proceedings were brought to a close by the Tyler. The evening's proceedings were interspersed with some excellent songs, musical selections and recitations. Among the Visitors were Bros. W. Poppart S.W. 9, T. W. Johnson S.W. 1608, H. J. Pellatt 1194, M. J. Rowley 1507, G. S. Hunt 1585, W. C. Williams W.M. 865, J. R. Harnett I.G. 511, H. E. Dehane P.M. 1543, W. Brindley P.M. 1604, W. Richards P.M. 1583, H. A. K. Davis 177, R. J. Harnett 2021, F. Binckes P.M. Grand Steward P.G. Sword Bearer, W. W. Morgan P.M. 211, A. Baker 1708, G. Secker 179, W. C. Smith 1563, A. E. Pulley 1828, A. L. Bullen 1614, H. Rayner 1507, &c.

MEDINA LODGE, No. 35.

THE regular monthly meeting was held on the 9th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Cowes, when the W.M. Bro. Rutland P.G.O. commenced his year of office in a most efficient manner by raising Bro. G. T. Bartlett, and passing Bro. S. Porter. His work, and that of his Officers, was most favourably commented on by the visitors present. Bro. Ffarington, of the Apollo Lodge, Oxford, and Bro. Jerram were proposed as joining members. The W.M. in a feeling and appropriate speech presented Bro. Mursell P.M. P.P.G.D. with the Charities' jewel, and a beautifully executed testimonial from the Lodge, in recognition of his services to the Charities; and especially his services as Secretary, for many years, to the Lodge. Brother Mursell made a feeling acknowledgment, and the Lodge was closed in form, with solemn prayer. Those present included Bros. Rutland W.M., Damant I.P.M., Faulkner P.M. Treasurer, Airs P.M. D.C., H. Wheeler P.M., Haxthausen P.M., Mursell P.M. Secretary, J. Leftwich S.W., A. E. Lee J.W., Cullingford S.D., Taylor J.D., Smith Organist; also Bros. H. Bartlett, Ffarington, Day, A. Perry, Stock, Osborne, Dewdney, and many others.

The Ball in connection with the Medina Lodge, in aid of the Masonic Charities, was held at the Gloster Hotel, West Cowes, on Monday evening, the 13th inst., and was attended by over 120 ladies and gentlemen. The large platform under the verandah, in front of the hotel, was fitted up in a most charming style as a ball-room, but although a large amount of accommodation was thereby afforded, it was not sufficient for the purpose, and an adjoining room was also appropriated for dancing. The room was beautifully decorated for the occasion, with flags, artistic draperies, Masonic emblems, &c. Bros. Airs P.M. D.C., Mursell P.M. P.P.G.D. Secretary, Wheeler P.M. Charities Com., Leftwich S.W., and Cullingford S.D. were the Committee.

LODGE FRIENDSHIP, No. 100.

THE annual installation meeting of the members of this Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Great Yarmouth, on the 16th instant. The principal business was the appointment of Bro. Sill as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. R. Martins P.M. The Officers for the ensuing year are Bros. Cubitt I.P.M., Blagg S.W., Robinson J.W., Donne Chaplain, Martins P.M. Treasurer, Mitchell S.D., Huke J.D., Bonfellow P.M. D.C., Pyemont Organist, Morgan I.G. After the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the Crown and Anchor Hotel, where they dined together.

GOOCH LODGE, No. 1238.

THE annual installation took place at the Town Hall, Twickenham, on Monday, the 20th instant, when Bro. John Hinks Tomlinson was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by the retiring Master, Bro. E. Rogers. The newly-installed W.M. appointed his Officers as follow:—Bros. Smyth S.W., Hutchinson J.W., Harding Treasurer, Laxton Secretary, Bye S.D., Coysh J.D., Moir I.G., Barnell Steward, Bowler Tyler. Bro. Tomlinson commenced his year of office in an auspicious manner, by impressively initiating Messrs. D. M. Maurice and R. T. Coysh into Freemasonry. At the conclusion of the busi-

ness an adjournment was made to the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, where a banquet was served. Brother Tomlinson presided in a genial manner, and during the evening presented a handsome Past Master's jewel to Bro. Rogers the Immediate Past Master, as a mark of the appreciation of the members for his valuable services and in token of their respect and esteem. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, the health of the W.M. being proposed in felicitous terms by the I.P.M., and appropriately responded to by Bro. Tomlinson, who expressed the pleasure and gratification it afforded him to be elected to preside over the Lodge.

BALA LODGE, No. 1369.

A GRAND Masonic Ball was held at the County Hall, Bala, on the 16th inst., under the distinguished patronage and support of Bros. Lord Harlech R.W. P.G.M., Colonel Platt D.P.G.M. P.G.D., Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn, Bart., P.M., S. Pope P.M. P.P.G.S.W. P.G.D., Right Hon. Cecil Raikes P.M., and the élite of the neighbourhood. The room was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and the W.M. (Bro. E. R. Jenkins) and the Officers of Bala Lodge are to be congratulated on the admirable manner in which all the arrangements were carried out. An enjoyable evening was spent, dancing being kept up with great spirit until 4 a.m. Much praise is due to Miss Davies, Plascoch Hotel, for the style in which she provided the supper, the tables being elaborately spread and tastefully decorated. Nearly 100 tickets were disposed of, and about ninety ladies and gentlemen were present, the brethren appearing in full Masonic regalia. The proceeds will be devoted in aid of the Masonic Charities.

HANDYSIDE LODGE, No. 1618.

ON Monday, 13th instant, at Saltburn, Bro. D. W. Dixon P.M. P.P.G.S.B. was installed as W.M.; Bro. Watson P.M. and P.P.G.R. was installing Master. Bro. Dixon invested the following Officers:—Bros. Hartland I.P.M., Robinson S.W., Bowman J.W., Taylor P.G. Superintendent of Works Treasurer, Adamson S.D., Taylor J.D., Ianson P.M. Organist, Hopper I.G., Maddison and Wits Stewards, Deighton Tyler.

TORRINGTON LODGE, No. 1885.

THE annual festival was held at Bro. S. G. Tapley's, Globe Hotel, Torrington, on Monday evening, the 13th instant, when Bro. Stevenson was duly installed as Worshipful Master. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Hagley, and the Worshipful Master invested the following as Officers for the year:—Yeo I.P.M., Ashplant S.W., Hooper J.W., Hagley P.M. S.D., Fisher Treasurer, Mallett P.M. P.G.S.B. Secretary, Turrall P.M. J.D., Holwill I.G., Copp Tyler. Bro. Tapley was appointed representative at Committee of Petitions. Among the visitors present were Bros. Ascott 489, Kiddle 489, Pollard 489, Tardrew 489, &c. After the ceremony of installation the brethren held a banquet.

GALLERY LODGE, No. 1928.

ON Saturday, 11th inst., the installation banquet took place at Brixton Hall, Acre-lane. There was a large muster of the members of the Lodge to do honour to the new Worshipful Master, who was installed in the chair of King Solomon at the December meeting, and who exercised his fiat and postponed the installation banquet owing to the recent death of two of the members. There was also a large gathering of visitors from the Savage Club Lodge, Drury-lane Lodge, the Prince Albert Edward Lodge, and several others. At the Lodge proceedings the Worshipful Master referred to the death of Bro. Archibald McNeill, and said the brethren had had opportunities outside the Lodge of individually expressing their deep sympathy with the relations of Bro. McNeill, who, as they were aware, met with his death under very mysterious and sad circumstances a few days after their last meeting; but as their late brother was initiated in the Gallery Lodge, he thought they ought to express their sympathy as a body. Bro. McNeill was a journalist of the first rank, his prospects in his profession were bright, he was universally esteemed, and his shocking death at Boulogne had been a severe blow to his press and other friends. He (the Worshipful Master) would move that a letter of condolence should be written by the Secretary in the name of the Lodge to the relatives of Bro. McNeill. Brother Herbert Wright J.W. seconded the motion, which was agreed to. The Lodge decided to purchase a number of votes in the Masonic Institutions, to be called the "Goldsmith Votes," to perpetuate the memory of their I.P.M., who died shortly before the termination of his year of office.

ESSEX CHAPTER, No. 276.

