

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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VOL. XXXVI.—No. 936.] SATURDAY, 17th DECEMBER 1892. [PRICE THREEPENCE.
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CHESHIRE MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that the joint contributions of the Brethren of the Province of Cheshire were returned at £1,700 at the Jubilee Festival of February last, we find in this Province that a strong feeling prevails that the claims of the distressed brethren and their widows should be even more fully recognised. With this object in view the following circular has been pretty freely circulated during the past few weeks :—

At a meeting of the Provincial Charity Council, held at Bro. Newhouse's Office, Portland Street, Manchester, on Friday, 7th October 1892, there were present Bros. Salmon, Clayton, Newhouse, Finch, Ramsden, Head, Jackson, and Fitzeroft, and communications were read from absent Bros. Rev. C. W. Spencer-Stanhope, Brown, Matthews, and Mellor.

It was resolved to submit the following Preliminary Report for consideration to the meeting of the Committee of Benevolence, to be held at Crewe on Wednesday, 30th November 1892, and in order that the brethren of the Province might be able to give the proposals due consideration, it was decided that the Report should be printed and issued forthwith to the Charity Representatives and the other members of the Committee of Benevolence for the ensuing year, with a request that the subject should be brought before their respective Lodges at the first opportunity.

Your council are of opinion that it is too early now to formulate the working details of the proposed Institution, or to draft its bye-laws and regulations—that these matters may be safely left to a later stage—but that inasmuch as it is proposed to raise a fund, and that the contributors to that fund will, by virtue of their donations, possess themselves of certain privileges, it is desirable to lay down now the broad lines on which the Institution should be established, and the necessary funds obtained. They therefore beg to make the following recommendations, which it should be clearly understood are suggestive only, and open to revision and improvement :—

1. That a fund of not less than £1,000 be raised in the Province during the ensuing year for the object in view, and that when this amount is raised, steps be taken to place the Institution on a working basis, and to create, or rather provide for, two annuities.

2. That whatever amount of money may be raised, it shall—provision being made for working expenses—be invested either in Consols, Corporation Stock, or securities carrying no risk in respect of their value or realization.

3. That the amount of the annuities be half those of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, viz., £20 for Males, and £16 for Widows.

4. That the Annuities be confined to worthy aged and indigent Freemasons of the Province of Cheshire and their Widows, and that they be either preliminary or subsidiary to, and that they cease upon, the election of a Cheshire Annuitant to the larger benefits of the London Institution.

5. That a similar relationship to that which exists

between the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and Grand Lodge of England, should subsist between the proposed Institution and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire, viz., that whilst the Institution will, as regards its funds and management, be outside the purview of Provincial Grand Lodge, yet that its establishment, its working, and its well-being generally, be by its bye-laws subject to the fostering care of Provincial Grand Lodge, to which it shall report annually, and that, so far as may be practicable, its management, if not altogether identified with, yet should be under the wing of the Provincial Committee of Benevolence, which is so thoroughly representative of the entire Province, and which has done such excellent work since its re-organization.

6. That pending the execution of the Trust Deed and the formation of a Executive and so forth, which as before suggested, may be left till later on, a Provisional Committee be forthwith appointed. In recommending themselves, i.e., the thirteen members of the Charity Council, nine elected, and four ex-officio—to form this Provisional Committee, your Council believe that it will be approved by the Committee of Benevolence and the Province at large, inasmuch as the Provincial Charity Council, under our new organisation, can, within one calendar month, ascertain and focus the views and wishes of every Lodge in the Province on this or any other Charity question. Your Council recommend that the present Chairman (Bro. Jas. Salmon), the present Vice-Chairman (Bro. John Clayton), and the Provincial Grand Secretary (Bro. R. Newhouse), be respectively the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and Secretary of the Provisional Committee. The Prov. G. Treasurer is, ex-officio, a member of the Charity Council, and will be one of the members of the suggested Provisional Committee, but your Council, having regard to the annual change which takes place in the office of Prov. Grand Treasurer, recommend that some other brother, being a member of the Committee of Benevolence, be appointed to the office of Treasurer of the Institution pro tem., and one of the Provisional Committee.

7. That in regard to donations for the establishment and maintenance of the Institution the fundamental idea be *One Guinea One Vote*, that is for life in the case of individuals, but that for perpetual votes for Lodges, Chapters, &c., and their Officers, the cost should be twice this amount. Inasmuch as the votes of the proposed Institution will, in all probability, in due course, have to be polled by balloting papers, or proxies as they are usually termed, when the candidates put forward for election outnumber the annuities at disposal, it is desirable that their value should be clearly understood.

8. The following scheme of voting privileges is suggested :—

Five Shillings to purchase one annual vote for an individual or a Lodge, &c.

Five Guineas contributed by an individual in one sum or in successive sums of not less than One Guinea to qualify the Donor as Life Governor, with one vote for life for each Guinea subscribed, whether before or after attaining the rank of Life Governor.

Ten guineas in the like manner to qualify the individual Donor as Vice-President with ten votes.

Twenty-five Guineas in the like manner to qualify the

individual donor as Vice-Patron with twenty-five votes.

Fifty Guineas in the like manner to qualify the individual Donor as Patron with seventy-five votes, as explained hereunder.

And that there be no higher qualifications. Lodges, Chapters, and Masonic Societies, &c., to qualify in the like manner with votes in perpetuity for twice the amounts paid by individual donors.

Double votes to accrue both to individual donors and Lodges, &c., for donations made—in sums of not less than one Guinea—after attaining the rank of Vice-Patron.

9. That there be an annual meeting (if not a Festival) in connection with the Institution, to be held in the early part of June in each year, and that in June 1893, at all events, there should certainly be a Festival to inaugurate the Institution. Your Council are wishful to ascertain the views of the Province on the question of this Inauguration Festival. Several suggestions have been thrown out,—one that it should be held in the ancient town of Knutsford, another that it be held in the ancient city of Chester, another that ladies and non-Masons may be allowed to partake in the festivities. No doubt some satisfactory proposal will be ultimately arrived at.

10. That the annual meetings or Festivals be worked on the lines of the Royal Masonic Institution Festivals in so far as the expenses are concerned, that is to say that all contributions on the Stewards Lists are to go without any deduction whatever to the funds of the Institution, and that the Stewards' fees provide the expenses incidental to the Festival.

11. That any member of a Lodge or Chapter in the Province can accept the office of Steward at the annual meeting or Festival on payment of a Steward's fee, which the Committee will fix—it is thought that One Guinea may suffice for the proposed first Festival—such fee to include the Steward's dinner ticket, and (if proper authority sanctions the proposal), a neat but inexpensive jewel to be designed and struck as a standing Cheshire jewel, and to which bars may be added in future for further services. The balance of the guinea to go to pay the working expenses of the Festival. Tickets to be issued at a reasonable price to brethren (and ladies, &c., if so decided), but only through the accredited Stewards.

It is to be understood by Stewards that their acceptance of the office imposes on them the obligation of

- (a) Compiling a list of contributions, either their own, or their friends, or their Lodges, of not less than Five Guineas, and
- (b) Using their best endeavours to secure the comfort and enjoyment of the guests at the Festival.

The Stewards' Lists to be read out at the banquet

12. Following the lines of the Royal Masonic Institution Festivals, each Steward qualifying on the Cheshire Benevolent Institution is to have

- (a) One vote for life for serving the office of Steward, provided his "List" amounts to not less than Five Guineas. (Star vote.)
- (b) One additional vote for life for every Five Guineas after the first five that he has on his "List." (List votes.)

13. That with the view of giving additional stimulus to the efforts of the Stewards on the occasion of this first Festival, it be recommended that Double Votes be granted not only to the Stewards for their "Star" and "List" votes, but to individuals, Lodges, Chapters, &c., for the moneys contributed by and through them in sums of not less than one guinea. That this privilege be not granted at any future time without the sanction of Provincial Grand Lodge being first obtained.

14. That a Banking Account be opened forthwith with Parr's Banking Company at Knutsford, the account to be entitled *The Cheshire Masonic Benevolent Institution Fund*, with instructions to the Bankers that the Treasurer of the Institution will receive and pay in all donations, and that the Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary will sign cheques for payments out when that stage arrives.

15. Your Council recommend that the following

brethren be requested to consent to act as the first Trustees of the Institution, viz. :—

The Right Hon. LORD EGERTON OF TATTON, R.W.P.G.M.
His Honour Judge Sir HORATIO LLOYD, D.P.G.M.
The Hon. ALAN DE TATTON EGERTON, M.P., P.P.G.W.
JAMES SALMON, J.P., P.P.G.W.
JOHN CLAYTON, P.P.G.W., and
C. W. SPENCER-STANHOPE, Past Grand Chaplain.

igned on behalf of the Charity Council,

JAS. SALMON, P.P.G.W., Chairman.
JNO. CLAYTON, P.P.G.W., Vice-Chairman.
RICHARD NEWHOUSE, P.G.S.
JAMES COOKSON, Treasurer pro tem.

Bowdon, 21st October 1892.

In due course we learn that the meeting as thus arranged for was held at Crewe, on 30th November, when the above Report was adopted. We learn also that promises of support to the tune of £1,500 were made, and that it is anticipated that in a short time this goodly sum will be further increased to £2,000.

Well done, Cheshire!

A SERMON

Delivered before the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, at Nanaimo, 24th June 1892, by Rev. E. D. McLaren, Grand Chaplain.

"The house which I build is great."—2 Chron. ii. 5.

THESE words form part of the communication in which Solomon, King of Israel, sought the aid of Hiram, King of Tyre, in his project of building "an house to the name of the Lord his God." It was a stupendous undertaking; for the magnificence of the building was to bear some sort of proportion to the sacredness of the purpose for which it was erected, and to be a constant reminder to the Israelites of the grandeur and skill of the Great Architect of the Universe. That was what Solomon meant when he said to Hiram, "The house which I build is great; for great is our God above all gods."

How great the house was, men have labouringly striven to ascertain and describe. It has often been claimed that in the richness of its furnishing, and in the beauty of its ornamentation, it surpassed all other structures that have ever been erected. Whether that statement is well founded or not there can be no question of its having been the most beautiful and costly building that the world of Solomon's day had ever seen.

Many of the traditions of our ancient Order cluster around that sacred edifice. Some of the most solemn and important truths that Masonry inculcates find their highest illustration either in the temple itself, or in some of the incidents connected with its construction. Three of the most honoured names in the annals of Freemasonry are the names of the three men who were especially concerned in its erection, namely: Solomon, King of Israel; Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram Abiff, the widow's son, to whose cunning workmanship, both in metals and in colours, the temple owed all the glory of its marvellous adornments. In the erection of this stately edifice, all men, but especially all Masons, should see an emblem of their life's work. In the ritual of our Fraternity we are taught to apply to moral uses the various tools employed by practical or Operative Masons, and to shape our lives and govern our conduct by those principles in the moral realm that correspond to the fundamental principles in the builder's art.

