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THE "GOULD" TESTIMONIAL.

IN our last issue we published a preliminary announcement in regard to a Testimonial it is proposed to raise to Bro. R. F. Gould, the well-known Masonic writer. It is not often that such a suggestion as is there set forth meets with so much strong support in its earliest days as this proposal has already received, and the hearty manner in which the rulers of the Craft have come forward with their names to swell the Committee list of the Fund induces us to believe that the Testimonial will ultimately assume proportions worthy of the brother for whom it is intended, and become a fitting tribute to the importance of the work he has performed. It would be very difficult to estimate the value of the labour which Bro. Gould has undertaken for Freemasonry, or to gauge the services he has rendered to the literature of the Craft; it may truly be said, in the words of the circular announcing the proposed Testimonial, that since the production of his "History of Freemasonry" "it is no longer possible to affirm, as has been constantly done by foes and friends alike, that the great body of Freemasons are without a reliable and critical history of their society." This being the case, we have at once a fair incentive for our labours, and at the same time—we may almost add—a debt of gratitude to discharge, which the proposal now under consideration affords a ready means of satisfying.

Bro. Gould's latest experience in the field of literature—that in connection with his "History of Freemasonry"—has been of a somewhat disappointing character, and after the great labour and research which he must have undertaken in the compilation of his work, we can well understand how grievous must be the disappointment he now feels. Robbed, by death, of his original publisher—the late Mr. Jack, who was at once a personal and a business friend—he had difficulties to surmount from the outset which under more favourable circumstances might not have arisen, but the most severe blow to his hopes came from the other side the Atlantic, where, as our readers are aware, his work has been reproduced, both without sanction and without bringing him any pecuniary reward. We shall not here attempt any dissertation on the moral obligations which should be recognised as existing among business men throughout the world, irrespective of the actual laws which govern their respective countries. As the matter now stands there is nothing to prevent the reproduction of an English book in America, or of an American book in England; still, while it is thus possible to repay our American cousins in their own coin, it seldom happens that it is possible for the English author whose work has been pirated in America to recoup himself by a similar course in regard to an American publication. But this course is sometimes open, and we know of a case where

it was done, with the result that the American authors, who were the first to transgress, were by far the loudest in complaining, and they were not at all particular in regard to the terms they used in exposing what they were pleased to term the wholesale robbery of which they had been the victims. They even went so far as to forget that they were the original offenders, and as a matter of fact had taken more—both in quantity and quality—than they were deprived of in exchange. Our readers may think we are digressing from our subject, but we recount these facts as—having come under our personal observation—they but strengthen the case which has been made out against the American pirates on behalf of Brother Robert Freke Gould. The fact, however, remains,—after years of labour Bro. Gould finds the naturally to be expected return for his labours taken from him, and when he protests, he is met, not with sympathy, but with actual abuse for having dared to complain of what must be regarded as wholesale robbery, notwithstanding the laws of the respective countries concerned do not recognise it as such. If no other argument could be found in support of the Testimonial which is now being raised to Bro. Gould, we still think this would be sufficient to ensure for it universal sympathy and general co-operation, but there are other matters equally worthy of being taken into account, all of which should conduce to the desired end. First and foremost among them is the fact we have already referred to, that Bro. Gould has removed the stigma that previously attached to the great body of Freemasons, that they were "without a reliable and critical history of their society." This alone should ensure for his Testimonial the support of every brother who takes more than a superficial interest in the Masonic Order. It is one thing to lay claim to a great antiquity, and to boast of the doings of our forefathers, but quite another matter when we are put in the position of proving what we boast of, and are able to silence ridicule or objection by a carefully compiled and well authenticated history. English Freemasons are now in this happy position, that in Bro. Gould's "History" they have a work which enables them to prove statements which had hitherto been open to strong doubt and objection. Is it then asking too much when the members of the Order are invited to support a Testimonial which is proposed as a recognition of this great work, or unreasonable to expect that it will meet a more than local encouragement?

We have so far refrained from mentioning either of the previous works issued by Bro. Gould, but it is not because they are undeserving of commendation. In his "Four Old Lodges," and "The Atholl Lodges," Bro. Gould performed good service to Freemasonry, and we do not think we are disclosing any secret when we say that he has reaped no reward for the labour thus entailed. It must not, however, be thought that we consider this proposed Testimonial as actual payment for the work he has performed. It should

rather be the material evidence of a gratification which we know exists in many quarters, and which we hope only needs the opportunity in order to make itself conspicuous. This we are convinced is the object of those who have started the project, which we trust will be brought to a successful and satisfactory termination.

We may add that individual subscriptions to the Testimonial are limited to one guinea; Lodges and other Bodies being unrestricted in this respect. Contributions to the Fund may be sent to Dr. Ralph Gooding, P.G.D. (Heath Lodge, The Grove, Blackheath, S.E.), the Hon. Secretary and *interim* Treasurer, who will also be pleased to receive the names of any brethren willing to act on the Committee, answer inquiries, or give any information that may be desired.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master presiding. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, Prov. G.M. Hants and the Isle of Wight, acted as Deputy Grand Master, Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett P.G.W. as Senior Warden, and Rev. C. J. Martyn Deputy G.M. Suffolk as Junior Warden. The minutes of the last Communication having been confirmed, Col. Shadwell Clerke Grand Secretary said: Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, I have just read the minutes of the last Grand Lodge, in which is reported the presentation to His Majesty the King of Sweden of a Past Grand Master's clothing. I have now the honour to lay before Grand Lodge a letter, which has been received from His Majesty, acknowledging that present, and with your permission I will read it. It is as follows:—

Stockholm, 12th November 1888.

SIR AND MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER,—With great pleasure I have received the insignia that your Royal Highness, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England, has been graciously pleased to send to me in token of the dignity as Past Grand Master of the said Grand Lodge, with which I was invested during my last sojourn in England.

I pray your Royal Highness and the Grand Lodge to accept my sincere and cordial thanks for this new testimony of the friendly relations that exist between the Grand Lodges of England and Sweden.

I have the honour to remain, your Royal Highness's
faithful Brother and true friend,

OSCAR, V.S.V.,
P.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of England.

To

His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales,
&c., &c., &c., &c.

The Earl of Carnarvon proposed, and Bro. Beach seconded, that the letter from the King of Sweden be entered on the minutes. This motion was carried unanimously.

The Earl of Carnarvon then addressed Grand Lodge, as follows:—

It becomes my duty to submit to you a resolution by command of our Illustrious and Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Some, perhaps, here present may remember that I alluded at our last Quarterly Communication to the possibility of some such reference being made to you, and I doubt not that the general facts are more or less within the knowledge of all who are now present. You will, no doubt, remember that for some time past, Masonry in New South Wales, that great and most flourishing colony, has not presented that unanimity which, as Masons, we could desire to see exhibited by the Craft all over the world. And, brethren, when I, myself, was in the Colony of New South Wales at the commencement of this year, it grieved me to see the disunion and the dissension which existed in so many quarters. It would be alike a painful and an unnecessary task for me to recite or to expatiate upon those dissensions; and all the more that during the last six months, to my infinite satisfaction, those difficulties have cleared away, the dissensions have passed into ancient history, and a new order of things has arisen in the colony. Brethren, it is my good fortune and my great satisfaction this evening to announce to you formally that those dissensions have been closed, and that all the dissentients, as far as I know, whether English, Scottish, or Irish, of those who stood aloof and formed themselves into a separate and dissentient Grand Lodge, all those have combined to unite upon what I believe to be true Masonic principles, and to constitute henceforward a United Grand Lodge of New South Wales. New South Wales has the good fortune to be governed by one of the most popular and successful administrators who could be found, and whom England has sent forth to that great country. In New South Wales I think there is no name that is more popular than that of my noble friend and brother, Lord Carrington. Our Illustrious Grand Master, with that

happy perception of circumstances which characterises him, appointed Lord Carrington District Grand Master of New South Wales and it was very much due, indeed, to that felicitous appointment that the present happy state of things came to pass, for Lord Carrington, being in the position of District Grand Master, was hailed through, the length and breadth of that great land with one unanimous acclaim, as the future Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge. Our Illustrious Grand Master has not withheld his consent, and now the United Grand Lodge has been formed, and Lord Carrington has accepted the position of Master of that Grand Lodge. Brethren, it was but a short time since that his installation took place in Sydney. There are few towns in the New World which are more worthy of admiration than Sydney, with its exquisite harbour; and probably no place in Australia could have been better fitted for such a solemnity. In the Old World, from all that I have heard, Lord Carrington's installation would have been a splendid and a noteworthy event. In the New World of Australia it was absolutely without precedent. Between 400 and 500 Masons, of all ranks and estates, and degrees, and conditions, and kinds, met from all parts of that mighty continent to do him honour who was so well worthy to receive it, and at the same time to lay fit hands upon the foundations of the new United Grand Lodge of New South Wales. And now, brethren, to-night it is my duty, in the name of our illustrious Grand Master, to ask you to confirm that act of our New South Wales brethren, and I cannot doubt that you will readily do so. You, as Englishmen, whether Masons or otherwise, have the wholesome practice of being largely guided by precedent, and the precedents leave us in this matter no option, but identically, I may say, the same state of things arose only three years ago in South Australia. A Grand Lodge was there formed, and it applied to this Grand Lodge, as the Grand Lodge of New South Wales applies to us to-night—for recognition. This Grand Lodge, I think most wisely, following upon the conditions which have been established now, and which have guided us for many years, at once accepted and confirmed the act, and I trust that they will do the same unanimously this evening. I can say from my own experience that the results in South Australia have been very happy. The Grand Lodge there thrives and flourishes; and if the welcome that they gave to me in my capacity of Pro Grand Master can be accepted as any evidence of the strength of the ties of affection, then I have a proof that I could not for one moment doubt that the old loyalty, though turned into a different channel, remains identically the same, and that our brethren in South Australia are as much our brethren as if they were our brethren in West Yorkshire. Our Illustrious Grand Master has fully accepted that principle, because you may remember that at last Grand Lodge I announced to you that His Royal Highness had consented to become the Grand Patron of the Grand Lodge of South Australia. Now, brethren, I have one word more, and only one, to say with regard to this new Grand Lodge of New South Wales. I believe that the vote has been practically—perhaps actually—unanimous. We have not received news of any one single lodge being dissentient on any ground; but there are two or three lodges that have not given in their answers. There are 82 English lodges that have consented, 56 Scotch, and 51 under the dissentient Grand Lodge, and my belief is that there is no one single Lodge throughout the length and breadth of the colony that dissents from the proposal; but it is right, and it is in accordance with all our practice up to this time, that we should reserve the full right of any who may chance to dissent from the vote of the majority. I believe that in this case it is a purely formal act, but it is my duty not the less to mention it and to insist on it. Brethren, I have nothing further to add except to say this, that if we seem to lose from under our control, so to say, the prosperous lodges of the grand Colony of New South Wales, we are losing nothing that we could possibly have retained for one moment against their wish. We are following the analogy of Imperial Administration in this matter. Self-government has been freely and fully accorded, without stint and without reserve, to these great self-governing colonies, and there is no one in England so blind or so mad as to repent that gift. They have repaid it with a feeling of affection and loyalty towards the mother country, and it is my conviction that in the same way we are bound to give freely, generously, and without stint the powers of self-government in Masonic matters to our Masonic brethren in the New World. They deserve it, they are fully capable of using it; and I am convinced that as time goes on we shall find that the ties of Masonic affection have not in the least degree been weakened by that concession. Brethren, I have now, on the part of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, to move "That this Grand Lodge do recognise the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales."

Bro. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar, seconded.