AT Chelmsford, on Monday, the 12th instant, Comp. Veley acted as M.E.Z. in the absence of J. P. Lewin, and Comp. Shedd as H. in the absence of A. Mead. The following Companions were elected for the ensuing year:—Mead M.E.Z., Cavill H., Kellott J., the Rev. F. B. Shepherd S.E., Darrant Treasurer, Sutherly P.S., Meggy Auditor, to act with standing Officers. A banquet was afterwards served at the White Hart Hotel.

CESTRIAN CHAPTER, No. 425.

THE members held their installation meeting at the Masonic Hall, Chester, on Tuesday, 14th inst., when Comp. S. W. Ramsden was installed as First Principal, J. F. Edisbury and A. Parkes being appointed H. and J. respectively. During the evening the Companions presented a valuable and somewhat rare Royal Arch jewel to Comp. J. C. Robinson P.Z., in recognition of his services to the Chapter, and his researches into Masonic archæology.

FREEMASONRY.

All hail the ancient art
Dear to each brother's heart,
By virtues rare!
Long may thy power be known,
Thy deeds of kindness shown,
Dispelling suffering's moan
Thy constant care.

Within a foreign clime,
In very ancient time,
Thou didst have birth;
When by King Solomon's hand,
To obey Divine command,
God's Temple first was planned,
To grace the earth.

Here wrought, joined heart to heart,
Brethren of mystic art,
With plumb and line;
'Mid snow and winter's sleet,
Through rain and summer's heat,
They laboured to complete
This house divine.

This wondrous Temple now,
On Mount Moriah's brow,
In beauty rare,
Sat like a regal crown,
Sent from the heavens down.
No pagan dared to frown,
For God was there.

During the pagan sway
This Temple passed away
From out the land:
But far from mortal sight,
There stands a Temple bright,
Erected by the might
Of God's own hand.

Within its pearly gate,
When death shall separate
Brother and friend,
May we as brethren stand,
United heart and hand,
In that sweet Beulah Land,
When time shall end.

—Exchange.

A MASONIC ALPHABET.

XXI.—“UNITY.”

The stones lie round about in rude profusion,
This way and that, unpleasing to the eye;
Till, slowly 'merging from the wild confusion,
A stately Building we ere long espy.
Toward the skies the noble Fabric rises,
Tier upon tier its several parts are placed;
Its broad extent of beauty all surprises,
Its fair proportions every stone has graced.

Each Mason is a stone. When isolated
How useless to himself and all beside;
But when amongst his fellows elevated,
He holds his duty with contented pride.
He feels that to his care is delegated
A certain trust—to keep the Fane secure,
That with his Brethren firmly consecrated,
He aids a “Unity” which must endure.

XXII.—“VIGILANCE.”

The Camp at peace—and darkness all around,
Rests strong in confidence, on hostile ground,
Its occupants asleep.
Wearied with march or fight, each soldier lies,
The earth his bed—his coverlid the skies.
But sentries watchful keep
In readiness for any stranger sound,
While slowly pacing to and fro each bound,
With every sense awake,
On them their comrades' safety all depends,
Till night's dark curtain gradually ascends,
And day begins to break.

And we are Sentries—placed on every hand,
To keep secure the Noble Mystic Band,
From any rude alarm.
Our post of duty must not know neglect,
But every aim must be to well protect,
From all approaching harm.
To guard the gate, and keep the portals free,
Lest cowan eyes the Sacred Light may see,
And desecrate the flame.
Not one must shirk the term of guardant care,
But use all “Vigilance” and proudly dare
To guard the “Mason” Name.

WM. H. ORR, G.B.

—Sydney Freemason.

IRELAND.

PROVINCE OF DOWN.

THE Quarterly Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Down was held on the 14th instant, in the Masonic Rooms, Banbridge. Bro. Lord Arthur Hill, M.P., P.G.M. being detained in London by his Parliamentary duties, the meeting was presided over by Bro. Major Leslie Thompson, his Lordship's Deputy. There was a very large attendance of brethren from all parts of the Province, upwards of twenty-four Lodges being represented. Communications were received from several brethren unable to attend. Business of great importance to the Provincial Grand Lodge having been transacted, the installation of Officers was proceeded with. Bros. W. MacCormac as S.W., M. Friar J.W., D. Lithgow S.D., J. L'Estrange J.D., W. Fegan I.G., Dr. Douglass S.B., &c. Several matters of interest to local Lodges were brought forward, after which the Lodge was closed according to ancient form. The attendance and interest manifested in the proceedings showed that Masonry is flourishing strongly in this Province. The Provincial Grand Officers and other brethren from a distance were hospitably entertained at luncheon by the Banbridge Lodges, Nos. 119 and 336, in the Town Hall.

SCOTLAND.

JOURNEYMAN LODGE, No. 8.

IN the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, the annual ball of this Lodge came off, with much success, on the 16th instant. The company numbered about 180 members of the Lodge and its friends. The Grand March was led off at nine o'clock, headed by the R.W.M. of the Lodge, Brother Douglas, Past Master Rennie, Senior Warden M'Kechnie, and other Officers of the Lodge. Amongst the representatives of other Lodges were:—Bros. A. Rodan Hogg R.W.M. 97, A. Bruce R.W.M. 349, S. Duncan R.W.M. 405, and A. Marshall Secretary 597. Dancing was carried on till an early hour with much spirit and in excellent order, under the care of Bros. M'Donald and Walker, the M.C.'s. The music was supplied by Brother Simpson's band.

ST. MARK LODGE, No. 102.

A MEETING was held on the 13th inst, at Glasgow, Bro. Robert Blyth W.M. in the chair. The annual visitation of the Provincial Grand Lodge took place, the deputation consisting of Bros. M'Naught P.G.J.W., Colin Galletly P.G. Treasurer, Thom & Halket P.G. Treasurer Benevolent Fund, Paterson P.G.J.D., David Chalmers P.G.A., John Clark P.G.J., David Draper P.G.P. of S., and David Reid P.G. Secretary. The deputation was received with all the honours, and reported most favourably on the state of the books and accounts of the Lodge. The Lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, when the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, Bro. Major Menzies replying for the Volunteers, and Bro. Major Johnstone for the Grand Lodge. An enjoyable concert followed, the most notable features being a Scotch fantasia, composed for the occasion and played by Bro. Emile Berger; a song composed and sung by Bro. John Baird, No. 333, and the Highland dances and pipe music of the brethren from Gael Lodge. Brother Major Mutter, in a felicitous speech, having proposed the toast of St. Mark Lodge, which was responded to by the Chairman, one of the happiest meetings in connection with Masonry ever held in Glasgow was brought to a harmonious close.

NORTH BRITISH RAILWAY LODGE, No. 597.

THE annual bi-monthly meeting was held 20th ult., in the Lodge Room, Waverley Station. Past Master Lindfield occupied the chair, and was supported by Bros. Tait S.M., Chalmers S.W., Quedsted J.W., Dyce and Middlemas Acting Stewards. The Lodge was opened, when Brother Blackie (a nephew of Professor Blackie) was duly initiated. A large number of deputations from Sister Lodges were received. After the usual Masonic toasts had been given and responded to, the Lodge was closed in due and ancient form at high twelve.

It is proposed to hold a grand Masonic banquet, on the 10th proximo, at Bromley, Kent, to celebrate the silver wedding of the M.W. Grand Master. Bro. Martin J. Dickins will act as Secretary, and it is expected that a large and influential body of Craftsmen will meet, to do honour to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

KNOBS AND EXCRESCENCES.

BRO. JAMES STEVENS P.M. P.Z. is open to accept invitations for the delivery of his LECTURE IN METROPOLITAN OR PROVINCIAL LODGES, OR LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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DANCING.—To Those Who Have Never Learnt to Dance.—Bro. and Mrs. JACQUES WYNMAN receive daily, and undertake to teach ladies and gentlemen, who have never had the slightest previous knowledge or instruction, to go through every fashionable ball-dance in a few easy lessons. Private lessons any hour. Morning and evening classes.

ACADEMY—74 NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET.