For us, therefore, there ought to be a peculiar significance in the words in which Solomon confessed the magnitude of the task he was called upon to undertake; and I can wish nothing better for each of you than that, out of a profound conviction that the human heart is the noblest dwelling place of the Most High, and that life is the uprearing of that spiritual edifice, you may be able to say humbly and solemnly, and yet with a proud senso of dignity, "The house which I build is great."

Taking Solomon's Temple as a symbol of the structure of a human life, let me indicate briefly some of the features that should characterize our life's building.

1. The temple was noted for its massive strength: cut stones of enormous dimensions mortised into the solid rock, far beneath the surface of the ground, were employed for its foundations; and on the ample base, secured by building up immense walls of stone on the precipitous sides of Mount Moriah, there rose the solid, majestic structure that never failed, by its splendid proportions, to speak to the Israelitish worshippers of Him who "laid the foundations of the earth" and reared the arch of the starry firmament.

The house which Solomon built was great in its massive strength. The same feature is to characterize our lives. We are to aim at full-orbed manhood. We are bound to develop all our powers, and grow up to the statue of perfect men. We have no right to remain weaklings. Every side of our complex nature is to be cultivated to its fullest capacity. Weakness at any point where strength might have been attained is a source of disappointment to the Great Architect, as well as a source of loss and danger to us who profess to be building under His supervision. If it was so important that massive strength should characterize the material temple at Jerusalem, how much more necessary must that quality be in the spiritual temple of a human character. The house which we build is great for it is capable of becoming the highest abode of Deity, and, whether for weal or woe, it is to abide throughout eternity. Let us make it strong.

2. The temple was noted for its wondrous beauty. Its walls were composed of beautiful white stones, thoroughly polished, and put together with such ingenuity that no interstices were visible. The interior of the structure was of cedar, finely carved, and overlaid with the purest gold. The two massive pillars of brass that stood at the entrance had carved chapiters, adorned with lilies and pomegranates and delicate network of the most exquisite workmanship.

So, too, our lives are to be characterized by beauty. The massive strength of a rugged manhood is to be adorned with all the attractive qualities it is possible for us to cultivate. The strength of a vigorous intellect is to be softened and beautified by the play of a highly cultured imagination; and the strength of an unswerving devotion to moral principle is to be hallowed by a divine tenderness in dealing with human failures and imperfections. "The material universe is the abode of Deity, whom we worship; and wisdom, strength and beauty are round about Him as the pillars of His works. His wisdom is infinite, His strength omnipotent, and His beauty shines forth throughout the whole of creation in works of symmetry and order.

What God has done in the world around us we are expected to do in the world within us. The house which we build is great. Then let us make it beautiful.

In Solomon's Temple strength and beauty were consecrated to religious ends. The Temple was for the worship of Jehovah. All its appointments contemplated religious purposes. Its courts were open to the blue vaults of heaven; and through its costly sacrifices and gorgeous ritual the hearts of its worshippers were to be lifted heavenward. It is this very idea of the religious aspect of human life that Masonry seeks specially to emphasize. As the covering of a Masonic Lodge is emblematic of the heavenly firmament, to teach us that we are to rise to the Lodge above by that spiritual ladder which rests on the volume of the Sacred Law, and whose chief rungs are Faith in the Great Architect of the Universe; Hope in His salvation, and Charity with all mankind. We cannot be faithful Masons without recognising that religion is the highest element in life, and that all qualities are to be made subservient to religious ends.

No man can be a true Mason who fails to feel the force of religious considerations. In this connection I would like to emphasize the important words quoted by our Grand Master in his admirable address yesterday afternoon: "Free and Accepted Masonry was originally intended for the few, whose intelligence was such as would enable them to appreciate its beauties, and whose morals were such as would enable them to exemplify its virtues. Though not another Mason should ever be made, we should guard our doors securely against those who seek to wear our badge for mercenary purposes, and whose daily lives of debauchery, profanity and vulgarity give the lie to their professions of faith in the tenets of our Craft."

And what is true of our individual life is equally true of the wider civic and national life in which each one of us has his part to play. There are profound questions of

statesmanship and important problems of science and commerce that men must grapple with, and settle to the best of their ability. Things like these are the solid and substantial elements of national life. Then there are the beautiful adornments of art and literature, the things that tend to enrich and beautify the life that has previously been made strong. But while nations as well as individuals are bound to cultivate both strength and beauty, let it never be forgotten that the strong and the beautiful must be pursued along true moral lines, and made conducive to religious purposes. This is the very truth that nations have always found it easiest to forget.

The danger of our present civilisation is not the absence of strength, or the lack of beauty, but the neglect of moral principle. And this danger to the State can only be obviated by the more faithful cultivation in the lives of individual men and women of the great principle of religion.

In the elder days of Art,
Builders wrought with greatest care
Each minute and unseen part,
For the gods see everywhere.

Let us do our work as well,
Both the unseen and the seen;
Make the house where God may dwell
Beautiful, entire and clean.

Else our lives are incomplete,
Standing in these walls of Time,
Broken stairways where the feet
Stumble as they seek to climb.

Build to-day, then, strong and sure,
With a firm and ample base,
And ascending and secure,
Shall to-morrow find its place.

—Voice of Masonry.

THE INCREASE OF FREEMASONS.

IT is never to be forgotten that *proselyting* is forbidden in Freemasonry. No effort is permitted to bring over to Masonry any profane who has not of himself manifested a desire to unite with the Fraternity.

Persuasion, or any inducement cannot be used to bring into the Craft any one who thus is influenced, for he would not be worthy of the trust to be devolved on him as a Mason. It must be of his own free will, by the exercise of his intelligence and conscience that his judgment is impressed and causes him to seek admission into, and association with, the Brotherhood of Freemasons.

All the information he may require to decide for himself can be found in the exoteric teachings of recognized Masonic authority.

The history of Masonry is sufficiently well known, its principles explained, its influence on society open to investigation, the character of the whole Craft before the world clearly portrayed, so that the true, earnest and honest aspirant for Masonic membership needs no inducements or allurements to excite compulsion to present his application for admission.

Masonry is not, never has been, and so long as its fundamental principles are maintained, never can be composed of men who seek the benefits or advantages which mark the incitements to enter profane organizations.

Entering Masonry, all must divest themselves of those motives and considerations which give to all other associations which glitter with enticements, excuses or pretexts, to attract members.

Masonry pays no premiums nor bounties for membership. Its laws are as rigid as those of the "Medes and Persians," which history has made into a proverb, that they are unalterable.

These laws are few and plain, originating with the earliest of days in a system of jurisprudence that is to-day older than empires, languages or organized society; is therefore free from those modern policies which are liable to all sorts of interpretations.

Justice and equity are the corner-stones of Masonic jurisprudence. Justice, that has been sanctioned as right by the wisest of the generations of men; equity, which is the conscience of the fathers since the aforetime. Both were living principles set forth before the "Ten Tables" of the pre-Christian era. St. John and St. Paul, nearly

two thousand years ago, taught the principles of that justice and equity.

Therefore it is beyond contradiction that Freemasonry is a law unto itself, and he who seeks to be a Freemason must come asking admission on the basis of obedience to the laws and regulations of the Fraternity.

These have been tried by many generations of men; they have been tested by long and close investigation and examination; they have been honoured, commended and approved by the wise and good.

It is not to be supposed then, that such an Institution as Freemasonry needs to offer, or present, any inducements to secure membership. It cannot be asserted, for it is proclaimed that any such effort is not permitted. If any such influence was used in any individual case, and it tried to be hidden, as though it could not be discovered in the "Light," so that if made manifest it would destroy the possibility of its successful operations.

Thus it is, and therefore, that Freemasonry has maintained its character; defeated all attempts to impair its existence; in the full possession of its rank and power in the State, it has lost neither "jot nor tittle" of its principles, its esotericism, its landmarks or its symbology. Beyond reproach of all right-thinking men, assailed only by one-sided cecityists, whose blindness would be total, unless their vision was excited by phantasms.

What need then has Freemasonry to proselyte? It is wise enough to know that those who seek to enter its portals from persuasion of friends, or some unworthy motives, or for self-interest, or for what could be of personal advantage or benefit, would prove themselves destructive of the harmony of the Craft, bring reproach on the Masonic character, and go to justify the belief that Freemasons were their worst enemies, for they were found in the household of the Craft.

Careful watchfulness should be the duty of the members of a Lodge to prevent unworthy men from obtaining the rights and privileges of Masonry.

Watch the preparing room door; test every applicant on his application by the inexorable law which permits his initiation.—*Keystone.*

THE SHEFFIELD MASONIC AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

THE second performance given by the Masonic Amateur Dramatic Society in the Bath Saloon, Glossop Road, Sheffield, was in every respect as successful as its predecessor. "The Two Roses," a three-act comedy by James Albery, was produced in a style which, from the past successes of the Society, might have been anticipated, and the sixteenth season in which it takes place will certainly fill no inferior place in its records. The comedy is a pleasing piece of writing, excellently balanced, and with a continuity of quiet humour in its lines which proved most acceptable to the crowded house. It had no heavy sentimental scenes, but sentiment there was running through it as the connecting thread of the plot, turning on the love fortunes of Jack Wyatt, an amiable, perhaps somewhat irresponsible, bachelor, was neatly sandwiched between the eccentricities and malapropisms of "Our Mrs. Jenkins" and the woes of her unhappy henpecked husband. Miss Ada Melrose, who bore the burden of the vinegar-featured and harsh Mrs. Jenkins, acquitted herself in that rôle to the perfect satisfaction of those assembled to witness the play, and they were unstinted in their approving plaudits. Miss Edith Jordan and Miss Annie Cathew took the parts of the sisters Lotty and Ida, and as these charming girls gave both admirable representations of the characters. The male characters played by several of the brethren gave evidence of careful study, and were well interpreted, particularly those of Our Mr. Jenkins and Jack Wyatt, which afforded opportunity for the display of the comedians ability in a large degree. Caleb Deecie was a sympathetic portrayal, and the other members of the company displayed considerable merit. Bro. F. R. Booth was, as usual, a most capable manager, and Bro. D. Flather and Mr. Reg. Webster carefully looked after the properties. Bros. J. B. Wostinholm, A. E. Kirkham, and W. T. Flather kept charge of the book. Bro. John J. Parker was in the capacity of hon. secretary for the show, and Bro. F. Clunes the president. There was an admirable selection of music from the orchestra, under the conductorship of Bro. S. Suckley. The mounting and general appointments of the piece were all that could be desired.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—With the changing season it is prudent for all to rectify any ailment afflicting them; but it is incumbent on the aged, suffering under ulcerations and similar debilitating causes, to have them removed or worse consequences will follow. This Ointment is their remedy; on its powers all may confidently rely; it not simply puts their sores out of sight, but *extirpates the source of mischief*, extracts the corroding poison, and stimulates nature to fill up the ulcer with sound, healthy granulations that will abide through life. Under this treatment bad legs soon become sound, scabbed skins cast off their scales, and scrofulous sores cease to annoy. Such hope for the deceased was unknown in former days.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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CRAFT.