After the very eloquent speech that we have heard, it wants but little, beyond the simple seconding of the proposition, to ensure its acceptance with this Grand Lodge. But the duty devolves upon me, and a most grateful duty it is, to second the proposition to recognise the Grand Lodge of New South Wales. We, as the Grand Lodge of England—the oldest Grand Lodge existing in the world,—when we find the brethren of Lodges owing allegiance to our jurisdiction, and situated in a country where a spontaneous wish of many and divided Masonic authorities has created a Grand Lodge for the district or country, where the creation of such a Grand Lodge is spontaneous and practically unanimous, where it tends to the great cause of Masonic unity, have never in a grudging spirit withheld our recognition or have considered aught but the great interests of the Craft, which we have so much at heart. That the limitation which the Pro Grand Master has expressed is a wise one it is our duty to accede to. No establishment of a new body, however lawful it may be, however much, and however gladly, and however cordially we may recognise it, as we do this new Grand Lodge, can for one moment be held to render unlawful that which was lawful before its creation. Having the honour to hold the position of adviser to this Grand Lodge, I should say it is my duty to inform the brethren that we are bound to protect those who should not feel themselves enabled to join with

the majority. I am sure this Grand Lodge, under the happy circumstances which have been detailed, wishes God speed to the newly-established Grand Lodge—that its foundation may be the foundation of healing all Masonic strifes and differences, and that great colony, separated from us by the breadth of the whole globe, may show by its future history how great, how universal the acceptance of the doctrine of Masonry, and that this one of the offshoots of the Grand Lodge of England may be a worthy scion of its parent. I have the greatest pleasure in seconding this motion.

The resolution having been unanimously approved of, the Earl of Carnarvon said :

Brethren,—Before this subject passes away I have a further communication to make from His Royal Highness, our illustrious Grand Master, which I could not have properly made to you until that vote was taken. The new Grand Lodge of New South Wales has requested His Royal Highness to consent to become the Patron of the Grand Lodge. It is an honorary title, but it marks the feelings of loyalty and affection on the one side, and the position which His Royal Highness ought to occupy on the other. I rejoice to think that His Royal Highness has assented to the request of the New South Wales Grand Lodge, and that as he has become Grand Patron in South Australia so he will be Grand Patron in New South Wales.

Bro. Sir J. E. Gorst, Q.C., Under-Secretary of State for India, W.M. Drury Lane Lodge, then addressed Grand Lodge :—

Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master and Brethren,—I rise for the purpose of nominating our present Illustrious and Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master for the ensuing year. The task which has on this occasion devolved upon me becomes every year in one sense an easier, but in another sense a more difficult one for the brother who has to propose it. It is easier, because as years go by the services which his Royal Highness has rendered to our Craft become more conspicuous and more widely known; and, therefore, the brethren of the Grand Lodge require no argument to induce them to confer upon His Royal Highness the position of Grand Master for another year. But it is more difficult, because the brother who is entrusted with the duty of making this nomination has more difficulty in discovering anything new which he can urge upon the brethren, and he is in this somewhat embarrassing position of having to recommend his Royal Highness in the presence of men far more cognisant of the services which his Royal Highness has rendered and of the qualifications which he has for the high office than the brother who has the nomination to make. I will, therefore, on this occasion confine myself simply to reminding the brethren of the past, and looking forward for one moment to the future. I remind the brethren of the past example which H.R.H. has set to others, which has tended so greatly to the spread of our Craft during the last few years, not only in England and Scotland, but in the Colonies of the English-speaking races throughout the world; and I remind the brethren of the devotion to the Craft, and to the principles of Masonry, which his Royal Highness has in so many conspicuous instances exhibited; and then I look forward for a moment to the future, and I am sure I am expressing the feelings and wishes of every Mason throughout the English-speaking world, when I say that we hope that His Royal Highness will long be spared to take this office upon him year by year, and that it may be a long time before Freemasons have to go further afield and have to look for any other than his Royal Highness for their Grand Master.

The Earl of Carnarvon being obliged to retire early, as he was leaving England the next morning, now left the Lodge, being saluted with loud cheers as he passed down the Temple. Bro. W. W. B. Beach having assumed the chair, Bro. Sir J. R. Somers Vine W.M. Savage Club Lodge, No. 2190, rose and said :

It is my great privilege, as the selected representative of a large and influential Committee, numbering over 700 members of the Craft, and comprising brethren resident in all parts of the country, to nominate, for the high office of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, a brother whom I believe to be universally known, highly esteemed, and eminently qualified to discharge the important duties of that position; I allude to Bro. Edward O'Connor Terry. That brother, Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, entered the ranks of Masonry more than 20 years ago; he was initiated in the Royal Union Lodge, Uxbridge, No. 382; joined the Asaph Lodge, No. 1319, which most of our brethren may know is a Lodge composed mainly of professional gentlemen connected with the liberal arts and sciences, in which he served all the offices, and was installed W.M. in 1877. He also joined the St. Alban's Lodge, No. 29, of which he a Past Master. He is a member of the Savage Club Lodge, of which I am at this moment in the proud position of being Worshipful Master; he has been Treasurer for the last two years. Brother Terry is also a Past First Principal of the Asaph Chapter, and was appointed a Grand Steward in 1885-86, and has been two years a member of the Board of General Purposes; he is a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and Life Governor of the two other Masonic Institutions; he has also served the office of Steward eight times. That, M.W. Sir, I think is a Masonic record which would commend itself to any brother. But, apart from all Masonic associations, I venture to assert that the public and private life of Bro. E. O'Connor Terry is such as should commend him to the unanimous suffrages of the brethren in Grand Lodge. For several years past he has occupied positions of public trust, and he has discharged the duties appertaining to those positions in a manner which has reflected credit on him as a patriotic citizen. He has also the pleasure of being, among those who have his private acquaintance, a most consistent friend, and, therefore, as I said before, in public and in private life he has shown those attributes

which are essential to a good Mason. On those grounds, M.W. Grand Master, I beg to nominate him for the office of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Bro. Ferguson P.M. Domestic Lodge, No. 177, next addressed Grand Lodge as follows :

Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, Grand Wardens, Grand Officers, and Brethren,—I have also to nominate a distinguished Mason for the office of Grand Treasurer of Grand Lodge, a brother who has worked justly and honestly in Masonry for 30 years; one who has worked in founding Lodges, and in keeping those Lodges going in a manner that they have been enabled to supply large sums of money to the Charities. He is not only a brother who exercises charity in general, but he is forward in promoting the same virtue in others. I have very great pleasure in proposing Bro. George Everett, Past Master and Treasurer of the Domestic Lodge; Founder and Past Master of the Kennington Lodge, No. 1381; Founder and Past Master of the Kilburn Lodge, No. 1608, and about seven years its Treasurer; Founder, Past Master, and Treasurer of the Chiswick Lodge, No. 2012. He has not only laboured in Craft Masonry but also in the Royal Arch, where he is Past Z. of the Rose of Denmark Chapter, No. 975; Past Z., Founder, and Treasurer of the Kennington Chapter, No. 1381. Bro. Everett has served the office of Steward five times; he has been the means, as a member of the Lodges with which he has been connected, in subscribing money which they might not have done, and had not done until he was their Treasurer, one of them being the Domestic Lodge, and by the example that he has shown, the brethren themselves have supplied far more to the funds of Grand Lodge of England. He has also made himself a Vice-President of each of the three Masonic Charities. I think a record of services like that shows that this brother is worthy of being elected Grand Treasurer. I have been deputed by the brethren of the various Masonic bodies with which he has been connected to represent to you that we have a perfectly worthy brother among us, one whose merits have been pretty well explained by what he has done. I might say that he is an independent man; free from the anxieties and cares of business; and with these qualifications, as I have laid them before you, I am sure you will think him a proper person for the office of Grand Treasurer.

Bro. Beach having inquired whether there was any other nomination for the office? and receiving no reply, said the next business was the appointment and investiture of the President of the Board of Benevolence, to which office, the Most Worshipful Grand Master had appointed Bro. Robert Grey. Brother Grey P.G. Deacon was then re-invested as President of the Board of Benevolence amidst loud applause, after which the acting Grand Master announced that Bro. James Brett P.G.P. had been re-elected Senior Vice-President, and Bro. Charles Alexander Cottebrune P.G.P. Junior Vice-President of the Board, and that the brethren whose names we gave last week were elected the twelve Past Masters to serve thereon. The recommendations of the Board of Benevolence for grants from Grand Lodge having been approved of, the report of the Board of General Purposes was adopted.

Bro. John F. H. Woodward, P. Grand Sword Bearer, in moving the proposition standing in his name, said :—

As far as he was aware, this was the only rule in the Book of Constitutions that worked badly. In his Province of Middlesex several Secretaries of Lodges had written to him to know what course they should take. The rule, as at present framed, threw on the Master and Secretary of a Lodge the onus of proving that a brother summoned had received the notice, and if he appealed to the Board of General Purposes, the Board would rightly require the Secretary to prove the brother had received the notice in accordance with the requirements. If the notice when posted was registered, that would be proof.

Bro. Beavis seconded the motion, upon which Bro. Brackstone Baker said he objected to tinkering the Book of Constitutions. If there was any difficulty about Rule 210, Rule 211 would set it right. If a brother could show he never had notice, he could not be excluded. If he was excluded he could appeal, and the Board of General Purposes would reinstate him. Bro. Philbrick advised the brethren not to make the alteration, and Bro. T. Fenn supported, after which the motion was put, and lost. Bro. Philbrick brought up an appeal by the Star in the East Lodge, No. 918, Queenstown, South Africa, against a ruling of the District Grand Master of South Africa (E.D.) cancelling a sentence of exclusion passed by the Lodge on a brother for alleged Masonic offences. The brother in question had been excluded by his Lodge because he belonged to, and was the Master of, a Scottish Lodge in the same district, and had said he should induce candidates and joining members to join that Lodge. The District Grand Master cancelled the sentence of exclusion, and the Lodge appealed. Bro. Philbrick advised that the appeal should be dismissed. There was nothing un-Masonic in a brother in an English Lodge being a member of a Scotch or Irish Lodge. Bro. Fenn seconded the motion, and the appeal was dismissed, the District Grand Master's decision being upheld. Grand Lodge was then closed.

BROTHER SADLER'S ANSWER TO BRO. JACOB NORTON'S

"COMMENTS ON FACTS AND FICTIONS."

SEEING that Brother Norton has started a fresh subject in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, I may fairly assume that for the present he has finished his "Comments" on my recently published work. If that be really so, I am rather sorry, for although our critical brother has been most unsparing in his denunciation of the "Ancients," and Laurence Dermott in particular, his observations on the contents of the book are like angels' visits, "few and far between." I shall hereafter direct his attention to one or two points on which I particularly wish for his opinion, but I have first to thank him for having acceded to my request,—although contrary to his own inclination,—and the simple fact that I am now endeavouring to answer his arguments should sufficiently evince that I am not in the least offended with him for his inability to agree with me in this matter. He, I am sure, will not take amiss anything I may say in so doing, for while condemning his logic I cannot help admiring his pluck. Being pretty familiar with Brother Norton's views on the subject of the "Ancients," and also his antipathy to their leader, I felt some little curiosity as to how he would dispose of some of my "facts," although I was not much surprised when he informed me that he was not a convert to my theory, but when I afterwards learnt that he had only read a portion of the book, it seemed to me that he was scarcely doing himself, or even the author, justice in thus expressing a decided opinion on the merits of a theory with which he had only a partial acquaintance. Indeed, it savoured so much of prejudice, and so nearly resembled a verdict of guilty without having heard the evidence, that I strongly urged him to read the book carefully through, and then let me know his views. He says he has now done as I wished him, but his opinion is unchanged, and I am bound to believe him, although I must confess to some little doubt as to his having kept in view the adjective in my request. However, assuming that he has given the book a fair amount of attention, his mode of disposing of the facts referred to has evidently been the very common one of shutting his eyes to them, or, at all events, he has not thought them worthy of notice.