The First Masonic Festival of the Present Year

WILL BE THAT OF THE

ROYAL
MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS,

Grand Patron and President:

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

WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON,
ON WEDNESDAY, 29TH FEBRUARY 1888,

UPON WHICH OCCASION

SIR GEORGE ELLIOT, Bart., M.P.,

R.W. PROV. G.M. SOUTH WALES (EAST DIVISION),

has been pleased to signify his intention of Presiding.

BRETHREN are earnestly invited to accept the office of Stewards upon this occasion, and they will greatly oblige by forwarding their names and Masonic rank, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required, and supply them with the necessary circulars, &c.

It is fraternally hoped that upon this occasion, owing to the large number of applicants and the few vacancies, Brethren will use their influence to obtain donations towards the funds of the Institution, which were never more needed than at the present time. Expenditure in Annuities alone £15,000. Permanent income only £3,600.

JAMES TERRY, Vice-Patron, P.G.S.B.

Secretary.

OFFICE:—4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers of

The R.M. Benevolent Institution

are earnestly solicited on behalf of

OLUF HAXTHAUSEN P.M. No. 35,

Who is a Candidate for election to the benefits of the Institution. Bro. Haxthausen was initiated into Freemasonry nearly 40 years ago; has been W.M. of Medina Lodge, No. 35, Cowes, of which he is still a Subscribing Member; he was for many years the Consular Agent of France for the Isle of Wight, and was in prosperous circumstances; but owing to depression in trade and domestic afflictions he has been reduced to utter destitution, and being old and very infirm he is incapacitated from seeking any employment. His application is supported by the Charities' Committee of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and is strongly recommended by the following Brethren.

*A. BARFIELD P.M. 35 P.P.J.G.D. Hants and I. of Wight, 22 Great George Street, Westminster.

H. C. DAMANT P.M. 35, Cliff Road, West Cowes.

*T. W. FAULKNER P.M. 35, P.Z. 151, 175, P.P.J.G.W., York House, W. Cowes.

*GILES P.M. 35, P.P.G. Supt. W., Bridport, Dorset.

R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND P.M. 693, P.Z. 175, P.P.S.G.W., Hare Court, Temple.

MANNERS P.M. 35, Collector of Customs, Falmouth.

*G. A. MURSELL P.M. 35, P.Z. 175, P.P.G.S.D., Gloster Hotel, West Cowes.

F. NEWMAN P.M. 175, 551, 693, 1884, P.Z. 151, 175, P.P.S.G.W., Ryde.

G. PACK P.M. and P.Z. 175, P.P.G.J.D., Yelf's Hotel, Ryde.

*ROBERTSON P.M. 35 and 2169, P.G.S., East Cowes, Isle of Wight.

*F. RUTLAND W.M. 35, P.G. Orgt., Ivy House, West Cowes.

*SADLER, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.

Proxies will be thankfully received by those marked *.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers of

The R.M. Benevolent Institution

are earnestly solicited on behalf of

ALICE VASEY,

WIDOW OF THE LATE BRO. SAMUEL VASEY.

Bro. Samuel Vasey was a ship's provision merchant, at Wapping, 1818-1880, where he was unsuccessful in business, and died shortly after, leaving his widow quite without means. He was initiated in the Yarborough Lodge, No. 554, in 1854; W.M. 1860; subscribed 12 years. Joined Unity Lodge, No. 183, in 1866; W.M. 1869; subscribed 12 years. P.Z. of Yarborough Chapter. Self and wife Life Subscribers R.M.I.B.

Proxies thankfully received by the following Brethren:—

G. R. LANGLEY W.M. 183, 18 Gowlett Road, Peckham Rye.

G. P. BRITTON P.M. and Treas. 183, 11 Friday Street.

G. W. Speth P.M. and Sec. 183, Streatham House, Margate.

Strongly recommended by the following Subscribers:—

Robert Gray, Past Grand Deacon,
Pres. Board of Benevolence.

Richard Eyo, Grand Treasurer.

Horace B. Marshall, Past G. Treas.

R. W. Stewart, Past Grand Deacon.

F. Richardson, Past Grand Deacon.

W. Roebuck, Past Grand Swd. Bearer.

Fred. Binckes, Past G. Sword Bearer.

E. Bowyer, Past Grand St. Bearer.

J. H. Matthews, Past G. St. Bearer.

C. F. Hogard, Past Grand St. Bearer.

C. E. Soppet, Past Grand Steward.

Thomas Cubitt, Past G. Pursuivant.

C. E. Cottebrune, Past G. Pursuivant.

Charles Belton, P.P.G.W. Surrey,
V.-Pres. Board of Gen. Purposes.W. J. Crutch, P.M. 1278, P.P.G.W.
Herts.T. C. Eager, P.M. 1395, P.P.G.S.W.
Surrey.

J. Glass, P.M. 453, P.G.S.Wks. Essex.

G. Kenning, P.M. 152, P.P.G.W. Middx.

George Mickley, P.P.G.S.W. Herts.

Bro. George Motion, P.P.G.D. Essex.

T. W. Ockenden, P.M. 1512, P.P.G.D.
Middlesex.

H. W. Roberts, P.M. 1293, P.G.W. Midx.

W. A. Scurrell, P.P.G.S.W. Middlesex.

F. Adlard, P.M. 7

H. C. Archer, P.M. 183

W. P. Brown, P.M. 90

Thomas Griffith, P.M. 907

N. B. Headon, P.M. 1426

A. T. Hirsch, 183

H. Hooper, J.W. 183

H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1923

David D. Mercer, P.M. 1841

Rev. Richard Morris, LL.D., P.M. 1185

G. W. Pinnock, P.M. 193

Thomas Poore, P.M. 720

Stephen Richardson, P.M. 183

F. R. Spaul, P.M. 1124 and 1768

R. J. Taylor, P.M. 144 and 1922

C. W. Todd, P.M. 183

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls,

ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

Chief Patroness:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Grand Patron and President:

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

Grand Patroness:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

FOUNDED 1788.

CENTENARY CELEBRATION 1888.

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS:

The Right Hon. the EARL OF LATHOM DEPUTY G.M.,
Prov. G.M. Lancashire Western Division.

—:0:—

Brethren willing to act as Stewards on the above important occasion will greatly oblige by sending in their names as early as convenient.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

OFFICE—5 Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street, W.C.THE MASONIC AND MILITARY ORDERS OF
KNIGHTS OF ROME

AND OF THE

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE, K.H.S.,

AND

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

Colonel Sir FRANCIS BURDETT, Bart.,

M. Ill. Grand Sovereign, and Grand Commander of St. John.

THE

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

GRAND IMPERIAL CONCLAVE

WILL BE HOLDEN AT

16A GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C.,

On MONDAY, the 5th MARCH 1888.

At Five o'Clock in the Afternoon.

A BANQUET will be provided at Half-past Six o'clock. Tickets, One Guinea each. It is requested that every Knight Companion intending to dine will forward his name to the Grand Recorder with as little delay as possible.

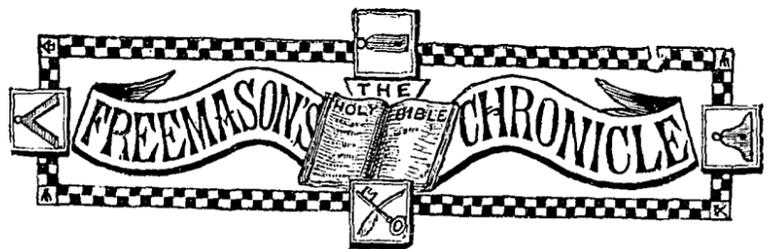
Knights will not be admitted unless they appear in the insignia of their rank in the Order, Knights of St. John in White Sashes.

CHAS. FRED. HOGARD,

Grand Recorder and Registrar General.

16a Great Queen Street, W.C.

The GENERAL STATUTES of the ORDER, with an Appendix and Engravings of the Jewels and Regalia—Price, Cloth, 1s 6d—can be obtained of the Grand Recorder, 16a Great Queen Street.

COMMON SENSE NOT YET EXTINCT
AMONG AMERICAN MASONS.

BY BRO. JACOB NORTON.