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ST. MICHAEL'S LODGE, No. 211.

THE ordinary monthly meeting of this ancient Lodge was held on Tuesday last, at the Albion, Aldersgate Street, when the W.M. Bro. Orton Cooper presided, being assisted by the following brethren:—Bros. Wm. Kirkland S.W., W. J. Dyer J.W., Alfred Green P.M., W. Radcliffe P.M., F. J. Hentsch P.M., P. J. King I.P.M., E. K. Podmore P.P.D.C. Warwickshire, George King P.M. 172, W. G. Jennings, J. A. Collings, W. Sergeant Lee, Cecil Mount, J. King, G. C. Brightling, &c. The Lodge was formally opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Albert H. Collings, who was initiated at the last meeting, came before the Lodge, answered the usual questions, was entrusted and retired. The Lodge was opened in the second degree and Bro. Collings was admitted as a Craftsman. The first degree was then resumed, when the ballot was taken and proved unanimous in favour of Mr. Ernest Charles Collings, who was subsequently initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry; both ceremonies being performed in an efficient manner by the Worshipful Master, who also delivered the ancient charge. Another candidate was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and the business of the evening being ended the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony and the brethren adjourned to supper. A very pleasant evening was subsequently spent, the Brothers Collings forming a *tour de force* in contributing to the enjoyment of the brethren.

HARMONY LODGE, No. 275.

THE regular monthly meeting of the members of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Huddersfield, on Thursday, the 1st instant, for the purpose of the installation of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. H. B. Kaye, and as by a happy coincidence it was the anniversary of the birth of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, it was resolved, with acclamation, on a resolution moved by Bro. J. Bottomley seconded by Bro. Edward Armitage, to forward the following telegram to Sandringham:—

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, Sandringham.

The Worshipful Master and Brethren of Harmony Lodge, 275, on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, in open regular Lodge assembled, at the Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield, heartily congratulate your Royal Highness upon this your birthday, and they pray the Most High to continue and bless your life for many years with that of the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Queen and Royal Family.

To which the following gracious reply has been received:—

Sandringham.

Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge, Huddersfield.—I thank you and the brethren of your Lodge most exceedingly for your kind message and good wishes.

ALEXANDRA.

There was a very large attendance of brethren present, including Bro. Green Provincial Grand Secretary, and other Provincial Officers. The ceremony of installation of Bro. Dr. Norman Porritt to the Master's chair was performed by Bro. R. H. Armitage, assisted by Bros. E. Armitage, H. N. Crowther, J. Bottomley, C. W. Keighley, and Williamson. The W.M. afterwards invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. H. B. Kaye I.P.M., R. Cuthbert S.W., A. H. J. Fletcher J.W., Rev. T. H. Greenhalgh Chaplain, G. H. Robinson Treasurer, William Storry jun. Secretary, R. H. Inman Registrar, T. Heaps Director of Ceremonies, J. N. Richardson Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Joshua Marshall Organist, A. Armitage S.D., T. D. Ruddock J.D., E. Haley I.G., H. N. Crowther and John Ward Purveyors, C. A. Swaine, J. W. Senior, J. A. Bradbury, F. W. Robinson, and J. Goldent Stewards, George Platt Tyler. The Lodge and Benevolence Committees were duly appointed. Bro. Murphy was elected Charity Member, and Bros. Ward and Vickers were respectively elected Examiner of Sojourners and Almoner for above and other Lodges in this district.

UNANIMITY LODGE, No. 287.

THE installation meeting of the above Lodge took place on Wednesday, 7th inst., at the White Lion Hotel, Stockport, when there were present Bros. Henry Smith W.M. Prov. G.J.D., George Roberts P.P.G.Stwd. S.W., Rev. Arthur Symonds P.Prov.G.Chaplain J.W., Jas. W. Howard S.D., J. L. Hudson J.D., F. G. Brooke I.G., Wm. Lancaster I.P.M., Jno. Leigh P.M. P.Prov. G.D. of C., C. Dawson P.M., Thos. E. Rigby P.M. Charity Representative, Geo. McClelland P.M. P.P.G.J.D., R. C. Blakehurst P.M., J. Preston, L. Jagger, J. A. Cookson, A. J. Hewett, James Cookson P.M. P.P.G.T. Secretary, Jno. Clarke Tyler, and other brethren. Visitors—Bros. R. Newhouse Prov. G. Sec. tary, Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson P.M. P.P.G.S.W., H. Gordon Small I.P.M. Alan Lodge Prov.G.D.Dir. of Cers., Geo. S. Smith P.M. 1134 1170 2359, Herbert Fiuch P.M. 104 P.Prov.Grand Registrar, Jno. Newton 1140, E. Edmondson Organist 323, D. D. Hayes 104, Henry Lomas I.P.M. 1957, and others. The Lodge was opened with solemn prayer at 2.15 p.m., and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Herbert Ainsworth and proved favourable. M. Ains-

worth was initiated by the W.M., who gave the charge in the N.E. Bro. Wm. Lancaster I.P.M. then took the chair, and the Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree. Bro. Geo. Roberts W.M. elect was presented to receive the obligation of W.M. elect, after which the Lodge was opened in the third degree, and a Board of Installed Masters was formed, when Bro. Roberts was obligated and placed in the chair of K.S. Bro. Lancaster, who took the position of Installing Master at short notice, did the work very creditably; he was ably assisted by Brother Geo. McClelland, who invested the Officers. The address to the W.M. was given by Bro. Blakehurst, to the Wardens by Bro. Dawson. The W.T. in each degree were explained by Bro. James Cookson. The Officers invested were as follow:—Bros. H. Smith I.P.M., Rev. A. Symonds S.W., J. W. Howard J.W., Charles Booth Treasurer, James Cookson Secretary, J. T. Hudson S.D., F. E. Brooke J.D., John Leigh Dir. of Cers., Charles Dawson Organist, J. A. Cookson I.G., Jno. Clark Tyler, Thomas E. Rigby Charity Representative. Heartly good wishes were given by visiting brethren. Letters of regret stating inability to attend were read from Lord Egerton the Provincial Grand Master, and other brethren. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet, served in Mrs. Robertson's usual good style. The toasts of the Queen, Princess of Wales, H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., the Grand Officers Present and Past, the R.W. Provincial Grand Master Lord Egerton of Tatton, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master His Honour Judge Sir Horatio Lloyd, and other Provincial Officers—were all proposed by the Worshipful Master and heartily responded to. After the health of the Worshipful Master had been proposed, Bro. Roberts replied and presented to Bro. Henry Smith a very handsome and valuable Past Master's jewel, which had been subscribed for by the Officers of the Lodge, this being the second gold jewel subscribed for by the brethren of this gold old Cheshire Lodge and presented to the W.M. during his year, the previous one being a 15 carat gold Centenary jewel, on the occasion of the celebration of the Centenary of the Unanimity Lodge in September this year. Bro. Hy. Smith I.P.M. thanked the brethren in a few well chosen words, and expressed his gratitude for the many kindnesses he had received from the Officers and Members of the Lodge. The toast of the Masonic Charities was taken next. Bro. Rigby Charity Representative made an earnest and eloquent appeal to the brethren of the Lodge to support the new Institution set going in Cheshire, viz.: the Cheshire Masonic Benevolent Institution. At first it was proposed to try to raise £1,000, but at the meeting of the Committee of Benevolence, which was held at Crewe, on 30th November, over £1,500 was promised, and it was fully anticipated that over £2,000 would be given in donations by the brethren comprising the Cheshire Lodges on or before June next, when it is expected there will be a festival held most likely in the ancient city of Chester. At the meeting at Crewe, Unanimity had on its lists about £80, and to-night promises of donations handed in would bring it up to about £100, so that he could truly say his appeal had met with a very generous response. They might rest assured the Institution would be a great blessing to aged Freemasons and widows of Freemasons in our own Province. Bro. Herbert Finch replied, and explained the lines on which the new Institution was intended to be conducted. He was quite sure its usefulness would commend itself to every Mason in the Province. Bro. James Salmon Chairman of the Committee of Benevolence had been appointed Chairman, and Bro. Newhouse Provincial Grand Secretary as Secretary, and Bro. James Cookson was appointed Treasurer pro tem. In conclusion, Brother Finch said he was quite sure there was a glorious future to be attained in the Province in connection with the noble and grand Institution now being inaugurated, and he hoped every brother of the Unanimity Lodge would do his share, as he was sure they would, in helping on so good a cause. The health of the Visitors, Past Masters, and newly invested Officers were taken after the Charities, the Tyler's toast not being forgotten. At the close the National Anthem was sung, and the brethren dispersed shortly before 11 p.m. Bro. E. Edmundson presided at the piano. Bros. William Alcock, T. E. Rigby, and Hy. Smith gave much pleasure with songs during the evening.

HOPE LODGE, No. 302.

ON the 5th inst., Brother William Jenkinson was installed as the Worshipful Master of the above Lodge, in the Lodge room at the Masonic Hall, Darley Street, Bradford. There was a very large attendance of brethren, among the Visitors being Brother Mathewman Assistant Secretary of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, and members of the Probity, Halifax, Harmony, Pentalpha, Airedale, Eccleshill, Shakespeare, and several other Lodges. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Charles Gott P.M., and after the Worshipful Master elect had taken the chair, he invested the following Officers:—Bros. John Ingleby I.P.M., A. W. Pullin S.W., A. Howarth J.W., the Rev. T. H. Flynn P.M. Chaplain, T. F. Pettinger Treasurer, John Coates Secretary, J. C. Crocker S.D., A. V. Hammond J.D., F. W. Nicholson P.M. 1034 Organist, J. Pickles Dir. of Cers., J. A. Jowett I.G., G. Beanland Outer Guard, J. Hill Steward, T. C. Hope Charity Steward. The brethren afterwards adjourned and celebrated the festival of St. John the Evangelist.

CAMDEN LODGE No. 704.