After reading Brother Norton's first "Comments," in the CHRONICLE, No. 719, I was forcibly reminded of the practice popularly imputed to gentlemen of the legal profession when they have a weak case to defend, *i.e.*, abuse the plaintiff's witnesses; and having now read the whole of his dissertation, I am of opinion that he has adhered to this practice most assiduously. It is not unlikely that my inexperience as a writer has led to some misunderstanding as to the exact nature of the theory with which Brother Norton is unable to agree, for he appears to have entirely lost sight of it. It is not that "Dermott and his seventy or more associates of 1751 and 1752" were "Masonic saints of the highest standard," not even that Dermott himself was a Hebrew scholar and an educated gentleman, who never under any circumstances deviated from "the vantage ground of truth." I cannot therefore quite see how I have "totally failed" in doing that which I never attempted. I say that when elected Grand Secretary he was a journeyman painter, and I have plainly shown that those who aided him in forming a Grand Lodge were chiefly mechanics, shopkeepers and labourers, but I must beg to differ most strongly with Brother Norton in his estimation of Dermott's character, especially when he would have us believe that he was a *forger*, as well as "the most shameless, impudent, and unscrupulous story-teller of all" Masonic historians or writers.

In order to prevent misconception in future, I will state as briefly as possible what my theory is, although I was certainly under the impression that I had already made it sufficiently clear on pp 4, 128 and 197 of the work under discussion. I feel somewhat diffident about quoting verbatim passages out of my own book, and should prefer to avoid so doing wherever possible. Under present circumstances it will doubtless be sufficient if I state that one of the two Masonic bodies which in 1813 formed the United Grand Lodge of England has been credited by every one who has written on the subject since the year 1776 with having originally seceded from the other body (but the how, when and wherefore of this occurrence has hitherto been an open question), and that they have been invariably referred to as "*Seceders*," "*Schismatics*," or "*so-called Ancients*."

This, I say, is "the greatest fiction in the history of English Masonry." My contention is that we have no right to apply these epithets to them, for there is not the shadow of a proof, nor has there ever been, that any considerable number of them at any time owned allegiance to the regular Grand Lodge of England established in 1717; that in fact they were Irish Masons, who in consequence of the doors of the English Lodges being closed against them had assembled in Lodges of their own formation, perfectly independent of any authority but that of their own selection until they felt themselves strong enough, and circumstances being favourable, to organise themselves into a Grand Lodge, which they did in the year 1752. Therefore, in my opinion, we are no more justified in stigmatising them as "*Seceders*" or "*Schismatics*" than we should be in applying these appellations to certain tradesmen who, coming from a distant town, set up in business in one where there was already a firm carrying on a similar concern. This is my principal argument. Now, with regard to the term "*Ancients*," which former writers have applied in the kind of left-handed way indicated, I look upon this as a matter of merely secondary importance, and have so treated it in my book. What I say on this point, on page 196, in referring to the Ancients is, that "having kept alive and continued to observe so many of the old customs of the Order they had a stronger title to the appellation of '*Ancients*' than has been generally accorded them;" and on page 140 "I am inclined to think that undue importance is attached to those designations, and that when the '*Ancients*,' or Irish Masons, first applied the term '*Moderns*' to the adherents of the regular Grand Lodge they were actuated more by a desire of making what they doubtless considered a just and necessary distinction between the two societies than of using the words in a derogatory sense. It was not till their prosperity and influence attracted notice, and the officials of the rival community were called upon by their own members to answer rather awkward questions, that the bitterness of strife began, and the words '*Ancient*' and '*Modern*' became really important expressions." I must take exception to one or two of Brother Norton's "*Comments*" which seem to me to require some explanation. For instance, he says the first five or six lodges of the "*Ancients*" were dubbed "*Time Immemorial*." May I ask him who so described them? I certainly did not; neither can I find that they themselves claimed any such distinction. Again he says: "they had no right to pretend to antiquity, or to the name of '*Ancients*.'" With Bro. Norton's definition of what strictly speaking *should be* "the line of demarcation between *Ancient* and *Modern* Masons" I quite agree, but I think he will concede that Dermott and his associates had, at any rate, as good a title to call themselves "*Ancient Masons*" as their rivals had to call themselves "*Most Ancient*," and as many other Masonic bodies of much more recent formation have to arrogate to themselves the name of *Ancient*. And as for their having "no right," &c., I fancy a good many of us do that which we have no right to do even in these enlightened days. For instance, Bro. Norton has no right to say: "Bro. Sadler, however, never saw a Warrant of the '*Ancients*' older than 1772;" but he has said it nevertheless, and more than that he has printed it, an evident proof that he has not *carefully read* "*Masonic Facts and Fictions*," or he would have seen, on page 189, these words, "I have before me two original Warrants of the '*Ancients*,' one granted in 1757, the other in 1759, and they contain no mention of *Prince Edwin*, nor even the '*Old Constitutions*.'" "

If my old friend will remind me when next we meet I shall have much pleasure in showing him these two documents. For the present he must content himself with the transcript appended, and if he finds the word "*York*" in it I will readily forgive him the false accusation.

(To be continued.)

THE LION'S PAW.

(Concluded from page 339.)

THUS far I have repeated very briefly an explanation of the Lion's Paw. Our ancient brethren, when they saw the clouds moving in opposite directions, imagined that the gods above were pulling the cows home by their tails. So I see in this emblem a reference even to the sun itself.

It has a deep significance as it relates to the primitive days of Osiris. By great strength and perseverance was the body recovered as the legend records it. Later on, by the strong grip, was the body of the Master Builder raised, for reasons so well known to every Craftsman. A thousand years later Jesus of Nazareth gave us additional lessons upon the real nature of the Lion's Paw.

It means life, death, and resurrection. It required great strength to preach the doctrine of the new dispensation to the people of Herod's day. To my mind this is the real definition of the emblem now under consideration. Its use is to lift up. Not by ordinary means; we must have something far more powerful. It needs the strength of the lion.

This was fully demonstrated in the life of our Saviour. He met death to accomplish the purpose of His mission.

The good principles of Masonry lift a man up to a higher appreciation of life and the future.

By the excellent precepts he sees beyond the veil. He is reminded that the great object of life is to prepare for the better one. Masonry is strictly a progressive system of morality. All this is demonstrated in the speculative journey through the various degrees and ceremonies. Even after the aspirant has travelled almost over the whole distance, and he thinks that he is nearly at the top of the ladder, he is told that the most critical part is yet to come, and that there is doubt of his being equal to the emergency.

The person that carefully considers this ceremonial and all its teachings will discover immediately that it refers to the most important period of a man's life.

Is not this a lesson on strength, and an exceedingly important one? Does it not admonish the Craftsman that Masonry can only be attained by great fortitude and perseverance? By this I mean to attain what is called ideal Masonry, for I still claim that it is not every brother that fully comprehends what is the real significance of the term Master Mason, as we use it in this far advanced age, as it relates to our Ancient and Honourable Order. What I call the ideal Mason is not the man whose zeal for the Order seems to be unlimited, who rushes into it blindly, and who appears to perform very promptly and willingly every duty that comes within the sphere of his labours.

The man who cannot swim and yet would jump into the water to save a drowning man would be called brave, but the man who would make a similar move, with such preparation as makes success assured, would very properly be called heroic. And so it is with the neophyte in Masonry. He has reason to doubt and to tremble, and even to fear that he may not reach the summit of his ambition. These qualifications just named are the experiences of all ideal patrons. It is right at this point that strength of purpose is requisite. And this is the mission of the Lion's Paw.

In St. Matthew this verse is recorded, which has especial reference to the thought now under consideration: "And he went a little further and fell on his face and prayed, saying, 'O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.'"

I do not repeat this verse to explain a scriptural truth in the connection that it is generally used, but to illustrate that even the most zealous and sincere have their doubts as to their ability to accomplish fully their purpose. Here is positive evidence that the Son of Man, now on the verge of betrayal, actually lost His courage and fell on His face to appeal for help, which act has left the future ages an everlasting lesson of fear and doubt.

The remedy for success is that of devotion, as clearly portrayed in the illustration just quoted.

I look upon Masonry as somewhat of primitive design. We cannot term it otherwise, and this comes readily by comparison with ancient times. Compare the ancient Egyptian system with our own and the similarity will be surprising. They worshipped certain animals with a zeal that was ardent, and while to all appearances it would seem that the animal itself was the one worshipped, yet it was the benefit conferred upon the nation by the particular animal that was really the object of the veneration.

It is in this view that we must look at those old systems, as well as the great system of mythology. A perusal of the standard works of Masonic literature will readily confirm what I have just stated.

It is in a similar spirit that we adore the plain, simple working tools of Masonry, not as implements of toil, but for the lessons that their uses signify. I imagine, as I look

back into the remote ages, when man depended entirely upon the strength of his hands, that the lion's paw was regarded by him as something of great power. Before the ages of mechanical arts the lion was the strongest known thing, hence, in hieroglyphical language, power and majesty are represented by this particular animal. Strength was highly esteemed by the ancients. Coriolanus was condemned to death, but he was so strong that no one could arrest him, and the result was that the sentence was changed to banishment.

What relation, may be asked, has the lion to Masonry? Of course it is used only in the symbolic sense. Oliver gives this explanation: "The lion was a symbol of Jeremiah, because of the terrible voice of his threatenings, and of St. Mark, because the gospel begins with the voice in the wilderness; but principally of Christ, who is denominated the lion of the tribe of Judah, and will ultimately subdue all things to Himself, for He must reign till He has put all His enemies under His feet."

If we very carefully study our moral system of Masonry we will discover that it is very closely interwoven with the religion of the "Great Light."

In the early ages it is said there were two important divinities, one the good principle, and the other the evil principle. A sharp war took place between these two personages, and the result was the good principle got the better. As a retaliation the other principle scattered over the earth all sorts of evils and miseries. Here comes in the mission of Masonry. I firmly believe that it is a part of the programme of the Supreme Architect that this society should exist and do just the work that it is now performing. Only our interest should be so strong that greater results should be achieved.

Some writers place the birth of Masonry in the second stone age, and this age, which was of two thousand years' duration, ended about the age of Abraham. If this is correct, it had its origin among the strong men; hence it is easily understood why strength occupies so important a part in Masonry. It is so in the operative world and also the same in the speculative. In erecting the temple there must be entire soundness and firmness in all its parts, and the same rule holds good with the mystic temple. Freemasonry, in the speculative sense, must be guided by the same rules that govern the operative system. The story or drama of the Lion's Paw is a myth, and as such cannot be strictly relied upon. Like William Tell and many other myths, their origin is lost in obscurity. It is hardly a century ago that a being thought to be the Wandering Jew was supposed to be traversing the earth. He refused to let the Saviour rest, and, in obedience to the curse, has wandered over the globe ever since. When he reaches the allotted age of man he is transformed into a youth, and so suffers again for a refusal of the characteristic which is one of the fundamental principles of Freemasonry. Of course, this seems absurd to us, but who can deny it?

Myths were the products of ages anterior to printing. Then everything was told orally; now it is recorded. By the wonderful progress of mechanical art we have outlived the system of myths, hence it is that many reject the myth of the Lion's Paw as it relates to the legend of the third degree.

My conclusion is that to ascertain the real significance of this symbol, we must delve deep into the pages of antiquity. A perusal of the Ancient Mysteries will point out to us very many of the present forms of Freemasonry. The Persian Mysteries of Mithras especially convey the very ideas and forms somewhat similar that we use to-day in unfolding the history associated with the Lion's Paw.