BEFORE the invention of printing Masons had no Bibles in their Lodges. The rituals, however, of the seventeenth century required the candidate at a certain part of the initiation to lay his hand on a book, viz., the Bible, and the said custom was continued after the formation of the Grand Lodge in 1717. The several earliest rituals, however, do not indicate that the Bible was referred to as a Masonic symbol. Anderson, in both editions of his Constitutions, did not mention the Bible, and in his second edition, of 1738, he distinctly informs us that the Grand Lodge was opened in those days "in due form," when on the pedestal was laid (not the Bible, &c., but) "the Constitutions and the Sword." And if such

was the practice of the Grand Lodge between 1730 and 1738, we may assume that the same fashion prevailed in the Lodges at the said period. In a ritual of 1730, however, the Bible, Square, and Compasses were called the "furniture of the Lodge," and some twenty or thirty years later the furniture of the Lodge of 1730 was changed into the "three great lights." Masons (as a rule) never trouble themselves about searching for origins of phrases in the ritual, hence it was generally supposed for a long time that the Bible in the Lodge was an "ancient landmark." The subsequent introduction of Templarism as a higher degree in Masonry served further to foster the delusion that belief in the inspiration of the Bible was essential to Masonry; hence in Sweden and in Germany Masonry was deemed a purely Christian Institution, where Jewish Masons were not allowed even to visit a Lodge.

In America, where Masonry is of a mongrel kind, it is called Cosmopolitan or universal Masonry, but nevertheless the Worshipful Master must pretend to venerate "the Lion of the tribe of Judah" and the Saints John, and it is not uncommon to have in our Lodge rooms a cross, placed conspicuously to denote the religion of our Masonry; and even a Massachusetts Mason's certificate is embellished with a female figure holding up a cross as an emblem of a Mason's faith. In Ohio, in Texas, and in other jurisdictions too, if a Mason denies the inspiration or authenticity of the Bible, he is expelled from Masonry; and only about two years ago a Mason was expelled in Montana and in Canada for having said or published something about the Bible. Recently, however, a similar case occurred in Illinois, and the following address of the Grand Master and the remarks of the Grand Lodge Committee, will show a "new departure" there taken upon the sectarian question. The Grand Master said:—

"5th June. I received a communication from a member of Vienna Lodge, No. 150, inquiring whether charges could be sustained against a Mason who disbelieves the Bible, and who does not believe in the God of the same. I assured him that charges could be sustained, and he be promptly expelled.

"I subsequently learned that a number of members of Vienna Lodge belonged to a society which disbelieved the Bible, and denied the existence of the God of the same. The president of the society, Bro. John S. Crum, sometime previous published an address which had been delivered on the subject of the Bible and the God of the Bible, but which bore for a title the startling words 'Believe, or be Damned.' In this he takes great delight in making light of the Book of Books, as well as of the God of our fathers.

"I need only quote one sentence from his address: 'I therefore pronounce the first sentence in the old Jewish book a falsehood.' The sentence to which reference is made, as will be remembered, is part of our ritual, from the 'Great Light in Masonry,' and has reference to our Supreme Grand Master. This is a sample of the address. The doctrine of this atheistic society has crept into the Lodge, and unless speedily checked must affect the welfare and reputation of the Fraternity very seriously in the community where it is located.

"Bro. Crum was placed on trial, at which the R.W. Bro. James A. Rose presided, and although found guilty of one specification, the Lodge refused to fix a penalty. This being reported to me, I immediately suspended the functions of the Lodge.

"Pending the trial Bro. Crum preferred charges against W. Bro. L. Arnold, Master of the Lodge, for permitting a sectarian question to be presented to the Lodge for consideration. These were at once dismissed, with the assurance to Bro. Crum that, in my opinion, any Mason holding such views as his ought never to see the insight of a Masonic Lodge. In reply to this he requested me to submit the case fairly to the Grand Lodge. This I have done, and urgently request that it receive that attention its merit demands."

The question was referred to a Committee consisting of five brethren, and here is their response.

"The subject brought up by the trial of a member of Vienna Lodge, No. 150, on charges growing out of his alleged theological opinions, and the bringing counter charges by the accused against the Master of the Lodge for permitting sectarian matter to be presented to the Lodge for consideration, imposes upon your Committee a delicate duty, not only because the subject is one which always lies very near the prejudices and passions of men, but because of the difficulty of discussing it without

overstepping here the law-making body itself, the bounds of which the law made here in consonance with the fundamental law of Masonry, sets up for the constituent Lodges and forbids them to pass. For these reasons it seems to your Committee that the law in a general way may be profitably considered before passing to the case which has arisen under it, or in spite of it; and because the time allotted to the Committee is too brief for preparation of a fresh presentation of the subject. It quotes here from the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, in a former year, a presentation which then received the approval of the Grand Lodge, and which now reflects the opinions of your Committee relative to the law and the line of Masonic duty touching the very basis of Masonic union."

The Committee then quote, as follows:—

"In entering upon this inquiry our manifest duty is to consult first the Ancient Law—the landmarks—by whose prescription every Masonic body and every individual Mason is alike bound to square their Masonic action. The first of the Old Charges 'concerning God and religion' says:— 'But though in ancient times Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country or nation, whatever it was, yet it is now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves; that is, to be good men and true, or men of honour and honesty, by whatever denomination or persuasion they may be distinguished, whereby Masonry becomes the centre of union and the means of conciliating true friendship among those who must have remained at a perpetual distance."

"Under the same charge, atheists are excluded from Masonry, the warrant for such exclusion being found in the following:—

"A Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law, and if he rightly understands the art, he will never be a stupid atheist, nor an irreligious libertine."

"Atheists being excluded, what is then 'that religion in which all agree.' Manifestly it is the belief in a Supreme Being, the initial point, and one great inclusive idea of all religions—the only one common to all.

"From this one common point of theological agreement diverge the paths which lead to countless divisions and subdivisions, ethnic and denominational, of the religions of the world. As the only possible centre of union, the only possible means of conciliating true friendship among those who must otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. The landmark utterly refrains from indicating which, if any, of these diverging paths leads backward to the Supreme.

"Professedly a universal brotherhood, it is the comprehensive nature of its one religious requirement, the fact that it includes that and that only which is common to all religions, that gives Masonry its universality. How much its votaries as individuals may add to this one cardinal idea of the Supreme Being, Masonry neither prescribes nor inquires; but in the same Fraternity no man or body of men may add or take from it. Holding in common to the great fact of the existence of God, all Masons must stand upon the level of a perfect equality whenever and wherever assembled as such. As a man Masonry leaves each one free to his own theological interpretation; for this freedom confers no licence to enforce or engraft his interpretations upon the institution.

"The moment a brother assumes that the Supreme can be approached only through some one name—be that name Brahma, Jesus, Buddah, or Allah—that moment he enters upon theological definition and interpretation, the very root of sectarianism, which with its twin evil, political partizan-ship, Masonry seeks above all others to exclude.

"Our Grand Lodge, mindful of its obligation to the landmark, has by statute prohibited the introduction of either upon any Masonic occasion, and no one who will pause to reflect upon the essential nature of a brotherhood claiming to be universal can doubt the wisdom of its action.

"In the case before us a strongly sectarian address, published in pamphlet form by the accused, was made the basis of a charge against him of committing a Masonic offence, and also constituted the sole evidence put in upon his trial to substantiate the charge. One of the specifications involved the charge of atheism, a disbelief in God; and the others, three or four in number, were various ways of stating, in substance, that he was guilty of denying the divine authenticity of the Bible, of ridiculing that book, of

declaring that some portions were false, or of speaking contemptuously of it. Upon the trial the accused was found not guilty of the specification of atheism, and not guilty of all the rest of the specifications save one, and that one was one form of specifying that he had cast ridicule and contempt upon the Bible. Failing to agree upon any punishment for the specification upon which he was convicted, the presiding District Deputy immediately closed the Lodge, and the Grand Master immediately suspended the charter. Meanwhile, the accused preferred charges against the Master, for allowing a sectarian question to be presented to the Lodge for consideration, which charges were curtly dismissed by the Grand Master. The section under which the charge was brought against the Master is to be found in Article 11, part third, defining Masonic offences. It is the 3rd section, and reads as follows: 'The Master of any Lodge shall not permit any charges or specifications, or any other subject matter, either written or oral, involving questions of political or sectarian character, to be read in, or in any manner presented to the Lodge.'