A MOST successful and enjoyable ball was given by this Lodge on Thursday, the 8th instant, when a numerous attendance of members and friends was the result. Bro. Edwin Styles, the W.M. of the Camden Lodge, intends to act as Steward for the three Masonic Charities during his term of office, and it was with the hope of adding to his list that this ball was arranged. Everything that was possible seemed to have been done to make the company enjoy them-

selves, the large hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, with the adjoining suite of rooms, having been secured. Bro. Styles was early on the scene, and with his able M.C.'s, Bros. Gammon, Livingstone, and Hazell, started the ball in good time, to the strains of Mr. A. Dr. Lipscomb's band. The ball was kept going right merrily until close on one o'clock, when the company adjourned to a supper, supplied in the well-known style of Messrs. Spiers and Pond. After the supper Bro. Styles rose, and said it was not his intention to indulge in speeches, for he knew full well the ladies did not want to sit and hear them, but would rather get back and enjoy the dance. Therefore he should be brief, and propose the toast of the Queen and the Craft. Brother E. C. Mulvey followed; he knew that the toast he was about to propose would meet with the approbation of all present. Bro. Styles was a good man in the Camden Lodge, and his qualities were fully appreciated by the brethren. He was quite sure that in asking the company to drink the health of Bro. Styles he was doing something that he knew they would do with pleasure. Bro. Styles met with a most cordial reception, and thanked those present for the way they had received the toast of his health. They had that night met for the cause of charity, and he was gratified to see the vast number of ladies and gentlemen around him, for by that means he was sure a large sum would be secured for the Masonic Charities. In conclusion, he thanked every one for their kindness in supporting him on that occasion, and hoped to meet them all again at some future date. Brother Robinson Immediate Past Master asked to propose the next toast—that of the Ladies. He was pleased to have the proud prerogative of proposing a toast that was always sure to be well received, especially among Freemasons. It was well known that they could not do without the ladies, therefore he had much pleasure in asking the gentlemen present to drink to their health. Brother Neville, with the usual modesty of a lady, replied. It was well known that ladies took a great interest in any charitable cause, and as the ball that evening was for the cause of charity it was a great pleasure for them to be there. The ladies hoped that the present would not be the last ball the Camden Lodge would hold, for they hoped to be able to attend on many more such occasions, when, although they would not meet Bro. Styles in the chair of W.M., they hoped to have the pleasure of gathering round another good brother. The W.M. then rose and proposed the last toast, that of the Treasurer and Secretary of the ball. All know what hard workers Bros. Simpson and Gammon were in Freemasonry, and the way both brethren had worked for the success of this ball was highly gratifying. Bros. Simpson and Gammon briefly responded, after which the company returned to the ball room, where dancing was kept up till close upon five o'clock. We must congratulate Bro. Styles and his Officers on the unqualified success of the meeting, and hope a goodly sum will be forthcoming to place on his lists for the different Charities. Among the numerous company present we noticed the following:—Bro. and Mrs. Edwin Styles, Mr. Styles, Bro. A. A. Nottingham, Bro. Dr. N. J. Goodchild, Bro. F. Robinson, Bro. and Mrs. A. T. Eyer, Bro. and Mrs. E. C. Mulvey, Bro. P. Livingstone, Bro. P. Blatchford, Bro. and Mrs. C. Gammon, Bro. J. Simpson, Bro. Mackenzie, Brother Lyons, Bro. Cartwright, Bro. Davis, and Mrs. Garner, Brother Barnes, Bro. Hetherington, Mr. A. C. Thomas, Mr. Beckwith, the Misses Hart, Bro., Mrs. and the Misses Von Joel, Bro. Baker, Brother and Mrs. Carrie, Bro. C. Ransford, Bro. Dingle, Bro. Thirlwell, Bro. and Mrs. Larner, Bro., Mrs. and the Misses Adams, Bro. Flower, Brother Vine, Bro. Jay, Bro. A. Neville, Bro. and Mrs. C. Taylor, Miss Goodchild, Bro. and the Misses Brittain, Miss Amy Brook, Frank and Harry Hale, Mr. Barwell, Bro. Ratley, Bro. and Mrs. Fowler, Bro., Mrs. and the Misses (2) Battrum, Bro. and the Misses (2) Ginger, Mr. Churchill, Mr. and Miss Baker, Mr. Longman, Bro. and Miss A. J. Lane, Bro. J. Joel, Bro. B. and Miss Morgan, Brother and Mrs. Ritcher, Bro. Evans, Bro. Biss, Bro. Henshall, Bro. Martin Wilson, Miss Lee, Bro. and Mrs. W. Seaman, Mr. and Mrs. W. Reffold, Mrs. Barlow, Miss Purchase, Mr. Walter F. Morgan, Miss Woods, Mr. T. W. Parkin, Bro. W. Heath, Mr. J. Symonds, Mr. W. Symonds, Bro. D. Baker, Miss Goddard, Bro. and Miss Andrews, &c., &c.

BUTE LODGE, No. 960.

ON Tuesday evening, the 6th inst., the largest gathering of Freemasons ever recorded in connection with any of the Cardiff Lodges took place at the Masonic Hall, Working Street, Cardiff, the occasion being that of the election of Worshipful Master of the above Lodge in succession to Bro. W. B. Ferrier. At the conclusion of the ordinary business of the Lodge the Junior Warden, Bro. Hybart, presented the Worshipful Master, Bro. W. B. Ferrier, with a handsomely-framed large-sized portrait of himself, on behalf of the Officers of the Lodge. The honour was briefly acknowledged, and Bro. H. Samuel was unanimously elected Worshipful Master. Bro. W. G. Pearce was subsequently unanimously re-elected Treasurer of the Lodge, and Bro. Amos Jenkins to the capacity of Tyler. The annual Masonic ball has been fixed for 31st January, in the Park Hall, Cardiff, and Bro. Samuel's installation will take place on the first Tuesday in January.

ARCHITECT LODGE, No. 1375 (MANCHESTER).

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, on Friday, the 2nd inst. This being the penultimate night of the present Worshipful Master's tenure of office, a large gathering had been expected, but only twenty-seven brethren sat down to partake of a very excellent tea, which had been provided by Mrs. Langford (of the hall), and which preceded the ordinary business of the Lodge. As matters of a very important nature were likely to arise during the evening, the Lodge was opened shortly before 7 p.m. by Bro. W. Dyson Fryer W.M. Brother

William Rushton having given satisfactory proofs of his proficiency was raised to the degree of M.M. by Bro. Henry Nall I.P.M., after which he, together with Bros. J. M. Crone and H. W. Bloomer, were attentive auditors to the traditional history, which was very impressively related to them by the W.M. The ceremony having been brought to a close, it was followed by the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, the choice falling (by a unanimous vote) upon Bro. C. H. Beaver S.W. The result was received with great applause, which induced a reply from Bro. Beaver, who briefly acknowledged the honour accorded him, and accepted the important position. Bro. J. Laidlaw, who has ably discharged the duties of Treasurer for some ten years past, intimated his intention to retire from that post: an election was therefore necessary. The brethren were not long in making up their minds as to who should be Bro. Laidlaw's successor, and when the name of Bro. Nall I.P.M. was put to the meeting in that capacity he was elected without an adverse vote. Bro. Fryer W.M. testified to the long services of Bro. Laidlaw as Treasurer, saying that the zeal and ability he had displayed in the discharge of his duties, combined with his gentle manners, had endeared him to all. Bro. Fryer added one compensating assurance however: the brethren would still have the benefit of Bro. Laidlaw's services on the board of Past Masters. He concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the late Treasurer, which was seconded at some length by Bro. Nall in an exceedingly neat and effective speech, and carried with acclamation. Auditors and Tyler were also elected. Bro. Fryer gave notice of motion to propose a donation of twenty guineas to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institute, which subject will be ventilated at the next meeting. Hearty good wishes were expressed by visiting brethren, and the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony. There were present Bros. W. Dyson Fryer W.M., Henry Nall I.P.M., C. H. Beaver S.W., Jas. Morrison J.W., James Laidlaw P.M. P.P.G.J.D., Jno. G. Bromley P.M. Secretary, Alfred Pickford S.D., Charles Rawle J.D., Wm. C. Flint I.G., W. Moulton Organist, Jas. A. Carse Steward, John M. Crone, T. Robt. E. Birkett, Hugh W. Bloomer, A. Redfern, A. W. Bennett, R. T. Dawson, Ed. M. Beeby, J. Coupland, William Rushton, Edward Roberts P.M. (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE). Visitors—Bros. Th. B. Grimshaw 1140, John Travers J.W. 1387, Wm. B. Midgley J.W. 1453, John Allen, L.D.S., R.C.S. 2231, R. E. Stringleman S.W. 2231, J. M. H. Blamey J.W. 163, W. Toombs 1588, and George Burslem P.M. Treasurer 1495. At the social board which followed the Lodge meeting, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the evening's proceedings enlivened by songs, recitations, &c. Bro. John Allin ventured a comic song, entitled the "Whistling Coon," wherein he displayed extraordinary powers as a *siffleur*; Brother T. B. Grimshaw sang "Simon the Cellarer, Brother E. Roberts gave a Dutch sketch from his entertainment "Grins and Wrinkles," and Brother J. M. H. Blamey thrilled the audience by an admirable rendering of Professor Ayton's delightful recitation, "Charles Edward at Versailles, on the anniversary of the battle of Culloden." Bro. Blamey has a commanding presence, and possessing as he does a voice of great flexibility, combined with the powers of a genuine elocutionist, he was enabled to do full justice to a literary gem. Bro. Nall assured the visiting brethren of a hearty welcome, at the same time proposing their health, to which toast Bros. George Burslem, R. E. Stringleman, and J. M. H. Blamey responded. Bro. Fryer in proposing the health of Bro. Beaver W.M. elect, spoke of the painstaking and thorough manner in which he had discharged his duties, and the great esteem in which he was held, which was proved by his having been offered the highest post it was in their power to bestow. The W.M. elect had carried out the precept "Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might," and he had endeared himself to every one. Bro. Fryer prognosticated a bright future for him, and assured the brethren that the object of their choice could not fail to be impartial in his conduct while occupying the chair of K.S. Bro. Beaver, whose reply was characterized by extreme modesty, entirely deprecated his own powers, but earnestly exhorted his Officers to be regular in their attendance, and to uphold that standard of work the excellence of which had been the pride of members of the Architect Lodge. He spoke confidently of the future, and said that he intended in twelve months' time to justify their selection of him as W.M., he therefore relied upon every Officer doing his best to render most faithful performances of their impressive Masonic ceremonies. He emphasized the fact that he intended to do his duty, and added, when a Mason said that, he meant it. Bro. Nall proposed the toast of the W.M., and praised the manner in which he had that evening performed the work allotted to him, thus crowning a noble year by a noble rendering of a most important and impressive ceremony, which would remain in their annals as one of the many things Bro. Fryer had done to increase the prestige of the Architect Lodge. Bro. Fryer in response said, that so many kind things had been uttered about him that he felt quite overwhelmed. He acknowledged that he had done his best, and whatever success had attended him was due mainly to two influences: the backing up which he had received by having the services of Bro. Nall placed unreservedly at his disposal, and the assistance of the various Officers, who had generously supported him. He enjoined the younger Officers particularly to be regular in their attendance, and render vigilant attention to their work. Of the Past Masters he spoke in unequivocal terms, saying they were the ballast of the Lodge, and it was a good thing to have such staple support from brethren who were always able, and invariably willing to help. Bro. Jno. G. Bromley replied to the toast of the P.M.'s, saying that on many previous occasions it had been omitted, through want of time, caused by the heavy work of the Lodge, which was of far greater importance. He thanked them for the cordial manner in which they had received the toast, and trusted that now they were comfortably settled in their new and handsome quarters, they would have a renewal of many such happy evenings as that just about to terminate. Bro. Bromley spoke of the recent pleasant meetings which they had enjoyed at the Chorlton Masonic Hall, which would scarcely have been possible at their old place. Other speeches

followed, and the proceedings were brought to a close so as to enable several brethren to catch their trains.