I therefore give a very broad significance to this myth as referring to the movements of the planets which give us the seasons. All the myths and fables are supposed to refer directly to the origin first named, and the characters introduced are simply the creations of enthusiastic minds of remote antiquity.

I think we can reject all uncertainties as irrelevant to the cause of Masonry, as we find it to-day, and ask ourselves, "What is a Craftsman's duty?"

"If we live righteously, the way to heaven is open to us. If we wipe away the tear from the orphan's cheek, and bring him up to virtue and to God—if we make the widow's heart to sing for joy—if we cheer our worthy aged and infirm brother in his onward passage to the grave, we shall have cause to rejoice in the testimony of our conscience, that in all simplicity and godly sincerity we have had our conversation with the world." Such is

the higher mission of Masonry, and the manner of its attainment lies through the instrumentality of the Lion's Paw. It is certainly a symbol of strength, and our part in the drama of life is to carry out thoroughly all the lessons and teachings of this significant emblem.

—*Freemason's Journal.*

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

—:—

HOWARD LODGE OF BROTHERLY LOVE, No. 56.

THE members met at the Town Hall, Arundel, on the 15th ult., for the installation of Bro. J. H. Longman as W.M. The ceremony of installation was impressively rendered by Bro. T. V. Paxton, the retiring Master. The W.M. then proceeded to invest the following Officers for the year:—Bros. Goss S.W., Holmes J.W., Collings Treasurer, Price Secretary, Foster S.D., Tisdall J.D., Pitts I.G., Dixon Steward, Robertson Tyler. The banquet was held at the Norfolk Arms Hotel, and was attended by the brethren of the Lodge and a number of guests.

JOPPA LODGE, No. 188.

THIS Lodge held a meeting on Monday last, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street. Bros. M. Lion W.M., Botibol S.W., Gardner J.W., L. Lazarus P.M. Secretary, Lyons Treasurer, J. Meyers S.D., H. Lazarus J.D., Saqui I.G., Garrard Steward; P.M.'s Abrahams, Dewsnap, Wall, J. B. Dodson, &c.; Bros. Carrociero, Thomas, Thomas, Phillips, A. Botibol, Cohen, J. Davis, Weigel, Van Vollen, Jonas, Ansell, L. Isaacs, Joseph Josephs, Rosenburg, Wynman, Franks, Harward, Chamberlain, &c. Visitors—Bros. N. Lyons 185, Herschell 1662. The Lodge was opened and the minutes of last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Ernest Davis was re-elected. Bro. Carrociero answered the questions leading to the second degree, and was passed. Bros. Cohen and Phillips were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Both ceremonies were excellently performed by the W.M. The annual elections now took place; Brother Botibol was elected W.M., Brother Lyons re-elected Treasurer, and the Tyler was re-appointed. Brothers L. Isaacs, Weigel, Barns, Thomas and Jonas were elected to serve on the Board of Management; Bros. Barns and Weigel as Auditors; the following eight brethren were chosen to serve on the Board of Benevolence:—Bros. J. Meyers, H. Lazarus, Barns, Jonas, Rocco, Dodson, Thomas, and Hart. Bros. Saqui and Ansell were elected to act as the Auditors to the Board of Benevolence. It was proposed by Brother Alexander that a jewel should be presented on the installation night to the I.P.M., Bro. Lion. This was seconded by Bro. Dodson, and unanimously agreed to. After other business the Lodge was closed. We congratulate Bro. M. Lion on his having so successfully passed through his year of office.

DEVONSHIRE LODGE, No. 625.

THE brethren celebrated the festival of St. John the Evangelist on Thursday, 22nd ult. In the afternoon they assembled in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Glossop. The most attractive feature of the meeting was the installation of W.M. elect for the ensuing year (Bro. Alfred Walker) and the investiture of his Officers. The installing master was Bro. J. E. Steward P.M. 336 P.P.G.J.D. Cheshire. He was assisted by Bro. the Rev. J. Walker W.M. 1427, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Brothers G. E. Cox P.M. P.P.G.S.D., and Albert Andrew W.M. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Norfolk Arms Hotel, where a dinner had been prepared.

ST. PETER LODGE, No. 1024.

AFTER the usual monthly meeting on Tuesday, 20th ult., the brethren adjourned to the King's Head Hotel, Maldon, where the annual supper was served in excellent style. The W.M., Bro. A. Barritt, presided, and was supported by about 30 brethren and visitors. Among the latter were Bro. Thos. J. Ralling P.M. 51, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., Pro. Gr. Sec., and W. Strutt Treas. 1997. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured; and one which, perhaps, excited as much enthusiasm as any was the health of Bro. Joseph Sadler, Mayor of Maldon, our Senior Warden, which was proposed in felicitous terms by the W.M., and ably responded to by his Worship, who heartily thanked the brethren for the very cordial manner in which his name had been received by them. Songs were contributed during the evening by Bros. J. P. Lewiu, W. Gowers, Francis Birt, and Bros. Rev. H. Venn-Ellis (Chaplain), H. T. Baker, R. Orttewell, and C. F. Rush.

ZETLAND LODGE, No. 1071.

A REGULAR meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Alexandra-square, Saltash, on the 3rd instant, to instal Bro. W. R. Rawling S.W. as Worshipful Master for the year ensuing. The Installing Officer was the retiring W.M. Bro. R. C. Revell, whose rendering of the ceremony was very impressive. The Board of Installed Masters being closed, the Officers were invested as follows:—Bros. Revell I.P.M., Nancarrow S.W., Shaddock J.W., Herring P.M. Chaplain, Pearce P.M. Treasurer, Deeble P.M. Secretary, Lander S.D. Netting J.D., Meadows I.G., Rawling Dir. of Cers., Prout and Hunt Stewards, John Deeble Tyler.

WALDON LODGE, No. 1280.

THE annual festival took place at the Rose and Crown Hotel, Saffron Walden, on Tuesday, 20th ult., when the installation of Bro. the Rev. T. Stevens, M.A., Vicar of Saffron Walden, took place,

the ceremony being performed by Bro. F. H. Bennett W.M. There were about 20 members present, who afterwards sat down to an excellent dinner, served by Host Payne.

EVENING STAR LODGE, No. 1719.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on Wednesday, 28th ult., when Bro. Joseph Francis Porter, M.D., was installed as Worshipful Master. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the ceremony of the day was proceeded with, Bro. Wm. Sugg P.M. acting as Installing Officer, and Bro. T. A. Greene P.M. delivering the addresses. Bro. Glaisher P.M. P.G.D. having been re-invested as Treasurer, the following were appointed the Officers for the year:—Bros. T. H. Martin S.W., Wm. Liddall J.W., C. T. Porter, D.D., Chaplain, Magnus Ohren P.M. P.G.A.D.C. Secretary, W. King S.D., David Wm. Sugg J.D., Wm. Sugg P.M. Director of Ceremonies, Wm. A. M. Valon I.G., Hubert T. Bailey and Andrew Stephenson Stewards. Bro. Banks was re-elected as Tyler, and duly invested, after which the addresses were given and the ceremony regularly brought to a conclusion. It was proposed by Bro. Glaisher, and carried unanimously, that a P.M.'s jewel to the value of £10 be presented to the retiring W.M., Bro. Edward Hide, as a mark of respect from the members. Other matters of business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was presided over by the newly-installed Master. Among the visitors were Bros. G. St. Clair W.M. 2060, J. A. Reed P.M. 1228, G. Fawcett Past S.W. 1064, J. B. Chamberlain S.W. 1364, J. H. Pearon P.M. 1567, W. Westcott 1827, C. M. Ohren P.M. 452, H. F. Bromhead J.D. 1662, Hawk W.M. 1745, A. Martin 1599, E. D. Sapey S.D. 1141, H. D. Chatterton S.W. 1494, W. G. Lewin P.M. 1601, H. J. Dutton 1706, H. Rogers 1567, O. Yearsley 1319, E. Wharton 1319, H. E. Cockell J.W. 507, J. A. Butt 74, W. W. Morgan P.M. 211, A. H. Bird P.M. 1567. At the conclusion of the banquet, and after grace, the Worshipful Master proceeded to propose the usual toasts. Her Majesty the Queen was a noble ruler, who had evidenced the sympathy of a wife, a mother, and a universal friend to her subjects. In proposing the health of the Grand Master, Bro. Porter considered the Masonic Craft ought to be very proud to know the interest taken by His Royal Highness in the Order. The Prince of Wales came forward whenever he was required to do anything for the good of his country and his brother Masons. This was particularly evidenced during the Jubilee year, when he took an active part in the various grand ceremonies that were organised. The third toast on their list—that of the Grand Officers—particularly commended itself to the members of the Lodge, inasmuch as they had two Grand Officers on their roll, Bros. Glaisher, their Treasurer, and Bro. Ohren, their Secretary. Bro. Glaisher, he might say, was really their trump card. He was in fact the Grand Old Man of the Evening Star Lodge, and possessed a power of juvenility that many a much younger man might envy. To Bro. Magnus Ohren it would be his province to refer later on. Here he might say that every one knew him as an efficient Grand Officer. Bro. Glaisher, after tendering his thanks for the way in which his name had been honoured, acknowledged the compliment that had been paid to the working heads of the Craft and the Grand Officers generally. He felt flattered by the reference which had been made to his activity, and assured them that if love for his fellow man was a sign of juvenility he was yet a boy. Bro. Edward Hide the I.P.M. proposed the health of the Master, who suitably responded, and then gave the Visitors, which was acknowledged by Bros. St. Clair and Sapey. The past Masters were next complimented, and a reply having been given to the toast, the trio—the Chaplain, the Treasurer, and the Secretary—was proposed. The Worshipful Master felt he might say that each of them was quiet in his action, but firm and consistent in the discharge of his duty. Bro. Porter, Chaplain, made a very humorous speech in reply. His brother, the Worshipful Master, had devoted himself to the practice of Medicine, while he had gone to the Church. There was an old saying that the clever men went in for medicine and the fools went to the Church. He left his hearers to judge how far this applied in the case of himself and their Worshipful Master. The toast of the Officers was acknowledged by the Senior Warden, and that of the Charities by Bro. Magnus Ohren, shortly after which the proceedings were brought to a conclusion.

ROBINSON LODGE, No. 2046.

THE installation banquet of Bro. John Beavis Groom W.M. took place at the Bell Hotel, Week-street, Maidstone, on Wednesday, the 14th ult. An excellent repast was served by Mr. W. W. Frost, the guests' seats at the tables being indicated by cards in the novel design of trowels. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. the Rev. T. Robinson. After the ceremony the W.M. invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. Wright I.P.M., Larden S.W., Stonham J.W., Dann Treasurer, Welsh, M.D., P.M. Secretary, McVicar S.D., Galpin J.D., Whyman Organist, Dickinson I.G., Simmonds D.C., Wind Steward, Gowen Tyler, Ker P.M. Charity Rep. The W.M. then presented Bro. Wright with a handsome P.M.'s jewel. It was also decided, on the proposition of Bro. George Ker, seconded by Brother Wright, that a Secretary's jewel should be presented to Bro. G. Hurn, for his services as Secretary to the Lodge. There were several brethren present from the Belvidere Lodge, No. 603, including Bros. Elmore, Appleyard, Wallis, and several others.

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No. 65.—The annual supper was held on Tuesday, the 27th ult. Bro. D. Moss P.M. 1275 Preceptor presided, Bro. Roberts P.M. 65 occupying the vice chair. There were present Bros. Lashbrooke Treasurer, Cary S.D. 1625 Secretary, B. Da Costa S.D. 1349, L. Da Costa S.W. 1349, Stone 192, Fisher 192, Sarson 192, Hancock 192, B. Valentine, A. Valentine, Simmons, Holmes, Rouse, Waterman, Jarrams, Corry 392. The usual toasts were given, and a pleasant evening was enlivened by songs.