"Language could not make plainer the prohibition aimed at, precisely the character of matter introduced in this case, and which was first disobeyed by the Master and afterwards ignored by the Grand Master. To your Committee it seems impossible to deny that in permitting the introduction of the sectarian pamphlet, and also of some, if not all its specifications, the Master very squarely disobeyed the unmistakable letter of the law. But your Committee find on referring to the Grand Master's report, that in permitting this matter to be introduced he was acting under such advice from the Grand Master as he might well be excused for considering an order, or at least a direction; and from the statements of the Master in its presence it was impressed with the belief that he would not intentionally defy the laws of the Grand Lodge, and that he might safely be again entrusted with the custody of the charter of Vienna Lodge.

The acquittal of the accused of the charge of atheism shows that there was nothing that could afford the least shadow of excuse for defying the plain letter of the law, and therefore no possible excuse for now insisting that the Lodge should inflict punishment pursuant to a verdict found in a trial void on its face, because held in violation of law. On the other hand, there is nothing to be gained in inflicting punishment upon those who have broken the law, at all comparable to the mischief of continued agitation of a question so dangerous to the peace of the Fraternity, one of which, as the Grand Lodge long ago foresaw, can bear only the bitter fruits of strife, alienation, and discord. Your Committee, therefore, recommend that the whole proceeding be regarded in fact, as it was in law, *ab initio*, leaving all parties enjoying the same status as before the mischievous proceeding was begun." (Illinois Proc. 1837, pp 48 and 157.)

I shall only add, that our zealots value the phrase about the Bible in the ritual, not on account of its moral teachings, but because it furnishes them an assumed right to ventilate their favourite dogmas in the Lodge. Hence, it is no wonder that disbelievers in the said dogmas are sometimes provoked to retaliate outside the Lodge, by saying or writing something which is very disagreeable to those who set themselves up as being holier than other men. The Illinois committee, therefore, deserve the thanks of every just minded Mason, for courageously expounding the just basis of "Masonic universality." But as long as the American continues to demand from the officers of a Lodge veneration for Christian saints, &c., &c., so long must American pretension to Masonic universality be regarded and denounced as a mere swindle, and what is worse, it is a useless swindle; for offensive phrases may insult, but they will not convert.

BOSTON, U.S., 8th February 1888.

A Masonic Ball in aid of the Building Fund of the Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, was held in the new Market Hall, on the 11th inst. Under a dispensation granted by the Prov. Grand Master of Devon, Viscount Ebrington, M.P., members of the Craft appeared in full Masonic clothing. Nearly one hundred ladies and gentlemen were present.

DEAF 132 page book on DEAFNESS, Noises in the Head. How relieved. Price 3d. Address, Dr. Nicholson, 15 Camden Park Road, London, N.W.

ANTIGUA.

AT a Stated Communication of St. John's Lodge, on the 27th January, Brother E. R. Hall W.M. in the chair. After the usual business, Bro. Higham advanced to the pedestal and addressed the W.M. as follows:—"Words not ending in deeds are idle and sinful waste of speech. Accomplished deeds have a language of their own, speaking directly and effectively to the heart, causing vibration of its chords, which awaken, as I trust in this instance, very pleasurable emotions. Worshipful Sir—I am sure you will feel that this your first act is a very delightful one, it is as it were crowning your predecessor with the wreath which Masons one and all have contributed to procure, an imperishable wreath, one which will gladden the members of his home, one which will be his passport perhaps in lands beyond; one the possession of which can never be absent from the mind, and which will be as the widow's cruse—the unfailing medium for the supply to his Masonic Lamp, which I trust he will keep brightly shining to the end of his career. May it not also act powerfully as an incentive to yourself and those who follow after? I feel pleased with the cheerful response of the numerous brethren which enabled me to obtain these beautiful tokens of our affection, and I am thankful to our brother Garry Thibou for requesting me to co-operate with him in this laudable duty, but I do not know whether to thank him for slipping his harness after a day or two, leaving me to draw alone, not the Juggernaut Car, but the Chariot of love, to this its Masonic home, for transfer of its freight at your hands to our worthy Brother Este, who takes pleasure in designating me his Masonic father or sponsor. I trust he will not be dissatisfied with these proofs of my love, esteem, and earnest effort to convince him that his Masonic career has gladdened my heart in these closing days of life; and I trust to see the true spirit of our Order revive in our midst—that Masonic Charity may regain and preserve its renowned and universal fame. Worshipful Sir, permit me to hand to you this testimonial, jewel and ring, purchased by contributions of the Masons who have subscribed their names, that you may ask our brother, the immediate Past Master, to accept as tokens of our high appreciation of his successful work in the chair during the two years ending 1887." The W.M. in handing the testimonial, ring and jewel said:—"Bro. Este,—It is indeed a pleasant duty which devolves on me to ask your acceptance of these beautiful memorials, procured with our united contributions, placed in my hands by Bro. Higham, which I am sure you will receive as tokens of our united appreciation of the truly valuable services rendered to our Lodge during your two years occupancy of the chair. I feel that the able words Bro. Higham has uttered will make an impression on your heart, needing no enforcement from me. I therefore perform most heartily this pleasant task, the opening act of my Masonic duties in the chair, and I would fain hope that T.G.A.O.T.U. will enable me to perform my allotted work as Master of this Lodge so worthily that I may gain, at least, the approbation of the brethren, though I may fail to merit such tangible recognition as it is my privilege to bestow upon you. Wishing you long life and prosperity in whatsoever sphere it may please T.G.A.O.T.U. to place you." Bros. C. P. Chambers of Athol Lodge, No. 438, C. W. Farquhar of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 358, and Bro. J. W. G. Thibou, having addressed the brethren in support, Bro. Este replied:—"Worshipful Sir and Brethren,—I am deeply sensible of the high honour which you have been good enough to confer on me in the presentation of an address, accompanied by so valuable a Past Master's ring and jewel. I appreciate it, as a mark of very great esteem, confidence and affection.—I view it especially as an expression of the goodwill and kindly feeling entertained towards me by each and every individual member of this Lodge, and the value of the gift is further increased by the fact that its cost was contributed in small sums, given by all the brethren, attached and unattached, thus rendering it a most gratifying memento of a most interesting occasion in my life. You may rest assured, brethren, that I shall continue my efforts to sustain the prestige and usefulness of the Lodge. It is not my intention to pass into the idle stage now that I have left the chair, but I shall strive earnestly in the future, as I have done in the past, to forward the interests of the St. John's Lodge, and to assist to the utmost of my power in carrying out the great work to which we have all set our hands. In all my Masonic working I have been guided by the beautiful words of Eliza Cook:—

"Should ye see afar off that worth winning
Set out on the journey with trust;
And ne'er heed if your path at beginning
Should be among brambles and dust.
Though 'tis by footsteps ye do it,
And hardships may hinder and stay,
Walk with faith, and be sure you'll get through it,
For where there's a will there's a way."

During my term, brethren, I have only done my duty, as every Master should; and my work in connection with the Lodge during that term has been truly a labour of love. I am proud to think that my humble efforts to advance its interests have been so highly appreciated, I am unable to find words in which to express my sincere thanks to Brother Thibou, and my highly esteemed and respected friend and veteran Brother Higham, for the special interest and zeal manifested by them, and to you, brethren, for the great, the undeserved, and in the history of this Lodge, the unprecedented honour, you have conferred on me. The Lodge was then closed according to ancient custom.

The address is on illuminated vellum, in gilt frame 24 by 10, and does credit to Bro. H. T. Lamb, of St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, to whom Bro. Higham entrusted the order.

"Illustrations" is to be conducted by a Limited Company, with Mr. Francis George Heath, its founder, as managing director.