MORECAMBE LODGE, No. 1561.

THE annual installation meeting was held on the 2nd inst., when Bro. William Wilson was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year by Bro. J. L. Gorton. The newly installed W.M. appointed his Officers, as follow:—Bros. Albert Gorton S.W., R. B. Lee J.W., William Longmire Treasurer, William Duff Secretary, Thomas Baxter S.D., George Gough J.D., R. B. Abbott Organist, J. F. Willan Dir. of Cers., A. Smith and E. Turner Stewards. The customary installation banquet followed. A number of brethren from neighbouring Lodges were present.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1524.—

A meeting was held on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Navarino Tavern, Navarino Road, Dalston. Present—Bros. Lorkin P.M. Preceptor, J. Ives P.M. W.M., C. Bestow S.W., Islip J.W., W. Gray P.M. Treasurer, J. Clark Secretary, J. W. Draper P.M. S.D., Row J.D., Feltheastal Organist, Ames P.M. I.G., and many other brethren. This well known and greatly increased Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed; Brother Lewis answered the necessary questions; the Lodge was opened in the second degree and Bro. Lewis was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Draper, assisted by the brethren, then worked the first and second sections of the lecture. Lodge was closed in ancient form and adjourned till Saturday, 17th December, at 8 o'clock.

SCOTLAND.

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SALTOUN LODGE, No. 761.

THE brethren of the above Lodge met, on the 6th inst., in the Imperial Hotel, Aberdeen, when the following brothers were present:—Bros. Captain Lachlan Forbes, Alexander Wilson P.M., Sir J. H. Forshaw P.M., P. Crombie P.M., W. Morrison S.W., J. N. Sellar J.W., James Saint Secretary, J. W. Milne Treasurer, John Rust S.D., Charles Milne J.D., R. B. Bateman P.M. (E.C.) Organist, Horace Fildes I.G., J. H. Butchart, Jas. Spence, J. H. Chinn, W. Dunlo, A. Bayspoole; visiting brethren—John Whitehead P.M. P.Z. G. Steward E.C. and S.C. 1425 2319, G. Mair Hood 668, J. D. Campbell 110, Charles F. Forshaw, LL.D., 2417 1214 (E.C.), George Forbes 183 (California), A. Bartley 93, Frank Whitehead 110, W. Osborne 1789. The ceremony of installing Brother Captain Forbes as R.W.M. was performed in an able manner by Brother Edward Savage P.P.G.D.M., who also installed the Office Bearers for the ensuing year. Bro. Chas. F. Forshaw, LL.D., was elected a member of the Lodge. The Lodge was closed in the first degree, after which the brethren adjourned for refreshment, about forty sitting down to a splendid repast. The menu card was an elegant one, and a unique feature was the original and appropriate verses, composed by Brother Dr. Forshaw, introducing the various dishes. The toast list was as follows:—the Queen and the Craft, proposed by Captain L. Forbes; the Prince of Wales, Patron of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, by Captain L. Forbes; the Grand Lodge of Scotland, by Captain L. Forbes; the Grand Lodges of England and Ireland, by Captain L. Forbes, replied to by Brother Whitehead and Brother Dunlo; the Provincial Grand Lodge of Aberdeen, proposed by Captain L. Forbes, and replied to by Brother Sir J. H. Forshaw; the Sister Lodges, proposed by Captain L. Forbes, replied to by Brother Spence; the Right Worshipful Master, proposed by Brother Wilson, and replied to by Captain Forbes; the Immediate Past Master, proposed by Brother P. Crombie, and replied to by Brother Wilson; the Installing Master, replied to by Brother Sir J. H. Forshaw; the Visitors, proposed by Captain Forbes, and replied to by Brother Dr. Forshaw. The other toasts were:—the Saltoun Lodge Officers, the Tyler's toast, and "Auld Lang Syne." Songs were contributed by Brothers Cooper, Sellar, Marison, Whitehead, Crombie, Brown, Smith, and Dunlo. Recitations were given by Brothers Wilson and Dr. Forshaw. Brother Bateman officiated at the piano. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

At the Masonic Buildings, Lord Street, Southport, on the 12th inst., the annual installation for the Lodge of Unity, No. 613, took place, when Bro. T. T. Marsden was installed W.M. by Bro. M. H. Boyd, the outgoing W.M., assisted by Bro. H. Kidson. The W.M.'s of the other local Lodges and several Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers were present. Liberal sums were voted to various Charities, and a banquet was served by Bro. G. Rockliffe, the usual toasts with music and recitations following.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—The MAGIC MIRROR contains invaluable advice on an important subject to men contemplating marriage. Information in matters you ought to know. Send for it to-day, gratis and Post Free, Address, THE SECRETARY, 4 Fitzalan Square, Sheffield.

MASONIC STUDIES.

SIR ISAAC NEWTON inserted a religious scholium in the heart of his "Principia."

Louis Agassiz, in opening a session in Biology on the Island of Penikese, said to his class, "Young gentlemen, before we commence to look into the secrets of nature let us seek wisdom from nature's God. Let us pray."

The most eloquent expounder of science in this country during the last generation wrote at the close of his long and brilliant professional career, "I can truly declare that in the study and exhibitions of science to my pupils and fellowmen I have never forgotten to give all honour and glory to the infinite Creator—happy if I might be the honoured interpreter of a portion of his works and of the beautiful structure and beneficent laws discovered therein by the labours of many illustrious predecessors. For this I claim no credit. It is the result to which right reason and sound philosophy, as well as religion, would naturally lead."

Was such a "mixing up" of religion with science in good taste? Was it scientific? Some say, No, and say it loudly. "The two things differ so widely in their natures. They belong to such different realms. They aim at such different objects. They pursue their objects by such different roads. Who has not heard of the scientific method?" and who does not know that it differs by whole diameters from the method of faith? Let the two poles keep apart. It will be for the comfort and advantage of both."

It will be seen from the following pages that the author does not side with these critics. He prefers to side with the Pleiades. To his thinking there is a way of mixing up religion with everything.

He is far from being scandalised at seeing Rongon at the head of a cemetery, or in the name of God, Amen! at the head of a list of benefactors. He is anything but disgusted to find that the name of God appears in some national Magna Charta; that the Gladstones and Bismarcks of the day speak it reverently in Parliament and in Congress; that Legislatures are opened with prayer; that magistrates and even voters are qualified by oaths; that the legend of a certain commonwealth is *Qui transtulit sustinet*; that the Queen (God bless her!) send forth her manifestos with *We Victoria by the Grace of God*; that that autocrat Nebuchadnezzar, in an imperial ukase, "talks like a minister" to all his nations and languages. Even the bristling forehead of the New England mathematician seems to him all the better for having in it a little chapel to the Creator; and the Deans sound not unbecomingly amid the polyglot of geologic hammer, chemical reagents, and rotating astronomical domes. So he hopes that Newton, Agassiz and Miller will have many successors. It would not much displease him were the time hastily to come when not a scientific lecture is spoken nor a scientific book written which does not in some way pay an emphatic tribute to the great Author of nature.

The tribute is due. Society needs it more than tongue can tell. Ours are not the ages of faith. An audacious speculation, with its guesses and fictions and inanities, is trying as never before to turn God out of His own world—and with a frightful measure of success. "What France lacks to-day is, not a man, but a God." And Germany is, if possible, worse off still. And both Teuton and Gaul, invited by words vandals of our own, are frequently crossing channel and ocean to lay waste the English-speaking peoples. Many of our strongholds have already fallen into the hands of the invaders. Should all fall it would be "midnight streaked with lightning."

Not scientific to mix up science and religion in the same book? Then God himself is unscientific, for he has so largely and legibly written himself into that Book of Nature that contains all the sciences that even the heathen "are without excuse for not reading his eternal power and godhead in the things that are made." Is it scientific to attack religion from the side of science, and unscientific to defend it from the same side? Is it scientific to illustrate one science by another, as is daily done without rebuke, and unscientific to illustrate that supreme science which we call religion by that other science we call astronomy?

Is it scientific to notice the gigantic tracks of birds in the rocks of the Connecticut Valley, and unscientific to notice in both earthly and heavenly strata the still more gigantic footprints of the Creator? Was it scientific and in excellent taste for the scholar who in the year 1500 found

an aged parchment in the monastery of Corwey, in Westphalia, to cry out so that all Europe heard him, "This reads like Tacitus," and unscientific as well as in bad taste for the scholar who finds still more ancient inscriptions in the cloistered heavens, to cry out loudly, "This reads like God."—*Masonic Review*.

MASONIC SONNETS.—No. 27.

By BRO. CHAS. F. FORSEMAN, LL.D., 2417 1214, 761 (S.C.)

A DRUNKEN MASON.

Oh! that a man who reads our happy ways
Should also walk the paths of degradation;
And, through strong drink, for all his future days
Bear with remorse, a ruined reputation.
Ah! 'tis a foe that gnaws the very soul,
Steals from a man his erstwhile perfect name,
And as time doth ever onward roll,
Steeps him in sin and sinks him into shame.
My Brethren, we are bound by bonds of love,
By links which teach us e'er to help another;
Then, for the sake of Him who rules above,
Let us aye strive to turn an erring Brother,—
Who at the shrine of Bacchus fain would stay,
And worship that which weas his soul away.

Winder House, Bradford.
15th December 1892.

At the Maidstone Assizes, on Monday, Leonard Mackelov was indicted for feloniously wounding, with intent to murder, Miss Edith Philbrick and Miss Hilda Wood. The circumstances of the case are well known to most of our readers. The prisoner since his committal from the Bromley police-court has developed distinct signs of insanity, and has had whilst in gaol a number of fits. Mr. H. F. Dickens, Q.C., who, with Mr. Low, appeared to prosecute for the Treasury, now submitted the evidence of Drs. Gilbert and Hoar, Medical Officers at Holloway and Maidstone gaols, and Mr. Davies, Medical Superintendent at Barming Heath Lunatic Asylum, who deposed that the prisoner was totally unable to understand the proceedings or to plead to the indictment. The jury, who were sworn to try this issue, returned a verdict accordingly, and Mr. Justice Hawkins thereupon ordered the prisoner to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure.