Joppa Lodge of Instruction, No. 188.—At the meeting on Tuesday, the 27th ult., at the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C., there were present Bros. Thom Preceptor, E. Ansell W.M., F. Jones S.W., Garrard J.W., Saqui Secretary, Poynter S.D., Dodd J.D., Lockstone I.G.; Poppmacher, Cohen, Goodidge, Marcus and Marks. The work comprised the rehearsal of the initiation ceremony, Bro. Poppmacher candidate. Bro. Thom assisted the brethren to work the 2nd and 3rd sections of the lecture.

A new Lodge of Instruction was opened at the Masonic Hall, Grays, on Tuesday last, in connection with the Lodge of St. John, N. 1353, when Bro. P.M. Atkins gave the explanation of the first tracing board. The Lodge will meet every Tuesday evening, at 7.30.

THE "THESPIANS" DRAMATIC CLUB.

A CAPITAL Smoking Concert was given at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Wednesday, 27th ult., Bro. Harry Price in the chair. This club, which was established about twenty years ago, has during its existence contributed upwards of £1000 to various charities, out of sums realised by entertainments given by its members, who are connected with the firm of Copestake, Lindsay and Co., Bow-churchyard. A lengthy programme was gone through; this included Fred. Stephen's unexpected appearance with "Gilhooley's Supper Party," Mr. Pearce's "Daddy," and "The Children's Home," Bro. Alfred Probert's "Tom Bowling," Arthur Court's "Gwendoline," James Akers's "Thy Sentinel am I," Thom's "My Queen," Gray's "Quite English," James Robinson's pianoforte selection, Walter Abbott's violin solo, and Mr. Rogers's brace of humorous recitations, "The Wail of the Standard Bearer," and "De Dog and De Lobster." The junior member of the Club, Mr. A. Gooding, offered the company a taste of his quality on this occasion, and gave a very capable rendering of a selection from the "Lady of Lyons." We may also particularise a song by Mr. Harden, "Finecule, Finicula," and Mr. Catchpole's "Jack's Message," as especially worthy of notice.

A special General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday—Bro. Frank Richardson in the chair—for the purpose of considering and, if approved, adopting the following recommendation of the General Committee, viz. :—

That the Centenary Committee be empowered to accept Messrs. Haden and Son's estimate for Warming and Ventilating the whole of the Building, in three sections, as under :—

1. New Wing—	
Warming, Ventilation, and Hot Water	£1,572 16 0
2. Centenary Hall, Corridors, &c.—	
Warming and Ventilation...	£748 0 0
3. Whole of Existing Building—	
Warming and Ventilation	£1,364 10 0
	£3,685 6 0

Exclusive of Builders' Work, say £4,000 in all.

After discussion, the resolution was received and adopted.

The first volume of a History of Freemasonry in New York, by Charles T. McClenahan, has been published by the Grand Lodge of that State. It embraces the history of the Grand Lodge from its formation in 1781, and a sketch of each Lodge under its jurisdiction. This record is preceded by a short account of Masonry in England, Scotland, Ireland, and several continental countries, together with an outline of the origin of the institution in the thirteen colonies of the Union. The present volume comprises the first division of the history, and relates to Masonry as existing at home and abroad prior to the granting of the Grand Warrant to the Fraternity of New York, in 1781, and including sketches of the individual Lodges, the institution of which preceded that of the Grand Lodge. The work contains several steel portraits, and is handsomely printed.

We have received from Messrs. Hamilton, Hills and Co., 22 Paternoster-row, London, E.C., specimens of Masonic Christmas greeting cards. These would be found most useful among members of the Craft at the present season. Before now, however, we have pointed out that the Masonic apron on these little souvenirs should have the Master's levels in lieu of the three rosettes. The principal use of these greeting cards is for the Worshipful Master of a Lodge to send one to each of his members at the festive season, and when used for such a purpose the rosettes on the apron are not "in form." Still this is a matter of detail, which does not actually detract from the beauty and general usefulness of the card, and no doubt it will be remedied in future issues. As they stand we can heartily recommend the cards of Messrs. Hamilton, Hills and Co. to all who make a point of sending Christmas greetings to their Masonic friends and thereby help to sustain one of the time-honoured customs of the holiday season.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT are particularly recommended to persons who have to pass their lives in confined and crowded places; hundreds of thousands of our fellow-creatures toil from morning until evening in factories and workshops to the detriment of their health, and the deterioration of the race. They suffer in consequence from indigestion, flatulence, and want of appetite, and these complaints, if neglected, bring about nervousness and failure of the vital powers. Holloway's remedies can be used by such sufferers to their very great advantage, as they are mild in action and certain in their effects. No one need, therefore, lose a day's work when using them—a matter of consequence to those whose daily bread depends on daily toil.

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Mr. G. EADE. March 19, 1887.
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IN the opinion of many Brethren, the time has arrived when the long-continued services of Bro. ROBERT FREKE GOULD, P.G.D., to the literature of the Craft merit a more than passing acknowledgment. Entering this field of labour so far back as 1858, he was for many years a contributor to the Masonic Journals, but he will be best known as the author of "The Four Old Lodges;" "The Atholl Lodges;" and last, though not least, of "The History of Freemasonry," which is admitted by all authorities to be the ablest and best Masonic work ever written. Since its production, it is no longer possible to affirm, as has been constantly done by foes and friends alike, that the great body of Freemasons are without a reliable and critical history of their society.

It is hoped that the brethren whose names are subjoined may prove to be the pioneers of a movement which will show to Bro. GOULD that the long years of study and research which he has devoted to the interest of Freemasonry are deemed worthy of substantial recognition by the Craft Universal, who in this way will best evince a genuine appreciation of his unexampled labours.

In pursuance of the above object the undermentioned brethren have therefore formed themselves into a Committee.

Individual subscriptions (but not those of Lodges or other Bodies) are limited to One Guinea.

Contributions to the Fund may be sent to Dr. RALPH GOODING, P.G.D., Hon. Sec. and *ad interim* Treasurer, Heath Lodge, The Grove, Blackhsath, S.E., and will be duly acknowledged.

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The Right Hon. the EARL of EUSTON,

R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Norths and Hunts.

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.

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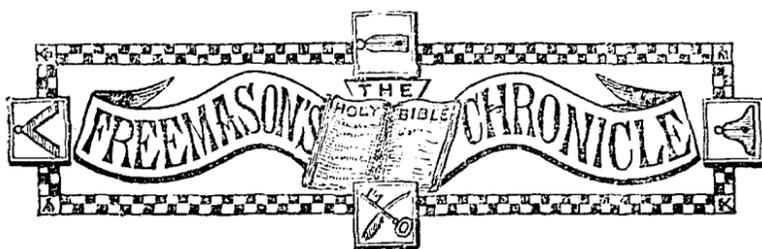
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PROV. GRAND LODGE OF WILTSHIRE.

THE annual meeting took place at the Town Hall, Swindon, on Thursday, 22nd November 1888, being held under the banner of the Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation, No. 355. The Provincial Grand Master, Lord

Methuen, was unavoidably prevented from attending, and in his absence the chair was filled by R. W. Bro. Bro. Sir Gabriel Goldney P.G. Warden England, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, who was supported by the following Provincial Grand Officers and brethren:—H. J. Birch as S.W., W. J. Mann J.W., Rev. J. A. Lloyd Grand Chaplain England as Chaplain, F. H. Goldney Treasurer, B. H. Watts Registrar, Harry Bevir Secretary, F. Griffin S.D., John Bryant J.D., G. J. Farrington Superintendent of Works, J. Chandler Past P.G.S.W. Director of Ceremonies, E. Jones Assistant Director of Ceremonies, W. H. Burt as Sword Bearer, W. S. Bambridge, Mus. Bac., Organist, J. Green as Pursuivant; and also by H. C. Tombs P.G.D. England, Alfred Plummer Past P.G.J.W., T. Ringer P.P.G.J.W., W. H. Brinkworth P.P.G. Organist, &c., &c. The Provincial Grand Lodge was attended by Brother Henry Wilson P.P.G.J.W. Worcester, and Brother William Parnell P.P.G.S.B. Bristol, and by a considerable number of brethren, being members, of No. 355, and of the Gooch Lodge, No. 1295, as well as by brethren from all parts of the Province. The Roll of the various Lodges was called, and it was found that each Lodge was duly represented. The minutes of the last P.G. Lodge having been printed and circulated, were taken as read, and were duly confirmed. The P.G. Sec. Bro. Harry Bevir then read, as a Report, the minutes of the Board of General Purposes, held prior to the assembling of the P.G. Lodge, from which report it appeared that the P.G. Treasurer's account had been duly audited, with the following result:—General Account, balance in hand of £1 15s 11d, after paying a donation of £52 10s to the Imperial Institute of the United Kingdom, the Colonies and India, and the working expenses of P.G. Lodge; Charity Account, balance in hand of £75 17s 9d, out of which the Board recommended that £26 5s should be granted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and placed on the list of Bro. W. H. Burt, whose Stewardship for that Institution, on behalf of the Province of Wilts, had been approved by the Board. The Report was received and unanimously adopted. The P.G. Registrar, Bro. B. H. Watts, then presented his Report, which having been printed and circulated was taken as read. It noted the increase of the number of Masons in the Province, the larger receipts, the increased amount subscribed to charitable purposes, and the greater voting power of the Province. The Report was adopted, with a hearty vote of thanks to the P.G. Reg. for the trouble he had kindly undertaken in preparing it. In the absence of Bro. W. Nott P.P.G.S.W. Prov. Charity Sec., his Report on behalf of the Provincial Benevolent Fund and Charity Organization Committee was then read, as follows:—

The Charity Secretary, on behalf of the Committee, has the honour to report as follows:—

Benevolent Fund.—Eight years have now passed since the establishment of this Fund, and owing to the exceptionally good fortune which the Province has experienced in having no claim made upon it, the Fund is now represented by an accumulation of £335 1s 2d in Consols, and £78 5s 3d in the Treasurer's hands. Judging from the experience of similar organizations in other Provinces, the exceptional immunity from any claim which Wiltshire has enjoyed can hardly be expected to continue, and it is therefore a subject for congratulation that the Fund has already reached such a substantial amount.

The Committee has strongly felt that all the Lodges in the Province should contribute to the Benevolent Fund—every Lodge being entitled to participate in its benefits,—and accordingly, at a recent meeting, passed a resolution expressing this feeling, and directed a copy of such resolution to be sent to every Lodge.

Charity Organization.—The work of the "Western Provinces Charity Association" having increased, it has been found necessary to adopt for its guidance certain definite Rules, the principal—so far as this Province is concerned—being one under which the eight several Provinces in the Union will bear, in definite proportions, the expenses of the Association (which, however, will be but trifling). The proportion of Wiltshire will be one-twelfth.

At the elections for the Masonic Institutions during the present year, Wiltshire had only one candidate, viz., Frederick Joseph Harris, son of a late member of the Longleat Lodge, 1478, Warminster, who was adopted by the Committee at its meeting in March last, and having been placed on the list of candidates for the 26th October election, was then successful at the first attempt, and this with no waste of votes, since he was last on the list of those who succeeded.

Several candidates from the other Provinces forming the Western Provinces Charity Association were also successful during the year.

The associated Provinces have between them something like seventy recipients of the benefits of the Masonic Charities, Wiltshire alone having three boys, two girls, and two widows, representing something like £400 per annum.