CORNWALL MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

THE third annual general meeting of the members of this Association was held at Truro, on Wednesday, the 8th instant. By the combination afforded by this Association the members obtain, by means of an annual ballot, life votes in the Central Masonic Charities of the value of five or ten guineas, according to the amount of annual subscription, whether one or two guineas. The amount received during the year now ended was reported to be 266 guineas, and after deducting for nominations fully paid, &c., there remained to submit to the ballot 235 guineas, being exactly the same sum as was available a year ago. In the first ballot for five-guinea votes, thirty-three members were successful. In the second drawing for votes of the value of ten guineas each, the following Lodges were successful, viz. :—Hayle, Liskeard (2), Redruth, St. Ives, Camborne, and the Mark Lodge at Helston. Since the formation of the Association three years ago it has collected over eight hundred guineas, and this success is so great as to warrant its promoters in claiming for it a prominent position among the Masonic Institutions of the Province of Cornwall. Several of the Lodges are still indifferent as to the work it is doing, and to little or no extent participate in the honours and benefits of its success. It is hoped, however, that they will soon unite in liberally supporting what is the pride of their Order—Charity. The following were elected Officers for the ensuing year :—Bro. Right Hon. Earl of Mount Edgcumbe President, Bros. Charles B. Graves Sawle, Bart, and Thomas Chirgwin Vice-Presidents, Brother E. D. Anderton Treasurer, Bros. Gilber and B. Pearce Secretaries, Bro E. Milford Cock Auditor, Bros. Frank Harvey (Hayle), B. Courtney (Liskeard), John Jose (Mellingey), S. Grantham Bake (Camelford), Wellington Dale (Penzance), and G. H. B. Reed (Falmouth), together with Bro. Charles Truscott (ex officio), Committee.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

WILL BE WORKED

By the members of the Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 298, by special invite of the Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227, at the Three Nuns Hotel, Aldgate, on Monday, 27th February 1888. Lodge will be opened at seven o'clock punctually. Bros. Cohen P.M. 205 W.M., Kirk 1767 S.W., Galer P.M. 1366 J.W., Fenner P.M. 1227 1693 I.P.M. First Lecture—Bros. Yates, Simmons, Turner, Lone, Dixie, Case, and Catling. Second Lecture—Bros. Brown, Patrick, Solomons, Kirk, and Fenner. Third Lecture—Bros. Galer, Snelling, and Gash. Brethren are cordially invited to attend; the accommodation is both ample and comfortable. The Lodge meets every Monday evening, at eight o'clock, throughout the year. Bros. Fenner P.M. 1227 1693 Preceptor, Free W.M. 1227 Treasurer, Hayward S.D. 1227 Secretary.

By the members of the Eclectic Lodge of Instruction, No. 1201, at the Berkeley Arms, John-street, Mayfair, on the evening of 26th February, at six p.m. Bros. Corby P.M. 957 W.M., Farwig P.M. 180 S.W., Brindley P.M. 1604 J.W. First Lecture—Bros. Ham, Larkin, Harnell, Kirk, Reed, and Farwig. Second Lecture—Bros. Grist, Brindley, Hardy, Smith, and Coope. Third Lecture—Bros. Dusterwauld, Curzon, and Cobham. Bros. Smith P.M. 1563 Preceptor, Watts P.M. 1201 Treasurer, Sedgwick P.M. 180 Secretary.

The Board of Masters met on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, when the agenda paper for the Quarterly Communication of 7th March was submitted to the brethren. The Board of Benevolence was then held, Bro. R. Grey P.G.D. President presiding, with Bros. James Brett P.G.P. Senior Vice-President, and W. H. Perryman G.P. as Junior Vice-President. Bros. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke G.S., A. A. Pendlebury, W. Dodd and W. H. Lee were present from Grand Secretary's office, and a large number of Craftsmen. The President, in opening the proceedings, said there was a large amount of business before the brethren, who would be pleased to see again among them an old President of the Board, Bro. J. M. Clabon P.G.D., who had not been there for many years. The brethren confirmed the recommendations to the Grand Master at the January meeting, to the amount of £320, and afterwards proceeded with the new list, which contained the names of 52 petitioners. In the course of a four-and-a-half hours' sitting, the brethren dismissed three of these cases, and deferred three, relieving the remainder with a total of £1205. There were two recommendations to Grand Lodge of £100 each, five of £50 each; two recommendations to the Grand Master of £40 each, ten of £30 each; ten grants of £20 each, two of £15 each, fourteen of £10 each, and one for £5.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Neuralgia.—Though the former disease remorselessly attacks persons of all ages, and the latter ruthlessly selects its victims from the weak and delicate, the persevering use of these remedies will infallibly cure both complaints. After the affected parts have been diligently fomented with hot brine and the skin thoroughly dried, Holloway's Ointment must be rubbed in firmly and evenly for a few minutes twice a day, and his Pills taken according to the printed directions wrapped round each box of his medicine. Both Ointment and Pills are accompanied by instructions designed for the public at large, and no invalid who attentively reads them can now be at any loss how to doctor himself successfully.

MARK MASONRY

BRUNSWICK LODGE, No. 48.

A REGULAR meeting of this Mark Master Masons' Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hobart Street, Stonehouse, to instal Bro. G. Ellery S.W. as the Worshipful Master for the year ensuing. The Installing Officers were Bros. C. Marshall (retiring W.M.) P.G. Organist, S. Jew P.M. P.P.G.M.O., J. Gidley P.M. P.G.T., and J. Bartlett P.M. The new Officers were :—Bros. Marshall I.P.M., Webber S.W., Worledge J.W., Geack M.O., Williams S.O., Radmore J.O., Price Treasurer, Marshall I.P.M. Secretary, Eden Reg. of Marks, Davis S.D., Wingate J.D., Donnelly I.G., Lunt D.C., Eden Organist, Moses S.St., Parsons J.St., Bartlett Tyler.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426.—

A most enjoyable Smoking Concert, the fourth in connection with this Lodge of Instruction, was given at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, E.C., on Thursday, 16th inst. The proceedings commenced at 7.30, when a capital selection of songs, recitations, and sketches were given. Mr. Frank Knight, R.A.M., and Herr Lehmeier proved themselves accomplished accompanists. The company, numbering something like 120, was ably presided over by Bro. W. H. Paddle, who was supported by Bro. James Stevens, while Bro. Ball looked after the comfort of the visitors. These gentlemen were most successful in their efforts; the concert was kept going merrily. We can compliment Messrs. Healy and Webb on their really beautiful rendering of Balfe's "Excelsior." An enthusiastic encore was demanded, when these gentlemen obliged with "The Moon has raised her Lamp." The usual votes of thanks were proposed and carried during the evening.

Judging from the experience we have gained during the past few years, we think we are justified in saying Masons as a rule enjoy good appetites, and considering the healthy appearance of some of Masonry's warmest devotees, we are equally entitled to believe they have good digestions. Shakespeare tells us that health is the outcome of a good digestion waiting on appetite; besides, have we not experienced the ill effects of a bad digestion, with little or no appetite? It is on such occasions the skill of man comes forward to assist the work of nature, and in some cases restore to us that appetite which seemed never likely to return. Those who can supply us with really enjoyable relishes are therefore deserving of our warmest thanks, and in this list the inventor, the compounder, or whatever he loves to call himself, of Batty's Nabob Pickles, is worthy of a foremost place. Many a time we have, with their help, relished a meal which without them would have been literally untouched, and often has a liberal allowance of "Nabob" caused us to thoroughly enjoy a repast for which we had but little desire. We have had reason to bless them in the past, and so would many others if their use became more general. On this account we cordially recommend the Nabob Pickles to our readers, who, with ourselves, may sometimes like a stronger appetitiser than fresh air, albeit that is good in its way; unfortunately its way does not appear to be around the busy centres of commercial life. A short time since we made reference to the vinegar manufactured by Messrs. Slee, Slee and Co. This firm, we understand, supply Messrs. Batty with the vinegar used in the preparation of both their pickles and sauces, and this no doubt to a very great extent accounts for the excellence of these commodities.

An entertainment of an exceptionally interesting kind was given to the subscribers and friends of the Masonic Amateur Dramatic Society, on the 22nd instant, in the Bath Saloon, Sheffield. Hitherto the society has generally provided a programme of a couple of plays, but for this occasion those responsible for the arrangements boldly decided upon presenting a four act drama, which should occupy the whole of the evening. The play chosen was Meritt's melodramatic romance, "The Golden Plough," and this not only afforded work for several of the best members of the society, but proved a source of interest and delight from the inaugural rising of the curtain to its final descent shortly after ten o'clock. The professional ladies who assisted were Miss Kitty Claremont (the frequent engagements of whom by the society indicate how popular she has made herself), Miss Ada Melrose, and Miss Lillian Hingston.