The Earl of Radnor was installed, on the 14th inst., at Salisbury, as Provincial Grand Master of Mark Masons for Wiltshire. The ceremonies, which included the consecration of a new Mark Lodge for Salisbury, were performed by the Earl of Euston, Deputy Grand Master of the Mark Degree, assisted by Colonel A. B. Cook Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, Bro. Frank Richardson Grand Registrar, and Bro. C. F. Matier Grand Secretary.

The annual meeting of the Marquess of Granby Lodge, No. 124, was held on Tuesday evening, the 6th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Durham. Bro. W. H. Patterson was elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. M. Fowler M.P., was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. W. Grabham Tyler. The Lodge was closed in the usual manner, and the Festival of St. John was afterwards held.

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MIDLAND RAILWAY.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

THE Booking Offices at ST. PANCRAS and MOORGATE STREET STATIONS will be open for the issue of tickets all day on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. Tickets to all principal Stations on the Midland Railway and Lines in connection can also be obtained beforehand at

THE MIDLAND COMPANY'S OFFICES:—

445 West Strand; 267 Strand; 189 Victoria Street; 33 Cranbourne Street; 101 High Holborn, 5 Charing Cross (corner of Northumberland Avenue); 1 Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly; 10a New Bond Street; Gloucester Office, 495 Oxford Street; 273 Regent Circus, Oxford Street; 170 Queen's Road, Bayswater; 109 Tottenham Court Road; 9 Sloane Square; 33 Cannon Street; 13 Aldersgate Street; 10 Commercial Road; "Four Swans," 36 Camomile Street; 13 Parkside, Knightsbridge; 123 Mare Street, Hackney, and at the Army and Navy Stores, 105 Victoria Street, S.W.

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Tickets obtained at these Offices will be available from St. Pancras Station, will be issued at the same fares as charged at that Station, and be dated to suit the convenience of Passengers.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS.

TO SCOTLAND.

On FRIDAY, December 23rd, for 3 or 8 days, and on Friday, December 30th, for 5 or 7 days, to Newcastle, Berwick, Carlisle, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Kircudbright, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Stranraer, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Arbroath, Montrose, Aberdeen, &c. Leaving St. Pancras at 9.30 p.m., Kentish Town 9.38, Victoria (L. C. & D.) 8.3, Moorgate St. 8.47, Aldersgate St. 8.49, Farringdon St. 8.51 p.m.

RETURN TICKETS AT A SINGLE FARE FOR THE DOUBLE JOURNEY will be issued by these trains to the places mentioned, available for return on any day within 8 days, including days of issue, and return.

TO IRELAND.

On FRIDAY, December 23rd, to Belfast, Londonderry, &c., (via Barrow), leaving London (St. Pancras) at 12.25 p.m., Kentish Town 12.29, Moorgate St. 12.3, Aldersgate St. 12.4, Farringdon St. 12.6, King's Cross (Met.) 12.10.

On Saturday, December 24th, to Londonderry (via Morecambe), leaving St. Pancras at 5.15 a.m. For dates of return from Ireland see bills.

TICKETS, BILLS, &c., may be had at the MIDLAND Stations and City Booking Offices, as above.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

Derby, December 1892.

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LETTERS.—Professor H. Frank Heath, B.A., Ph.D., Miss E. Fogerty, Mortimer de Larmoy, Dr. N. Heinemann, F.R.G.S., Luigi Ricci, B.A., J. H. Rose, M.A., F.R. Hist.S., H. E. Malden, M.A., F.R. Hist.S., W. B. Kemshead, M.A., Ph.D.

MUSIC.—Herr Gustav Ernest, Frederick Cliffe, Arthur O'Leary, John Francis Barnett, A. J. Eyre, Mdm. Pereira, Miss E. Tedder, Otto Manns, Robert Reed, Mdm. St. Germaine, Henry Blower, Gustave Garcia, A. Romili, W. A. B. Russell, Mus. Bac. Oxon., Professor J. F. Bridge, Mus. Doc., Ebenezer Prout, B.A. Dancing.—M. Louis d'Egville, Miss L. Pear.

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LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, 1892.

TICKETS for all principal places on the London and North Western system, available from either Euston or Kensington (Addison Road), and dated to suit the convenience of passengers, can be obtained at the Spread Eagle Office, Piccadilly Circus, and other principal Town Receiving Offices of the Company, and at Messrs. Gaze & Son's Office, 112 Strand, W.C., as well as at the Railway Stations.

On Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th, Special Expresses will leave Willesden Junction at 2.45 p.m. for Bletchley, Wolverton, Northampton, Market Harborough, Wellingboro', Rugby, principal Stations on the Trent Valley, and Stafford, in advance of the 2.45 p.m. ordinary train from Euston, and from Euston at 4.25 p.m. and 6.55 p.m. for Coventry and Birmingham.

On the same day the Night Irish Mail, due to leave Euston, at 8.20 p.m., will not leave until 9.5 p.m. Passengers from Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester for Holyhead and Ireland will leave at the usual hours, and will be taken forward to Holyhead in advance of the London train. The Mail Packet for Kingstown will not leave Holyhead until the passengers from London are on board.

The 12.0 night Train from London (Euston), due at Warrington at 5.15 a.m. on Christmas Day, will be extended from Warrington to Carlisle as on week days, and will by special arrangement take passengers for Kendal and Windermere.

CHRISTMAS DAY.—On Christmas Day the usual Sunday service of trains will be run.

On Bank Holiday, Monday, December 26th, the Express Trains leaving London (Euston), at 12.0 noon and 4.0 p.m. will not be run, passengers will be conveyed by the 12.10 p.m. and 4.10 p.m. trains respectively. The 4.30 p.m., London (Euston) to Birmingham and Wolverhampton, will also be discontinued, and passengers will be conveyed by the 5.0 p.m. train, except those for Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray, Nottingham, the G.N. Line, Wellingboro', Thrapston, &c., who must travel by the 3.15 p.m. train from Euston. Numerous residential trains in the neighbourhood of important Cities and Towns will not be run.

The Up and Down Dining Saloons between London, Liverpool, and Manchester, will not be run on Bank Holiday, but those between London and Glasgow will be run as usual.

For further particulars, see Special Notices issued by the Company.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS.

Cheap Excursions to Scotland and North of Ireland.

CHEAP Excursions to Carlisle, Dumfries, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Gourock, Aberdeen, Montrose, Brechin, Arbroath, Forfar, Coupar Angus, Dundee, Perth, Dunbeath, Stirling, &c., will be run as under.

On Friday, December 23rd, for 3 and 8 days, and on Friday, December 30th, for 5 and 7 days, leaving London (Euston) at 9.20 p.m., Broad Street 8.40 p.m., Kensington (Addison Road) 9.12 p.m., and Willesden Junction 9.30 p.m.

By these excursion trains tickets at a single fare for the double journey will be issued to the places named, available to return on any day within seven days from the date of issue.

On Friday, December 23rd, a cheap 16 days Excursion to Belfast, Londonderry and Portrush, will leave London (Euston) 12.30 noon, Broad Street 11.55 a.m., Kensington (Addison Road) 12.12 noon, and Willesden Junction 12.41 p.m.

For fares and further particulars, see bills.

G. FINDLAY, General Manager.

Euston Station, December 1892.

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GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ON DECEMBER 19th, and during the week preceding Christmas Day, CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS available on forward journey from December 22nd to 25th, and for return up to December 29th inclusive, will, in addition to ordinary tickets, be issued at PADDINGTON, Kensington (Addison Road), Hammersmith, &c., at the Company's Receiving Offices at 193 and 407 Oxford Street; 23 New Oxford Street; Holborn Circus; 26 Regent Street; 269 Strand; 17 Brompton Road; 29 Charing Cross; 5 Arthur Street East, London Bridge; 82 Queen Victoria Street; 43 and 41 Crutched Friars; 67 Gresham Street; 4 Cheapside; and the L.B. and S.C. Office (under Grand Hotel), Trafalgar Square, to Bath, BRISTOL, Taunton, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, EXETER, TORQUAY, PLYMOUTH, Falmouth, Penzance, &c. Also to the Yeovil and Weymouth districts, to most of the Stations West of Bristol, and to GUERNSEY and JERSEY. The tickets will be available by all trains.

Ordinary tickets issued in London between December 19th and 24th will be available any day between and including those dates.

On Saturday, December 24th, the 1.15 and 5.0 p.m. trains from PADDINGTON to Plymouth will be extended to FALMOUTH and PENZANCE. The 6.20 p.m. from PADDINGTON to Bristol will run to Exeter, calling at Weston-Super-Mare, Bridgwater, Taunton, &c., reaching EXETER at 12.0 midnight, and will convey passengers for stations on the Barnstaple Branch. A SPECIAL FAST TRAIN will leave PADDINGTON at 10.0 p.m. for NEW MILFORD, calling at the same stations between Swindon and New Milford as the 9.15 p.m. ordinary train. A SPECIAL FAST TRAIN will leave PADDINGTON at 11.50 p.m., midnight, for Reading, Swindon, Bath, BRISTOL, Weston-Super-Mare, Bridgwater, Taunton, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Newton Abbot (for Torquay and Kingswear), Totnes, Kingsbridge Road, Plymouth, and stations thence to Penzance.

The usual Sunday trains will be run on CHRISTMAS DAY, but the 5.30 a.m. train from PADDINGTON will run as on week-days to Oxford, Weston-Super-Mare, and Swansea. The train will be fifteen minutes earlier than usual between Didcot and Oxford, so as to connect at Oxford with the 7.25 and 7.40 a.m. trains, thence to Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Worcester, Malvern, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton, &c.

For further particulars see special bills obtainable at the Company's Stations and Offices.

HY. LAMBERT, General Manager.

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The Right Hon. the MARQUIS OF LORNE, K.T.
writes as follows:—

OSBORNE, 22nd August 1892.

DEAR DR. FORSHAW,—Many thanks for your little Lake Tour. It recalls pleasant memories, and is set with pretty sonnets as the Lakeland hills are set with their bright gems of water.

Yours faithfully LORNE.