The Festival of the Girls' School this year having been the Centenary of that Institution, especial efforts were made by its supporters to raise funds which would enable them to carry out a much

needed extension of the School Buildings. The result was most satisfactory, for at the Festival, which took place at the Albert Hall, on the 7th of June last, under the presidency of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, an approximate sum of £51,483 18s was realised. To this Wiltshire contributed £340 8s 6d, through the medium of six Stewards, viz.:—The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master Lord Methuen, Bros. W. J. Mann £285 6s 6d, William Nott £10 10s, the Rev. the Hon. Sidney Meade £10 10s, F. S. Hancock £10 10s, R. W. Merriman £23 12s.

All the ordinary votes of Lodges and private subscribers are now, with but nominal exceptions, regularly placed at the disposal of the Charity Organization Committee of the Province, whilst extra votes to a considerable extent are also frequently sent in, principally through the medium of Lodge 626.

The Votes which have during the last three years been rendered available for the work of the Committee have reached the following numbers:—

	1886.	1887.	1888.
ORDINARY VOTES.			
Royal Masonic Institution for Boys - -	560	637	652
" " Girls - -	467	472	597
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons - - - -	223	223	243
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Widows - - - -	212	218	250
EXTRA VOTES.			
For Boys and Girls - - - -	...	240	116
	1462	1790	1858

It will be noticed that the above figures show a steady and satisfactory increase from year to year.

The Report was approved, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. W. Nott for the same. The P.G. Sec. was requested, in conveying the vote of thanks to Bro. Nott, to assure him of the deep regret which the brethren entertained at his absence from the P.G. Lodge, through illness, and the unanimous expression of their hope for his speedy recovery. Bro. H. C. Tombs drew attention to the fact that some of the Lodges in the Province did not subscribe to the P.G. Benevolent Fund, and expressed a hope that they would give the matter serious consideration, as he thought it was the duty of every Lodge in the Province to support this Fund. He gave notice of a proposition on the subject to be brought before the next meeting of P.G.L. Bro. J. A. Lloyd Grand Chaplain, gave notice of his intention at the next Prov. Grand Lodge to propose an amendment to the Bye-Laws, by providing that every Brother advanced to Provincial rank shall receive a Certificate of his appointment without paying any further fee beyond the fee of honour provided by the Bye-Laws. Bro. Sir Gabriel Goldney then addressed the brethren, explaining the absence of Bro. Lord Methuen, and expressing his regret at Bro. Nott's illness. He referred with much gratification to the fact that Bro. Lloyd, a P.G. Chaplain of the Province, had been appointed Grand Chaplain of England, and after alluding to the presence in the Provincial Grand Lodge that day of Bro. C. N. P. Phipps, the High Sheriff of Wiltshire, in his capacity of W.M. of the recently founded White Horse Lodge, No. 2227, at Westbury, concluded a most interesting address by referring to the inquiry now pending with regard to the Boys' School, in which he believed the brethren to take great interest. Bro. F. H. Goldney was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. John Savory (who has held the office continuously since 1869) was re-elected Tyler. Bro. Wm. Deau, the Tyler of Lodge 355, was appointed Assistant Tyler. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master then declared all offices vacant, and approved and invested the Officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—

Bro. J. Campbell Maclean 355 and 1295	-	Senior Warden
Edward Baverstock Merriman 1533	-	Junior Warden
Rev. W. N. C. Wheeler 1271	-	Chaplain
F. H. Goldney 626	-	Treasurer
Benjamin Hicks Watts 335 and 626	-	Registrar
Harry Bevir 355	-	Secretary
Walter Hugo Nord 2227	-	Senior Deacon
Henry Kemble 355	-	Junior Deacon
J. Howard Foley 632 and 2227	-	Superintendent of Works
John Chandler 355	-	Dir. of Ceremonies
W. Lynd Martin 355	-	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
Francis Barton 1271	-	Sword Bearer
W. H. Brinkworth 626	-	Organist
E. E. Barthlett 586	-	Pursuivant
A. H. Lapham 626	-	Standard Bearer
John Savory 355	-	Tyler

The business of the Provincial Grand Lodge being concluded, the brethren adjourned to a banquet, at the Goddard Arms Hotel, Swindon, which was presided over by Sir Gabriel Goldney, and attended by about sixty brethren, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:0:—

THE WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE AND LECTURE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I did not fail to notice with interest your report of the installation meeting of the William Preston Lodge, No. 766, held on the 22nd ult., and which appeared in the last number of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, but it was more that I was interested in that part of the report containing the observations of Bro. Major Lambert in reference to the Prestonian Lecture. Now, that is a subject which, for a long time past, has occupied my attention, and you, Mr. Editor, have often given publicity to my remarks, articles frequently appearing in your Journal; therefore I say that what recently fell upon the subject from Bro. Major Lambert was by no means new to me or uncalled for. As far as my humble abilities permitted me to bring this matter under the notice of the entire body of our Craft I did my best, but, unfortunately, I entirely failed in bringing any information to the light of day as to what had become of the Prestonian Lecture, or the money which had been bequeathed by its benevolent founder for its annual celebration and delivery. I had the satisfaction of being present, with a great number of other Masons, many years ago, on, I believe, the last occasion when the Prestonian Lecture was delivered, by the late Brother Henry George Warren, and I well recollect the attention that was paid to the beautiful precepts and symbolic teachings inculcated therein, and which, up to that time, had been a matter of annual recurrence, some of the most eminent members of the Craft undertaking the task of its delivery. I know not whether those members of the Masonic body who performed this annual duty received payment for their services or not, I should rather incline to a negative proposition, but upon that point I will for the moment concede that they did. But I wish to know, considering the many years which have passed over since the "Lecture" has been consigned to oim-meranic darkness, and nothing has been heard of it, what has become of the interest arising from the £300 Consols invested by Bro. William Preston, of the Lodge of Antiquity, in the name of that Lodge in 1819? On former occasions I have endeavoured to extract, by published articles, some information from the Lodge of Antiquity, a Lodge that prides itself upon its position and antiquity, as to what has been, and is, doing with the interest accruing from this fund, and how it is disposed of, but up to the present moment have been unable to obtain the slightest glimmer of light, and it appears to me that there is no inclination to give any information upon the subject. Well might Bro. Major Lambert say, that "it was a matter of deep regret to him, and he might say to many other members of the Craft, that the Prestonian Lecture had been allowed to lapse for so many years." But I certainly think they ought to know the reason why the Lecture has been discontinued, and what, during a long lapse of years, has been done with the money that was left for its endowment.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

P.M. 177.

[In the report of the William Preston Lodge, which appeared in our last issue, we wish to draw attention to an error we unwittingly committed. We stated that Brother Greenslade was appointed Junior Deacon; we should have said Brother J. F. Haden. It was Brother Haden who conducted the candidate through the initiation ceremony, and it was likewise to him that the eulogistic remarks of Brother Heck, in his reply to the toast of the Officers, had such special reference.—Ed. F.C.]

The General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys held their usual monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday last. Brother W. Roebuck, P.G.S.B., Vice-Patron and Trustee, occupied the chair, and there were present Bros. Walters, Hogard, Rev. R. Morris, M.A., LL.D., Richardson, Gregory, Saunders, Gillard, Dr. Mickley, Maple, Morgan, Glasse, Imbert-Terry, Webb, Scarrah, Stiles, Andrew Motion, Gladwell, Wace, Cumberland, Mather, and Frederick Binckes (Secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, and those of the House Committee read for information, nine petitions were successively taken into consideration and dealt with, the result being that six were accepted, and the names directed to be entered on the list of candidates for the election in April 1889; two were deferred, and one was rejected. The proceedings terminated with the customary vote of thanks to the Chairman.

TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 25 years' standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICHOLSON, 21 Bedford-sq., London, W.C.

THE THEATRES, &c.

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St. James's.—Mr. Rutland Barrington, notwithstanding the adverse criticism he has encountered, is to be congratulated on his second venture, a new and original drama, by Mr. W. S. Gilbert, entitled "Brantingham Hall," which was produced last week. A drama may be designated as a literary compound of smiles and tears, and, though in the present instance tears predominate, the tale is highly sympathetic, and appeals strongly to the susceptibilities of the audience. The new play is in four acts, the first of which introduces us to an Australian cattle station, where we find the Hon. Arthur Redmayne, heir to Lord Saxmundham, married to Ruth, the daughter of an ex-convict. Redmayne is recalled suddenly to England on business connected with a large legacy, and is supposed to be lost with the vessel in which he sails. The next act brings us to Brantingham Hall, the seat for three centuries of the Redmayne family, which is heavily mortgaged to Ralph Crampton, a former friend of Arthur, and a lover rejected by Ruth. Lord Saxmundham, believing his son to be dead, and unconscious of his marriage, has obtained the reversion of £300,000, and astonishes Crampton, who thinks him ruined, by offering to pay him off. Ruth now arrives with her marriage certificate and husband's will, which are acknowledged by his lordship, though their production will result in his ruin; moreover, his pride prevents him accepting the necessary amount of the mortgage from his son's wife; and the latter, possessed with an overwhelming desire to save the old family, in sheer desperation declares herself an adventuress and the certificates forgeries. This scene was splendidly enacted by Miss Julia Neilson, and secured a hearty reception. Exception may be taken to this incident, which is certainly startling; still it is well to remember the French philosopher's axiom that "woman for good or ill is capable of anything." Again, it is inexpedient to criticise too closely the probability of so interesting a piece. In the last act Arthur, who has been shipwrecked on an out-of-the-way island, is restored to his wife, whose deception is forgiven, and all ends happily. The comedy of the drama is capably sustained by a pair of young lovers, represented by Miss Norreys and Mr. D. Fleet, whose humour is essentially Gilbertian. There are several very pretty passages, notably the interview between Lord and Lady Saxmundham, when they believe themselves ruined; these characters are portrayed with much dignity by Mr. Nutcombe Gould and Mrs. Gaston Murray. Mr. Wm. Herbert is a manly representative of Arthur Redmayne, and Mr. Lewis Waller makes the most of the unsatisfactory Ralph Crampton. A quiet little sketch is given by Mr. Norman Forbes as Noel Ross, the Bush Missionary, where he breaks the news of Arthur's safety to his wife, and Mr. Barrington contents himself with the small part of Mr. Thursby, a county gentleman, friend of the Redmaynes. The piece was met throughout with applause, the principal personages receiving a call before the curtain after each act.

Grand.—Saturday last may be regarded as a red letter day for "Merrie Islington," inasmuch as the new and elegant theatre erected under the superintendence of Mr. Charles Wilmot was opened. To inaugurate this event some of the shop-keepers displayed appropriate devices, while round about the theatre the scene was ablaze with illuminations. A greater surprise, however, awaited those who managed to secure admission to the building, for here was to be seen one of the most comfortable and pretty theatres London can boast of. The theatre has been erected entirely of concrete and iron, by Messrs. G. H. and A. Bywaters, from designs by Mr. Frank Matcham. The decorations, which are of a most pretty description, have been executed by the Plastic Decorating Company. They are in the style of the Louis XV. period, with a magnificently painted ceiling, and mirrors at the side of the dress circle. A most comfortable and roomy pit has been provided, while the interests of the patrons of the gallery have not been forgotten. Altogether the appearance gives an idea of cosiness and warmth, and is most pleasing to the eye. The stage has been considerably enlarged, as, in fact, has the auditorium of the house, while every available precaution for safety has been carefully studied. As of yore, the electric light has been installed throughout. A house, crowded to excess in every part, welcomed the re-opening of the theatre, and although nothing novel was chosen for the first night, plenty of interest was got out of the "Still Alarm," with all its accessories, from the Princess's. Every situation and interesting event was heartily appreciated, and the audience seemed to thoroughly enjoy the piece. Mr. Charles Glenny and Miss Grace Hawthorne played the hero and heroine, and received capital support from Messrs. Edward Sass, Eardley Turner, Edward Cheeseman, and the Misses Fannie Leslie and Ciceley Richards. At the conclusion Mr. Wilmot was called upon for a speech, and he introduced to the audience Mr. Matcham, the architect, and Mr. H. A. Freeman, his manager. Needless to say, both these gentlemen were heartily welcomed. But for a little incident that occurred in the earlier part of the evening, through the overcrowding of the pit, everything passed off most satisfactorily, and we trust that the Grand has been again launched on a successful career. Next week Miss Kate Vaughan, with a carefully selected company, will appear in "Love and Honour," after which the Theatre will remain closed until Boxing Day, when "Cinderella," written by Geoffrey Thorne, will be produced on an elaborate scale.