Our popular and versatile Brother G. S. Graham announces his Twenty-third Annual Grand Evening Concert, for Friday, 2nd March, at the St. Andrew's Hall, Balham. Bro. Graham will be assisted by Madame Lansdell Sims, Miss Mande Hayter, Miss Maude Newmarch, Mlle. Bertha Colnaghi, Mr. Herbert Sims Reeves, Bros. Henry Prenton, Eustace Jay, Arthur Thomas, and McCall Chambers. Solo Flute, Mr. Charles Spencer West; Solo Pianist, Miss M. Norton; Mr. James Halle at the Pianoforte. Tickets—Reserved Seats, 3s; Unreserved Seats 2s; and 1s each—can be had of Bro. G. S. Graham, Hazledean, Cornford Grove, Balham, S.W.; or at the St. Andrew's Hall, on the night of the concert.

The Directors have announced that they have arranged for a complete decoration of the Alhambra, and concluded a contract with the eminent firm of Messrs. Campbell, Smith and Co. for the execution of the work. Out of regard for the interests of the artistes and the numerous employes of this popular place of amusement and others engaged in the business (numbering upwards of 500), the Directors consider it their duty to keep the Theatre open during the progress of these works. The management have, however, made such arrangements that, during the progress of redecoration, visitors will not be put to any inconvenience or discomfort.

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 FEBRUARY.

- 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8. (Inst.)
 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)
 1361—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7. (Inst.)
 1706—Orpheus, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1871—Gosling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air Street, Regent Street, W., at 8
 R.A. 176—Caveac, Albion, Aldersgate Street
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 30—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottons, Eastwood
 1462—Wharfedale, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
 2048—Henry Levander, Station Hotel, Harrow
 R.A. 178—Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigan
 R.C.—Stanhope, Queen Hotel, Chester

MONDAY, 27th FEBRUARY.

- 4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 22—Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 26—Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 28—Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 45—Strong Man, Bell and Bush, Ropemaker St., Finsbury, E.C., at 7 (Inst.)
 79—Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Greenwich
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street at 7. (Inst.)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 183—Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, E.C.
 648—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Arderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1227—Upton, Three Nuns, Aldgate, E., at 8. (Instruction)
 1425—Hyde Park, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Gardens, at 8. (Inst.)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, High Street, Putney, at 8. (Inst.)
 1608—Kilburn, Queen's Arms Hotel, Kilburn
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1615—Bayard, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King Street, Smithfield, at 7 (Inst.)
 1632—Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 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 Murylebone, Criterion, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 1237—Enfield, Cour House, Enfield
 48—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead
 61—Probity, Freemason's Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
 149—Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon, at 7. (Inst.)
 264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley
 302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebdlen Bridge
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 408—Three Graces, Private Rooms, Haworth
 433—Hope, Swan Hotel, Brightlingsea
 467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham
 613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool at 8. (Instruction)
 899—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1177—Tenby, Tenby, Pembroke
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1542—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford
 1575—Clive, Corbet Arms, Market Drayton
 1894—Herschell, Masonic Rooms, Slough
 1977—Blackwater, Blue Boar Hotel, Maldon.
 R.A. 100—Friendship, Crown and Cushion, Great Yarmouth
 R.A. 219—Justice, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
 R.A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 321—Faith, Crowe Arms Hotel, Crowe
 R.A. 411—Commercial, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
 R.A. 448—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 M.M.—The Old York, Masonic Hall, Bradford
 M.M. 9—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, South Molton, Devon

TUESDAY, 28th FEBRUARY.

- 14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 92—Moira, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 141—Faith, Arderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 141—Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria Street, S.W., at 8 (Inst.)
 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 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)
 880—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Poynders-road, Dalston at 8 (Instruction)
 861—Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1041—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
 1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (Inst.)
 1348—Ebury, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, W.
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Cannon Town, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1446—Mount Edgecombe, Three Stags, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Towns, North Woolwich. (Instruction)
 1549—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Horsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8. (Inst.)
 1744—Royal Savoy, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1839—Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen Street, E.C., at 7. (Inst.)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich Road, East Brixton, at 8 (Instruction)
 2103—Empire, Criterion, Piccadilly.

- Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, Cannon Street, at 6.30
 R.A. 7—Royal York of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 180—St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 255—Iris, Greyhound, Richmond
 R.A. 548—Wellington, White Swan Hotel, Deptford
 R.A. 704—London, the Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 1339—Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 M.M. 3—Keystone, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 R.C. 29—Palatine, 33 Golden Square, W.
 24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons Hall, Grainier-st., Newcastle 7.30 (Inst.)
 126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley
 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
 357—Apollo University, Masonic Hall, Oxford
 373—Socrates, George Hotel, High-street, Huntingdon
 448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's Place, Halifax
 463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, at 7.15. (Inst.)
 510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
 779—Ferrers and Ivanhoe, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1024—St. Peters, Masonic Hall, Maldon
 1230—Walden, Rose and Crown Hotel, Saffron Walden
 1358—Torba, Town Hall, Paignton
 1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans
 1543—Rosslyn, Saracen's Head Hotel, Dunmow
 1566—Ellington, Town Hall Maidstone
 1609—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1675—Ancient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1799—Arnold, Portobello Hotel, Walton on the Naze
 1823—Royal Clarence, Masonic Hall, Clara, Suffolk
 2025—St. George, St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, Devon
 2146—Surbiton, Spread Eagle Coffee Tavern, Surbiton (Instruction)
 R.A. 74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn Street, Birmingham
 R.A. 103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 158—Adam, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness
 R.A. 175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight
 R.A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
 R.A. 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M. 168—Keystone, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton

WEDNESDAY, 29th FEBRUARY.

- Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Tavern, at 5.30, for 6 o'clock
 Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3
 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)
 212—Euphrates, Masonic Hall, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street, E.C.
 228—United Strength, The Hop, St. Andrew's Street, Regent's Park, at 8 (Inst.)
 538—La Tolerance, Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, at 8. (Inst.)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7. (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's Court, Fleet Street, at 8. (Instruc.)
 888—Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Penton
 902—Burgoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Instruc.)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent Road, at 8. (Instruc.)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare Street, Hackney, at 8. (Inst.)
 1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 8. (Instruction)
 1601—Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st., S.W., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1681—Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Inst.)
 1768—Progress, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (Inst.)
 1963—Duke of Albany, 153 Battersea Park Road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 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)
 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Deaton
 274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
 290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
 625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
 750—Friendship, Freemason's Hall, Railway-street, Clockheaton
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk
 1083—Townley Parker, Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester
 1085—Harrington, Masonic Hall, Gower Street, Derby. (Instruction)
 1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow
 1219—Strangeways, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1233—Ryburn, Central Buildings, Town Hall Street, Sowerby Bridge
 1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1645—Colne Valley, Lewisham Hotel, Slaithwaite
 1734—Trinity, Golden Lion Hotel, Rayleigh
 1797—Southdown, Hurlpierpoint, Sussex
 1953—Prudence and Industry, George Hotel, Chard, Somersetshire
 R.A. 322—Hope, Vernon Arms Hotel, Stockport
 R.A. 329—Brotherly Love, Choughs Hotel, Yeovil
 R.A. 357—Apollo University, Apollo University Hall, Oxford
 R.A. 376—Royal Sussex of Perfect Friendship, Masonic Hall, Ipswich
 R.A. 409—Stortford, Chequers Inn, Bishop's Stortford
 M.M.—Howe, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 M.M. 178—Wiltshire Keystone, Masonic Hall, Devizes
 R.C.—Philips, Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster

THURSDAY, 1st MARCH.

- 27—Egyptian, Arderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons-avenue, Basinghall-street
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 192—Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street
 227—Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 231—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 335—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 538—La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 551—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney
 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)
 822—Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 879—Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd. (Inst.)