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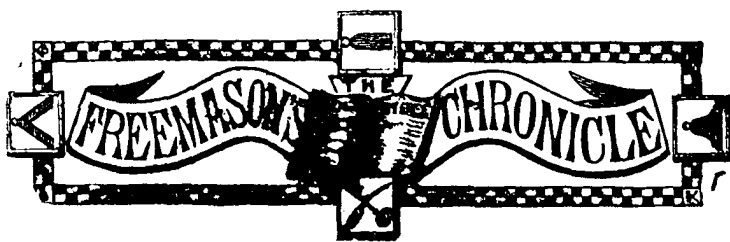
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SATURDAY, 17TH DECEMBER 1892.

MARK MASONRY.

—:O:—

GRAND MARK LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held, on the 6th inst., at Mark Masons' Hall. The Marquess of Hertford M.W. Pro Grand Master presided. The Report of the General Board, which was adopted, was as follows:—

During the three months ending 30th September there have been issued Mark certificates, 273; total number registered, 30,168. Warrants for new Lodges, viz:—

No. 447 Clarence, Liverpool.

„ 448 Hampton Court, Hampton Court.

„ 449 Mid Sussex, Horsham.

Royal Ark Mariner certificates, 47; total number registered, 3,717.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to re-appoint:

R.W. Bro. Sir C. B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall for a further term of three years.

R.W. Bro. Charles Letch Mason Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire for a further period of three years.

The V.W. Bro. L. G. Gordon Robbins P.G. Overseer having requested the opinion of the Board as to the disposal of the funds and property in his custody as Provincial Grand Treasurer of the late Province of Middlesex and Surrey, the Board have fully considered the matter, and recommend to Grand Lodge that Bro. Gordon Robbins be and is hereby authorised and empowered to hand the same, after payment of all liabilities, to the Grand Treasurer for the time being, to hold until such time as the new Provinces or Grand Lodge shall decide what shall be done with the same, and they ask Grand Lodge to resolve that the receipt of the Grand Treasurer for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge to Bro. Gordon Robbins.

The Board also recommend to Grand Lodge that a meeting be summoned of the Executive Committee of the late Province of Middlesex and Surrey, and of the Executive Committees of the present Provinces respectively of Middlesex and Surrey, to take into consideration the disposal of such funds and property, and that the resolutions of such meeting be reported to next Grand Lodge, to enable the Grand Treasurer for the time being to act thereon.

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The Sub-Committee on Education have carefully considered the annual Reports of the Head Masters and Mistresses of the Schools at which the various pupils on the Fund are being educated, and have awarded the Silver Medal for Proficiency in Studies and General Excellence to Elizabeth Prince, educated at the St. Mary's Lower Middle School, Abbots Bromley, Rugely, and Ernest Richard Grayham, educated at the High School, Oxford.

The Board have elected on the Educational Fund without a poll:—

Charles E. Hills (Cambridge).

John Garrett Bussell (Newark).

The following cases have been relieved:—

Bro. B. H. (Lodge 334)	...	...	...	£10	0	0
Mrs. S. A. L. (Widow of a Brother of No. 22)	...	...	...	5	0	0
Mrs. M. E. (Widow of a Brother of No. 34)	...	...	...	5	0	0
Bro. A. H. N. (Lodge Northumberland and Berwick, T.I.)	...	...	...	5	0	0

The Board recommended the sum of £20 to Mrs. L. M. B. (Widow of W. A. B., No. 224).

R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, President.

FRANK RICHARDSON, Vice-President.

C. FITZGERALD MATIER, G. Secretary.

On the motion of Bro. Loveland, seconded by Bro. Frank Richardson, the different recommendations were agreed to. Bro. Eugene Montenuis nominated the Prince of Wales for re-election as Grand Master. Bro. Gordon Miller P.G. Treasurer nominated Bro. Frederick Mead for election as Grand Treasurer. The Pro Grand Master stated that there had been a slight difference in the opening, and would be in the closing of Grand Lodge. The alteration had been submitted to him, and he had accepted it as assimilating the practice of Grand Mark Lodge to that of United Grand Lodge. Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS.

—:0:—

THE London and North Western Company announce that the ticket offices at Euston, Broad Street, Kensington, and Willesden Junction will be open throughout the day from Monday, 19th December, to Saturday, 24th December (Sunday excepted), so that passengers wishing to obtain tickets for any destination on the London and North Western Railway can do so at any time of the day prior to the starting of the trains. The tickets will be dated to suit the convenience of passengers. Tickets for all the principal stations on the London and North Western system and its connections can be obtained at any time—Sundays and Bank Holidays excepted—at the following Town Receiving offices of the Company:—15 Queen Street, E.C.; Spread Eagle, 3 Whittington Avenue, Leadenhall Market, E.C.; Swan-with-two-Necks, 65 Gresham Street, E.C.; 13 Eastcheap; Cross Keys, 1 Wood Street, Cheapside, E.C.; 22 Aldersgate Street, E.C.; 65 Aldgate, E.; 30 West Smithfield, E.C.; 8 and 9 Clerkenwell Green, E.C.; Bolt-in-Tun, 64 Fleet Street, E.C.; 116 Holborn, E.C.; George and Blue Boar, 285 High Holborn, W.C.; 43 New Oxford Street, W.C.; Universal Office, Spread Eagle, Piccadilly Circus, W.; 34 Parliament Street, Westminster; Golden Cross, Charing Cross, W.C.; Hotel Windsor, Victoria Street, S.W.; 231 Edgware Road, W.; Atlas Office, 167 Tottenham Court Road, W.C.; 70 St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; 3 James Street, Covent Garden, W.C.; Lion, 108 New Bond Street, W.; 496 Oxford Street, W.; Griffin's Green Man and Still, 241 Oxford Street, W.; 33 Hereford Road, Bayswater, W.; Knightsbridge, 34 Albert Gate, S.W.; Kensington, 33 High Street, W.; 117 High Street, Borough, S.E.; 233 and 234 Blackfriars Road, S.E.; Surrey Railway Office, 138 Newington Causeway, S.E.; 194 Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.; Islington, "Angel," 5 Pentonville Road, N.; London, Brighton, and South Coast Company's Offices, 8 Grand Hotel Buildings, Charing Cross; at Messrs. Gaze and Son's Offices, 142 Strand, W.C.; 4 Northumberland Avenue, W., and 18 Westbourne Grove, W.; and at the Army and Navy Co-operative Society's Stores, 105 Victoria Street, Westminster S.W. The ordinary service of express and mail trains will be supplemented by additional express trains as named below:—On Christmas Eve, Saturday, 24th December, a special train will leave Willesden Junction at 2.45 p.m. for Bletchley, Wolverton, Northampton, Rugby, principal stations on the Trent Valley Line, and Stafford, in advance of the 2.45 p.m. ordinary train from London (Euston). The 4.30 p.m. Euston to Birmingham will be divided—the first portion, which will run express to Coventry and Birmingham, will leave Euston at 4.25 p.m.; the second portion of the train will leave Euston at 4.30 p.m. as usual, and convey passengers for Northampton, Market Harboro', Wellingboro', Rugby, Coventry, Birmingham, Walsall, Dudley, and Wolverhampton. The 7.0 p.m. Euston to Birmingham, will be divided, the first portion, which will run express to Coventry and Birmingham, will leave Euston at 6.55 p.m.; the second portion of the train will leave Euston at 7.0 p.m., and convey passengers for Bletchley, Northampton, Rugby, Coventry, Birmingham, Dudley, Wolverhampton, and Walsall. The night Irish mail, due to leave Euston at 8.20 p.m. will not leave until 9.5 p.m. Passengers from Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester, for Holyhead and Ireland, will leave at the usual hours, and will be taken forward to Holyhead in advance of the London train. The mail packet for Kingstown will not leave Holyhead until the passengers from London are on board. The 12.0 night train from London (Euston), due at Warrington at 5.15 a.m. on Christmas Day, will be extended from Warrington to Carlisle as on week days, and will, by special arrangement, take passengers to Kendal and Windermere. On Christmas Day the usual Sunday service of trains will be run. On Bank Holiday, Monday, 26th December, the express trains leaving London (Euston) at 12.0 noon and 4.0 p.m. will not be run, passengers will be conveyed by the 12.10 p.m. and 4.10 p.m. trains respectively. The 4.30 p.m., London (Euston) to Birmingham and Wolverhampton, will also be discontinued, and passengers will be conveyed by the 5.0 p.m. train, except those for Market Harboro', Melton Mowbray, Nottingham, the G.N. line, Wellingboro', Thrapston, &c., who will travel by the 3.15 p.m. train from Euston. Numerous residential trains will not run, particulars of which can be ascertained on reference to the Company's local notices. The Up and Down Dining Saloons between London, Liverpool, and Manchester, will not be run on Bank Holiday, but those between London and Glasgow will be run as usual.

THE Great Western Railway Company issue tickets of all classes at the following City and West End offices:—193 and 407 Oxford Street; 23 New Oxford Street; Holborn Circus; 29 Charing Cross; 17 Brompton Road; 5 Arthur Street East, London Bridge; 82 Queen Victoria Street; 269 Strand; 43 and 44 Crutched Friars; 26 Regent Street; 67 Gresham Street; 4 Cheapside; and the L.B. and S.C. Company's Booking Office, (under Grand Hotel), Trafalgar Square. This arrangement cannot fail to be a boon to those travellers who desire to avoid the trouble of obtaining a ticket at a crowded Railway Station.

The Booking Office at the Paddington Station will also be open for the issue of tickets the whole of each day during the week preceding Christmas day. Ordinary tickets obtained in London between 19th and 24th December will be available for use on any day between and including those days. Cheap third class tickets at reduced fares will be issued from London to the Yeovil and Weymouth districts, to stations in the West of England, and to Guernsey and Jersey; similar tickets will also be issued from those districts to London, (except the Channel Islands).

In order to meet the extraordinary demands upon the Company's resources occasioned by the enormous parcels traffic despatched both from and to London at Christmas time, special fast trains carrying parcels only, and calling at the principal intermediate stations will

run between London and Plymouth, Birkenhead, Worcester and New Milford.

On Saturday, 24th December, the 1.15 and 5.0 p.m. trains from Paddington to Plymouth will be extended to Falmouth and Penzance; and the 6.20 p.m. train from Paddington to Bristol will run to Exeter. A special train will leave Paddington at 10.0 p.m. for New Milford, and will call at the same stations as the 9.15 ordinary train, and a special express to the West of England will depart at 11.50 p.m. (midnight).

The usual Sunday service of trains will be run on Christmas day, but for the convenience of persons who are unable to leave town before the morning of Christmas day, the 5.30 a.m. train from Paddington will run as on week days to Oxford, Bristol, Weston-Super-Mare, Worcester, Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Dudley and Wolverhampton.

THE THEATRES, &c.