On Monday, the 17th instant, another new theatre will be opened in Shaftesbury Avenue. This has been erected by Mr. Henry J. Leslie, and will be known as the Lyric. The opening attraction will be "Dorothy," with the full company now appearing at the Prince of Wales's.

Miss Grace Hawthorne has arranged with Mr. Wilson Barrett to produce a new play at the Princess's on the termination of the run of "Hands across the Sea." The engagement with Mr. Barrett is limited to twelve weeks. Miss Grace Hawthorne will herself appear in weekly matinées during Mr. Barrett's engagement.

MARK MASONRY.

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WILTSHIRE KEYSTONE LODGE, No. 178.

THE installation meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Devizes, on Wednesday, the 30th Oct. The W.M., Bro. T. C. Hopkins, duly installed Bro. William H. Bush as W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. subsequently appointed and invested the Officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bros. Johnson S.W., Brereton J.W. Pocock M.O., Bambridge S.O., Rev. W. Hamplays J.O. and acting Chaplain, Nott P.M. Treasurer, Hancock P.M. Registrar, Ward P.M. Secretary, Foley S.D., Baldwin J.D., Howso P.M. D.C., Crees I.G., Howse and Johnson Stewards, Barnes Tyler. The usual addresses to the W.M., Officers and Brethren were delivered by the Installing Master.

ROYAL ARCH.

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ALFRED CHAPTER, No. 340.

THE annual meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Alfred-street, Oxford, on 20th ult. The officers for the ensuing year were installed and invested, as follows:—Comps. T. Lucas Z., H. G. W. Drinkwater H., J. A. Acock J., A. Badcock S.E., Rowbotham S.N., A. Rowley P.S., J. M. Dormor A.S. The ceremony of installation was performed by Comp. E. G. Bruton. The Grand Superintendent of the Province, the Rev. H. Pickard, the outgoing Principal (Comp. E. Horne), and several other Past Principals were present. After the closing of the Chapter, the members dined together, and the usual Loyal and Royal Arch toasts were duly honoured.

The meetings of the North London Chapter of Improvement, No. 1471, held at Northampton House, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, have been resumed for the Winter Session. The Chapter opens at 8 (sharp), on Thursday evenings. Comp. John Evans Sheffield is Scribe E., and Comp. T. C. Edmonds is Preceptor.

Obituary.

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BRO. JOHN TOMLINSON.

THE remains of this well-known brother, host of the Plough Inn, Crossens, were interred on the 23rd ult., in St. Cuthbert's Churchyard, Southport. Deceased, who was fifty-two years of age, was well known in the agricultural district between Southport and Ormskirk, and to frequenters of the South Lancashire Coursing Meetings. His funeral was very largely attended, among those at the graveside being Mr. Charles Scarisbrick (lord of the manor), and over fifty Freemasons, deceased being a member of Lodge 613. The Rev. C. Hesketh Knowllys (rector of North Meols) and the Rev. W. T. Bulpit (vicar of Crossens) conducted the service.

The M.W. the Grand Master has been pleased to grant the prayer of the petitioners for a new Lodge, to be held at the Town Hall, Stratford, to be called the West Ham Abbey Lodge. Bro. James Boulton, P.M. 1056, is the W.M. designate. Bro. F. C. D. Fenn, P.M. 171, will act as Secretary *pro tem*.

The fourth annual North London Masonic Benevolent Ball is announced to take at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, W.C., on Wednesday, 2nd January next, under the superintendence of a most influential Committee, and the patronage of Sir A. K. Rollit, M.P., and Cowley Lambert, Esq., M.P. The profits accruing from the ball will be given to the Masonic Institutions, and judging from experience in the past we anticipate a goodly addition to the Charity Funds of the Craft. The price of tickets has been fixed at 2ls, for a lady and gentlemen; or 10s 6d and 12s 6d respectively for single tickets, in each case supper and light refreshment being included. A dispensation has been granted, enabling Masons to appear in Masonic clothing, and every possible arrangement has been made to ensure an enjoyable and successful gathering. Brother Wright's band will supply the music.

A CARD.—AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY is announced in the "Paris Figaro," of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, and kindred complaints. This discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico; it saved him from a miserable existence, and premature decay. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the prescription, free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper.

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.

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SATURDAY, 8th DECEMBER.

- 108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street
- 173—Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-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, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, 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)
- 1426—The Great City, Cannon Street Hotel
- 1612—West Middlesex, The Institute, Balingi
- 1621—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Blury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
- 1671—Mizpah, Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street
- 1928—Gallery, Brixton Hall, Acra Lane, Brixton
- 1964—Clerkenwell, Holborn Viaduct Hotel, E.C.
- 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In).
- Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
- 2069—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Leeds
- R.A. 811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton

MONDAY, 10th DECEMBER.

- 22—Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 29—St. Albans, Albion, Aldersgate-street
- 45—Strong Man, Bell and Bush, Rope-maker St., Finsbury, E.C., at 7 (In)
- 59—Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 90—St. John, Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
- 136—Good Report, Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln Inn Fields
- 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street at 7. (In)
- 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
- 193—Confidence, Anderton's Fleet-street, E.C.
- 222—St. Andrews, 101 Queen Victoria-street
- 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
- 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, at 8. (Instruction)
- 957—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst.)
- 1227—Upton, Three Nuns, Aldgate, E., at 8. (Instruction)
- 1237—Enfield, Market-place, Enfield
- 1305—St. Marylebone, Criterion, W.
- 1425—Hyde Park, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Gardens, at 8. (In)
- 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
- 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park, at 7.30 (In)
- 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
- 1571—Leopold, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge
- 1585—Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, High Street, Putney, at 8. (In)
- 1608—Kilburn, 48 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
- 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King Street, Smithfield, at 7 (In.)
- 1670—Adelphi, 4 Adelphi Terrace, Strand
- 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
- 1707—Eleanor, Seven Sisters Hotel, Page Green, Tottenham, 8. (Inst)
- 1805—Bromley St. Leonard, Vestry Hall, Boy-road, Bromley
- 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
- 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
- 2021—Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, Criterion, W., at 8. (Inst.)
- 2030—The Abbey, Westminster Town Hall, Westminster
- R.A. 22—Mount Zion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street
- R.A. 58—Felicity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
- R.A. 1118—University, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- R.C. 53—Holy Sanctuary, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
- 40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, Hastings
- 75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth
- 88—Scientific, Red Lion, Petty Cury, Cambridge
- 104—St. John, Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport
- 151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
- 210—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shie
- 218—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon, at 7. (Inst)
- 262—Salopian, the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury
- 292—Sincerity, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
- 296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
- 297—Witham, New Masonic Hall, Lincoln
- 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
- 411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham
- 481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
- 502—Rectitude, Town Hall, Rugby
- 587—Howe, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
- 589—Druids of Love and Liberality, Masonic Hall, Redruth
- 665—Montague, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis
- 721—Independence, Masonic Chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
- 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool at 8. (Instruction)
- 797—Hanley, Hanley Hall, Dartmouth
- 893—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall
- 949—Williamson, St. Stephen School, Monkwearmouth, Durham
- 1021—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Custom House Buildings, Barrow-in-Furness
- 1069—United Brothers, Castle Hotel, Southsea
- 1112—Shirley, Masonic Hall, Shirley, Hants
- 1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham
- 1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
- 1253—Travellers, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
- 1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
- 1436—Sandgate, Masonic Hall, Sandgate
- 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
- 1474—Israel, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham
- 1592—Abbey, Suffolk Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds
- 1611—Eboracum, Masonic Hall, St. Saviourgate, York
- 1618—Handyside, Zetland Hotel, Saltburn-by-Sea
- 1656—Wolsley, White Hart Hotel, Hampton Wick
- 1966—Fidelity and Sincerity, Wellington, Somerset
- R.A. 156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
- R.A. 377—Hope and Charity, Masonic Hall, 123 Mel Street, Kidderminster
- R.A. 379—Tynte, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath
- M.M. 171—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
- K.T. 5—Jerusalem, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
- K.T. 56—Hugh de Payens, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
- R.C. 22—Victoria, Ipswich

TUESDAY, 11th DECEMBER.

- 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
- 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
- 96—Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate street
- 141—Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria Street, S.W., at 8 (inst).
- 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
- 180—St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 188—Joppa, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7. (Instruction)
- 198—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

- 211—St. Michael's, Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
- 212—Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High Street, Camden Town, at 8. (Inst.)
- 213—United Strength, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, City
- 235—Nine Muses, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
- 543—Wellington, White Swan, Deptford
- 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stopney (Instruction)
- 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
- 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
- 834—Ranelagh, Criterion, W.
- 830—Dalhousie, Middleton Arms, Middleton Road, Dalston at 8 (Inst.)
- 861—Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
- 933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
- 1041—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
- 1196—Urban, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (In)
- 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 1446—Mount Edgecumbe, Three Stags, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 8. (Inst.)
- 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
- 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich. (Instruction)
- 1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
- 1597—Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
- 1604—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 1611—Covent Garden, Criterion, Piccadilly
- 1668—Samson, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, W.
- 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 9. (Inst.)
- 1839—Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen Street, E.C., at 7. (In.)
- 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich Road, East Brixton, at 8 (Instruction)
- Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, Cannon Street, at 6.30
- R.A. 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- R.A. 185—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
- R.A. 704—Camden, the Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 8. (Inst.)
- R.C. 71—Bavard, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square

- 93—Social, 23 St. Giles Street, Norwich
- 131—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro
- 160—True Friendship, Old Ship Inn, Rochford
- 184—United Chatham of Benevolence, Assembly Rooms, Old Broomston, Kent
- 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
- 272—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Main Ridge, Boston
- 284—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, High-street, Warwick
- 406—Northern Counties, Masonic Hall, Maple Street, Newcastle (Instruction)
- 463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, at 7.45. (Inst.)
- 473—Faithful, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
- 495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Zetland Street, Wakefield
- 503—Belvedere, Star Hotel, Maidenhead
- 603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Checkheaton
- 626—Lansdowne of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham
- 650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich
- 696—St. Bartholomew, Anchor Hotel, Welnesbury
- 726—Staffordshire Knot, North Western Hotel, Stafford
- 952—Royal Edward, Royal Oak Hotel, Lominstor
- 903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport
- 1120—St. Milburga, Tontine Hotel, Drogheda
- 1250—Gilbert, Masonic Rooms, Sakey, Greenhall Street, Warrington
- 1325—Stanley, 211 Great Homer Street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
- 1347—Lorne, Greyhound Hotel, Cuckfield, Surrey
- 1465—O kenden, Talbot Hotel, Sutton, Sussex
- 1509—Madoc, Queen's Hotel, Portmadoc
- 1545—Baildon, Masonic Room, Northgate, Baildon
- 1678—Tonbridge, Masonic Hall, Tonbridge
- 1713—Wilbraham, Walton Institute, Walton, Liverpool
- 2099—Ethelbert, Masonic Rooms, Beech Street, Herne Bay, Kent
- 2146—Surbiton, Spread Eagle Coffee Tavern, Surbiton. (Instruction)
- R.A. 43—Fortitude, Great Western Hotel, Birmingham
- R.A. 70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Princes Street, Plymouth
- R.A. 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, Manchester
- R.A. 265—Judea, Masonic Club, Hanover Street, Keighley
- R.A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds
- R.A. 321—Reason, Wellington Inn, Caroline Street, Stylbridge
- R.A. 402—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
- R.A. 537—Zion, 9 Hamilton Street, Birkenhead
- R.A. 540—Stuart, Bedford
- R.A. 991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington Quay, Northumberland
- M.M. 15—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Gandy Street, Exeter
- M.M. 152—Dover and Cinque Ports, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover
- R.C.—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

WEDNESDAY, 12th DECEMBER.

- Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3
- 3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8. (Instruction)
- 11—Eloch, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 13—Waterlo, Union Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich
- 15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 72—Royal Jubilee, Mitre, Canary Lane, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
- 73—Mount Lebanon, George Inn, High Street, Borough, at 8. (Inst)
- 87—Viruvian, White Hart, College Street, Lambeth
- 117—Justice, White Swan, High Street, Deptford
- 193—Confidence, Horeads Tavern, Leade Hall Street, at 7. (Instruction)
- 223—United Strength, The Hope, Station Street, Regent's Park, at 8 (In)
- 525—La Tolérance, Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, at 8. (Inst)
- 720—Pannure, Balaun Hotel, Balaun, at 7. (Instruction)
- 78—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Balaun Road, E.
- 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
- 882—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's Court, Fleet Street, at 8. (Inst.)
- 92—Bargoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Instruction)
- 1260—John Harvey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
- 1306—Lodge of St. John, Three Nuns Hotel, Aldgate, E.
- 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent Road, at 8. (Instruc.)
- 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare Street, Hackney, at 8. (Inst.)
- 1538—St. Martin's-le-Grand, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C.
- 1586—Upper Norwood, White Hart Hotel, Upper Norwood
- 1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 8. (Instruction)
- 1604—Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st., S.W., at 7.30. (In)
- 1610—Northern Bar, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
- 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Inst.)
- 1681—Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Inst.)
- 1691—Imperial, Cadogan Hotel, Sloane Street, Chelsea
- 1718—Centurion, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
- 1930—Montague Guest, Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields
- 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Canberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In)
- 1963—Duke of Albany, 151 Battersea Park Road, E.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
- 2206—Hendon, Welsh Harp, Hendon, at 8. (Instruction)
- R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air Street, Regent Street, at 8. (Inst.)
- R.A. 720—Pannure, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
- R.A. 833—Doric, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7.30. (Instruction)
- M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
- R.C. 1—Grand Metropolitan, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
- 51—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham Street, Rochdale
- 86—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescott, Lancashire
- 146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bradstreetgate, Bolton
- 191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Maymarket Street, Bury, Lancashire
- 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
- 225—St. Luke's, Coach and Horse Hotel, Ipswich

258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
 281—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster
 288—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds
 483—Sympathy, Old Falcon Hotel, Gravesend
 567—Unity, Globe Hotel, Warwick
 580—Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
 666—Benevolence, Private Rooms, Prince Town, Dartmoor
 697—United, George Hotel Colchester.
 755—St. Tudno, Freemasons' Hall, Llandudno
 758—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 851—Worthing Lodge of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing
 852—Zetland, Albert Hotel, New Bailey-street, Salford
 854—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham
 910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
 1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
 1031—Fletcher, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1060—Marmion, Masonic Rooms, Church-street, Tamworth
 1064—Borough, Bull Hotel, Burnley
 1094—Temple, Mascnic Hall, Liverpool
 1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading
 1209—Lewises, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate
 1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Moseley, near Manchester
 1248—Denison, Masonic Hall, Scarborough
 1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 1342—Walker, Hope and Anchor Inn, Byker, Newcastle
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill Street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool
 1398—Baldwin, Dalton Castle, Dalton-in-Furness
 1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham
 1434—Nottinghamshire, George Hotel, Nottingham
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1520—Earl Shrewsbury, Public, Rooms, Cannock, Stafford
 1547—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1582—Llanidloes, Trewythen Arms, Llanidloes
 1643—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne.
 1692—Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent
 1947—Stanford, Town Hall, Hove
 2046—Robinson, Masonic Room, Maidstone, Kent
 R.A. 62—Social, Queen's Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester
 R.A. 88—Pythagoras, Red Lion Hotel, Cambridge
 R.A. 251—Loyalty and Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Barnstaple
 R.A. 350—Meribah, Grapes Inn, Stoneclough, near Manchester
 R.A. 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 703—Clifton, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool
 R.A. 709—Invicta, Bank Street Hall, Ashford
 R.A. 1973—Saye and Sele, Masonic Rooms, Belvedere, Kent
 M.M. 192—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, The Parade, Berwick

THURSDAY, 13th DECEMBER.

19—Royal Abhelstan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 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)
 206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 238—Pilgrim, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 657—Canonbury, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 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)
 860—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 879—Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern
 879—Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd. (In)
 1076—Capper, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 1158—Southern Star, Sir Sydney Smith, Chester St., Kennington, at 8. (In.)
 1216—Macdonald, Head Quarters 1st Surrey Rifles, Camberwell
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Swan Tavern, Bothnal Green Road, E., at 8. (Instruct)
 1306—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Masons' Tavern, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel, Wimbledon, at 7.30. (Inst)
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-road, Paddington
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30. (Inst)
 1558—Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1559—D. Connaught, Palmerston 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, Bell Hotel, Ealing Dean, at 7.45. (Instruction)
 1614—Covent Garden, Criterion, W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1625—Trefegar, Wellington Arms, Wellington Road, Bow, E., at 7.30. (In.)
 1673—Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, E.C., at 5.30. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 8 (Inst)
 1708—Plucknett, Bald Faced Stag, East Finchley
 1744—Royal Savoy, Blue Post, Charlotte Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1791—Creaton, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1791—Creaton, Whentsheaf Tavern, Goldhawk Road, Shepherds Bush. (Inst)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1987—Strand, The Criterion, Piccadilly
 1996—Priory, Berrymead Priory Constitutional Club, High-st., Acton. (Inst.)
 R.A. 72—Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 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)
 M.M. 86—Samson and Lion, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C.
 K.T. 117—New Temple, Inner Temple, London
 35—Medina, 85 High Street, Cowes
 97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Toward Road, Sunderland
 112—St. George, Masonic Hall, Fore-street Hill, Exeter
 116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel Colne
 139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, Sheffield
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Davsbury
 216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 276—Good Fellowship, White Hart Hotel, Chelmsford
 283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden
 333—Royal Preston, Castle Hotel, Preston
 337—Candour, New Masonic Rooms, Uppermill, Saddleworth
 339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith, Cumberland
 341—Wellington, Cinque Ports Hotel, Ryde
 344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, Lancashire
 469—Hundred of Elloe, Masonic Rooms, London Road, Spalding.
 477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
 546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Carolina Street, Loughton, Stafford
 631—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth
 659—Biagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blythe
 732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham

784—Wellington, Masonic Rooms, Park Street, Deal
 786—Croxeth United Service, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, Berks
 991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington Quay, Newcastle
 1000—Priory, Middleton Hotel, Southdon Sea
 1035—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkby, Liverpool
 1055—Derby, Masonic Rooms, Bedford Street, Bury New Road, Manchester
 1095—St. George, Private Room, Temperance Hotel, Reading, Mea.
 1144—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne
 1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington
 1147—St. David, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. German's, Cravall.
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1204—Royd, Imperial Hotel, Mulvern, Worcestershire
 1273—St. Michael, Free Church School Rooms, Siatoughburno
 1369—Bala, Plasgoch Hotel, Bala
 1416—Falcon, Masonic Hall, Castle Yard, Thirsk
 1457—Bagshaw, Public Hall, Loughton
 1576—Dee, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire
 1580—Cranborne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1583—Corbet, Corbet Arms, Towyn
 1697—Hospitality, Royal Hotel, Waterfoot near Manchester
 1782—Machen, Swan Hotel, Colehill
 1892—Wallington, King's Arms Hotel, Carshalton. (Instruction)
 1915—Graystone, Forester's Hall, Whitstable
 R.A. 213—Perseverance, 23 St. Giles Street, Norwich
 R.A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 R.A. 286—Strength, Green Man Hotel, Bacup.
 R.A. 1235—Phoenix of St. Ann, Court Hotel Buxton
 M.M.—St. John's, Commercial Hotel, Bolton.
 M.M. 16—Friendship, 2 St. Stephen's Street, Devonport

FRIDAY, 14th DECEMBER.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 6
 25—Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hotel, Great Portland Street, W., at 8. (In)
 134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street
 157—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 167—St. John's, York and Albany Hotel, Regent's Park, N.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 177—Domestic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 557—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 765—St. James, Princess Victoria Tavern, Rotherhithe, at 8. (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kow Bridge, at 8. (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith. (Instruction)
 1054—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1185—Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1201—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1223—Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone. (Instruction)
 1293—Royal Standard, Builders Arms, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (In)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1381—Kennington, The Horas, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 2000—Earl of Mornington, Sa Red Lion Square, W.C.
 2030—The Abbey Westminster, King's Arms, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A.—Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London Street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 95—Eastern Star C. of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall Street
 R.A. 569—Fitzroy, Headquarters Hon. Artillery Company, City Road, E.C.
 R.A. 820—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)
 M.M. 355—Royal Savoy, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30. (In)
 K.T. 26—Faith and Fidelity, Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.
 36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary's Street, Cardiff
 155—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 453—Chigwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 458—Aire and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse Street, Goole
 526—Honour, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton
 566—St. Germain, Masonic Hall, The Grosvenor, Selby
 662—Dartmouth, Dartmouth Hotel, West Brunswick
 815—Blair, Town Hall, Stretford-road, Hulme
 916—Hartington, Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne
 1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Park and St. Street, Harrogate
 1037—Beauesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Lighthouse Road
 1121—Wear Valley, Masonic Hall, Bishop Auckland
 1143—Royal Denbigh, Council Room, Denbigh
 1289—Rock, Royal Rock Hotel, Rock Ferry
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham, at
 R.A. 406—De Sussex, Masonic Hall, Maple Street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 15th DECEMBER.

179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8. (In)
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Mare-street, Hackney
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7. (Inst)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1732—King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel Street, Fleet, E.C.
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air Street, Regent Street, W., at 8
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 305—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood
 811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 2035—Beaumont, Royal Hotel, Kirkburton

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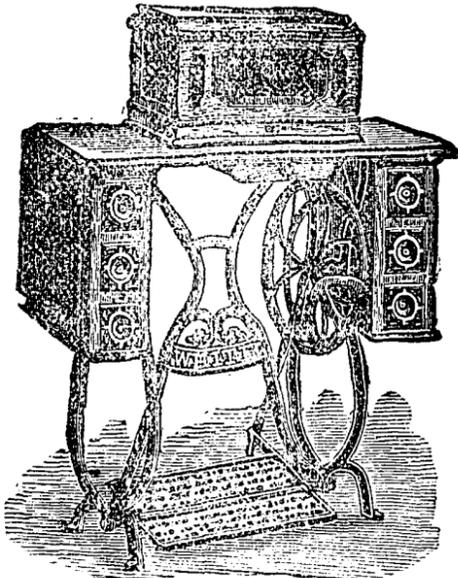
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