- 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Staugate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
- 1278—Burdett Coutts, Swan Tavern, Bethnal Green Road, E., at 8. (Instruction)
- 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury
- 1306—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
- 1339—Stockwell, Masons' Tavern, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
- 1351—St. Clement Danes, 265 Strand
- 1360—Royal Arthur, Village Club Lecture Hall, W. End Road
- 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst)
- 1445—Prince Leopold, Three Nuns Hotel, Aldgate, E.
- 1539—Surrey Masonic Hall, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
- 1554—D. Connaught, Palmeston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In)
- 1571—Leopold, Austin's Hotel, 7 London Street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse Tavern, Liverpool Road (corner of Theberton Street) N., at 8. (Instruction)
- 1612—West Middlesex, Public Hall, Ealing Dean, at 7.45. (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.)
- 1672—Mornington, London Tavern, Fenchurch-street
- 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)
- 1765—Trinity College, 61 Weymouth Street
- 1790—Old England, Masonic Hall, New Thoroton Heath
- 1791—Creaton, Wheatsheaf Tavern, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush. (Inst)
- 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate
- R.A. 2—St. James's, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- R.A. 174—Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched Friars
- R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
- R.A. 1471—North London, Northampton House, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)
- R.A. 1507—Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
- R.A. 1716—All Saints, Vestry Hall, Fairfield Road, Bow
- M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, at 8. (Inst.)

- 24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle.
- 31—United Industrials, Masonic Room, Canterbury
- 38—Union, Council Chamber, Chichester
- 41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath
- 50—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley, Leicestershire
- 123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire
- 215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
- 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
- 254—Trinity, Craven Arms Hotel, Coventry
- 266—Naphthali, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Heywood
- 269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn
- 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
- 294—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks
- 295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield
- 300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne
- 309—Harmony, Red Lion, Fareham
- 317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
- 346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton-le-Dale, near Blackburn.
- 350—Charity, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough, near Manchester
- 360—Pomfret, Abington Street, Northampton
- 369—Limestone Rock, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Ollthorpe
- 419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel Wolverhampton.
- 425—Cestrian, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester
- 432—Abbey, Newdegate Arms, Nuneaton
- 446—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire.
- 449—Cecil, Sun Hotel, Hitchin
- 456—Foresters, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter
- 462—Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Hotel, Accrington
- 463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
- 509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
- 539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
- 637—Portland, Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent.
- 792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Great Grimsby
- 913—Pattison, Lord Raglan Tavern, Plumstead
- 971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial Street, Bury
- 976—Royal Clarence, Blue Ball, Bruton, Somerset
- 1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire
- 1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kettlewell, West-riding
- 1088—Royal Edward, Commercial Inn, Stalybridge
- 1125—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Tiverton, Devon
- 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Elland
- 1282—Ancholme, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire
- 1284—Brent, Globe Hotel, Topsham, Devonshire
- 1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Horncastle, Lincolnshire
- 1367—Beamister Manor, White Hart Hotel, Beamister
- 1379—Marquess of Ripon, Masonic Hall, Darlington
- 1384—Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes
- 1473—Bootle, Town Hall, Bootle, Lancashire
- 1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich
- 1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkie's Arms Hotel, Pilling, near Burnley
- 1513—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley
- 1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley
- 1530—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
- 1537—St. Giles, Royal Oak Hotel, Choadle
- 1594—Cedewain, Public Rooms, Newtown, Montgomery
- 1639—Watling-street, Cock Hotel, Stoney Stratford, Bucks
- 1770—Vale of White Horse, Savings Bank, Faringdon
- 1807—Loyal Wye, Buiith, Breconshire
- 1817—St. Andrew's, Cambridge Hotel, Shoeburyness
- 1829—Burrell, George Hotel, Shoreham
- 2043—Kendrick, Masonic Hall, Greyfriars Road, Rolling
- 2060—St. Trinians, Masonic Hall, Loch Parade, Douglas, Isle of Man
- R.A. 187—Charity Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
- R.A. 302—Charity, New Masonic Hall, Dariesy-street, Bradford
- R.A. 325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
- R.A. 384—St. John, Bulls Head Inn, Bolton
- R.A. 429—Thanet, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate
- R.A. 758—Bridgwater, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
- R.A. 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
- M.M. 53—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Snettisham

FRIDAY, 2nd MARCH.

- Metropolitan Masonic Benevolent Association, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 8.30
- 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.)
- 706—Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, Wilton Street, Woolwich
- 705—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)
- 890—Hornsey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 1036—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
- 1195—Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 1229—Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone. (Instruction)
- 1275—Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
- 293—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (In)

- 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
- 1627—Royal Kensington, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbrooke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
- 1815—Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
- 2030—The Abbey Westminster, King's Arms, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 2076—Quatuor Coronati, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- R.A.—Pamure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
- R.A. 3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- R.A. 8—British, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London Street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
- R.A. 95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
- R.A. 320—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Improvement)
- R.A. 890—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.
- 127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate
- 219—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden.
- 242—St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster.
- 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
- 442—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Peterborough
- 453—Chigwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Cambridge
- 574—Loyal Berkshire of Hope, White Hart Hotel, Newbury
- 601—St. John, Wrekin Hotel, Wellington, Shrop
- 680—Sefton, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
- 709—Invicta, Bank-street Hall, Ashford
- 837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
- 839—Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester
- 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
- 1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield
- 1333—Atheletan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick.
- 1387—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Green, Cheshire
- 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
- 1528—Fort, Masonic Hall, Newquay, Cornwall.
- 1557—Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hoxham.
- 1561—Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Edward-street, Morecambe, Lancashire.
- 1648—Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Sale-street, Stockport.
- 1664—Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, High-street, Gosforth
- 1725—Douglas, College Gateway, Maidstone
- General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham, at 8
- R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
- R.A. 170—All Souls', Masonic Hall, Weymouth
- R.A. 359—Peace, Freemasons' Hall, Albion Terrace, Southampton
- R.A. 1466—Hova Villa, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton

SATURDAY, 3rd MARCH.

- General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
- 142—St. Thomas, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street
- 179—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)
- 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
- 1672—Carnarvon, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
- 1622—Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
- 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
- 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. 975—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
- 1223—Amherst, Amherst Arms Hotel, Riverhead, near Sevenoaks
- 1362—Royal Albert Edward, Market Hall, Redhill
- 1453—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester
- 1466—Hova Ecclesia, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton
- M.M. 14—Prince Edward's, Station Hotel, Stansfield, Todmorden

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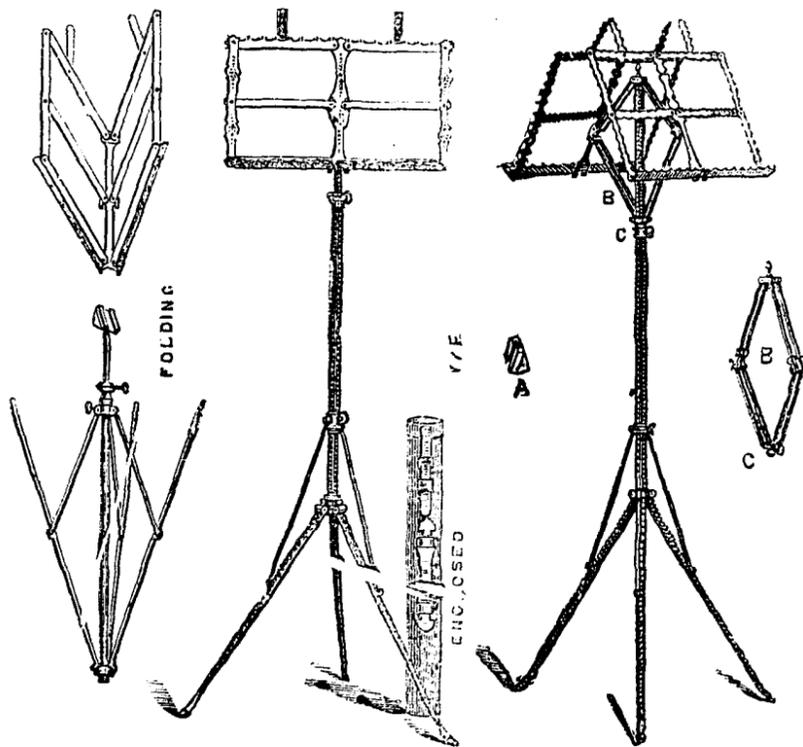
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