—:0:—

Terry's.—There is a fine old fashioned Christmas-Carol-like flavour about Miss Florence Warden's new play "Uncle Mike" that renders its production at the present season singularly appropriate, and there is moreover a great similarity to Old Scrooge in the principal character that causes the likeness to be more apparent. Yet there is little of the pathos or sentiment of Dickens in the story, which is better designed than carried out. Michael Ventriess is a dual personage: we first see him as "Quaife and Co.," a miserly and extortionate money lender, squeezing his clients to the utmost farthing, and cheating a cabman out of his legal fare, though it seems somewhat strange that the miserly old hunk should take a cab at all. Yet again he appears as the kindly hearted "Uncle Mike," bringing toys and sweets to the two little daughters of a distant relative who snubs him, making up Christmas parcels for the village poor, and returning hundreds of pounds to his debtors at the request of a pretty girl with whom he thinks himself in love. This is Gwendolen, the daughter of Sir Richard Ingleby, upon whose estates Michael has foreclosed, and she comes to Quaife to ask clemency for her mother's sake. He immediately restores them to their position, and foregoes his contemplated vengeance against the Stapleton Turners, to whose son the young lady is engaged. Neville Turner, finding that Sir Richard is ruined, coolly throws over the daughter; and a very interesting scene occurs where Michael, mistaking his feeling of gratitude for love, is on the point of proposing to Gwendolen, ascertains that she is fond of another. He therefore brings the young people together and finds consolation in the affection of his two little playmates above mentioned. The interest throughout centres in Uncle Mike, who is represented by Mr. Edward Terry with his well known quaint and pathetic humour, though we find it difficult to realise the Quaife side of his disposition. Gwendolen is prettily portrayed by Miss Helen Forsyth; the two little girls Madge and Midge are amusingly rendered by Misses Annie Hill and Lucy Webling; while the small part of Lady Ingleby is dignified by the acting of Miss Carlotta Addison. There is not much chance for Mr. Fred Thorne as Quaife's clerk to distinguish himself, nor do Messrs. Henry V. Esmond and W. T. Lovell have better opportunities, but they make the most of their respective characters, while adequate assistance is given by Miss Alexis Leighton, Mr. C. Fulton, and Mr. C. M. Hallard in the supplementary parts.

Criterion.—In spite of being admirably acted and exquisitely mounted, Mr. Isaac Henderson's play, "The Silent Battle," hardly appeals to the sympathies of a British audience, who are not accustomed to the sight of a married woman and a mother making violent love to another woman's husband, or of a weak spirited wife who allows her spouse to carry on an intrigue under her own roof without remonstrance. The scene is however laid in Italy, which may account for the peculiar position of affairs. Mercedes de Vigno is desperately in love with Filippo, Marquis Loreno, who does not appear to reciprocate her passion very keenly, though quite willing to have a platonic attachment with a handsome woman. This is not sufficient for the lady, who causes Filippo to be seen under compromising circumstances by his wife and her own husband. No results ensue from this, however, as Colonel da Vigno owes his life to Filippo; and a reconciliation is ultimately brought about by Mr. John Dow, a kind hearted Yankee, who finds his reward in the person of Gaeta Faviola, a very sensible and up-to-date young lady. Miss Olga Nethersole is somewhat hampered in her efforts by the flabbiness of Filippo, but gives due effect to the intense passion which consumes the impetuous Mercedes, though it is hard work to represent such an unsympathetic character. The character of Agatha, trusting to the loyalty of her husband to conquer his infatuation, forms a startling contrast, and is touchingly portrayed by Miss Winifred Emery. It is not Mr. F. Worthing's fault that his Filippo is unsatisfactory, for the author has utterly failed to depict the struggle between virtue and vice in his person. Mr. Herbert Waring is well placed as Da Vigno and Miss Minnie Terry, as the boy Leo, speaks her lines with emphasis and distinctness. The two most interesting characters are John Dow and Gaeta, and their appearance is always a relief. Here we have Miss Mary Moore and Mr. Charles Wyndham in scenes of real comedy, that in the second act, where John proposes, eliciting great applause. Miss Moore has never appeared to greater advantage. Miss Rose Leclercq, Mr. C. W. Somerset and Mr. Aynsworth effectively sustain the remaining parts. As several members of the cast have other engagements the piece can only be played for a limited time.

Covent Garden.—As we announced last week would be the case, the successful Drury Lane drama, "The Prodigal Daughter," was transferred to this house last Monday, when the play was followed with great interest by a large audience and received a very hearty reception. With three exceptions all the original representatives of the cast appear, and have naturally developed the rendering of their respective characters. We are pleased to hear that Mr. Harry Nicholls is making satisfactory progress towards recovery, but in his absence Mr. Dalton Somers amusingly sustains the part of Lord Banbury. Mr. Arthur Williams whose services are required elsewhere is now replaced by Mr. George Barrett, who gives a very earnest interpretation of the struggles against temptation successfully resisted by Tom Blinker. Miss Marie Illington takes the place of Miss Millward, and efficiently represents the heroine. The roomy stage enables Sir Augustus Harris to give due effect to the splendid scenery, while the episode of the Grand National Steeplechase is materially enhanced by having additional space. The play thus enters upon a new lease of popularity under the most favourable auspices.

The popular Mr. W. S. Penley is about to embark as a theatrical manager and opens the Royalty next Wednesday, with a new farcical comedy by Brandon Thomas, entitled "Charley's Aunt." We desire to convey our hearty good wishes.

A grand evening concert, in aid of the Saturday Hospital Fund, will be given at Barnsbury Hall, Islington, N., on Thursday evening next, the 22nd inst., at 7.30 o'clock, when Sir Albert K. Rollitt, LL.D., M.P., will preside. The following artistes will assist:—Misses Helen Ornarey, A.G.S.M. Gold Medallist, Agnes Bearfield, Katherine Craig, Dora Page, Major, Adelina Treiss, Maude Gross, Sophie Raven, Rose Moyses, Blanche Moyses; Messrs. Arthur Blake, Fred. Solo, Samuel Raven, L. Major, E. Picand, and Herbert Field. Accompanist, Mr. Willis Fletcher. Tickets (2s, 1s, and 6d each) may be had from Mr. Walter F. Morgan, FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE Office, Pentonville, N.

THE DEGREE OF ANCIENT (pre-1717) MASONRY.

AN exceedingly interesting lecture, under the above title, was delivered by Bro. G. W. Speth P.M. 183, a founder and present Secretary of the well known Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, at the regular meeting of The Great City Lodge, No. 1426, at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, on Saturday, the 10th instant. By a careful dissection and comparison of the evidence extant, such as the old Manuscript Constitutions, extracts from the 17th Century writers and diarists, the earliest Book of Constitutions, and old Rituals, the lecturer drew conclusions as to the number and nature of the Degrees and Ceremonies of Freemasonry previous to the Revival in 1717. That ceremonies of some sort in connection with the ancient guilds of Operative Masons were practised by those from whom the Speculative or Free-Masons of the present day are descended he proved beyond a doubt, but whether those ceremonies were compressed into what we should now term a "degree," or were extended throughout two or more grades of progress is, admittedly, still a subject for further investigation. The result of his own research led him to the conclusion that there were two stages only, those of the Master Mason, first, and the Fellow Craft or "Fellow of the Guild" as the final proof of proficiency and the necessary qualification in operative workmanship, or *Craft*. What the nature of those stages or degrees probably were, Bro. Speth admirably illustrated, and pointed out their connection the one with the other, and with the subsequent system of Speculative Masonry, by a lucid exposition of ancient "Chamber" secrets and modern "Lodge" ritual. These we are, of course, prohibited from alluding further to than to remark that the lecturer's observations were comprehensive and convincing, and were fully understood by his audience. The lecture is one of considerable interest. It engaged the earnest attention of the brethren during the hour and a half placed at Bro. Speth's disposal, and at its conclusion a hearty burst of applause testified to the gratification his discourse had afforded them.

After a few remarks from the W.M. Bro. D. T. Keene, Bro. J. K. Gwyn J.W. moved "that the best thanks of the members of The Great City Lodge and its Visitors present on this occasion be given to W. Bro. Speth for the interesting and most instructive Lecture delivered by him, and that the same be recorded on the minutes." This was seconded by Bro. James Stevens P.M. and Secretary, and carried by acclamation. Bro. Speth responded, and kindly offered to give another lecture in the Lodge, if requested, at some future convenient opportunity.

Among the several members of other Lodges who were present in response to the announcement that Master Masons might attend, were Bros. Col. J. Mead W.M. 785, Walter Hancock W.M. No. 2191, F. W. Potter P.M. 2241, R. W. Forge P.M. 1793 and P.G.D.C. Middlesex, Stephen Richardson P.M. 183, Fred. Jacob P.M. and S.W. 1851, C. W. Noshmer P.M. 507, and others who did not "sign on."

After the Lodge had been closed, the members and their visitors dined together, Bro. Speth occupying the post of honour on the right of the W.M. and meeting with a hearty reception from all present. In response to the toast of the Visitors, the brethren were favoured by an admirable address from the W.M. of the Anglo-American Lodge, Bro. Hancock, who expressed his high appreciation of the instructive and interesting lecture he had heard, and greatly commended the Lodge for providing, through so able a lecturer as Bro. Speth, such an opportunity for acquiring knowledge of the past and present connection of Craft Freemasonry. He hoped that many more such pleasant evenings might be in reserve for him and others through the instrumentality of The Great City Lodge. The Tyler's toast was given before 10 o'clock and the brethren dispersed.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE,

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ON

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DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

—:—

Saturday, 17th December.

1641 Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
1732 King's Cross, Anderson's Hotel, E.C.
M.M. 251 Tenterden, Anderson's Hotel, E.C.

811 Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
993 Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme
2035 Beaumont, Masonic Hall, Kirkburton

Monday, 19th December.

1 Grand Masters', Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
8 British, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
21 Emulation, Albion, Aldersgate Street
185 Tranquillity, Guildhall Tavern, E.C.
862 Whittington, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

1537 St. Peter Westminster, Criterion, W.
1694 Imperial, 24 Victoria Street, Westminster.
1728 Temple Bar, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet St.
R.A. 1657 Aldersgate, Albion, Aldersgate Street
M.M. 173 Temple, Green Dragon, Stepney

77 Freedom, Falcon Hotel, Gravesend
248 True Love and Unity, F.M.H., Brixham
284 Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, Warwick
312 Lion, Masonic Hall, Whitby
359 Peace and Harmony, F.M.H., Southampton
424 Borough, M.R., Half Moon Lane, Gt. Heath
466 Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron
725 Stoneleigh, Craven Arms, Coventry
872 Lewis, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven
925 Bedford, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
949 Williamson, Masonic Hall, Monkwearmouth
986 Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston

1030 Egerton, George Hotel, Heaton Norris
1113 Angelsea, Victoria Hotel, Carnarvon
1141 Mid Sussex, King's Head, Horsham
1170 St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
1199 Agriculture, Ship and Turtle, Congresbury
1205 Metharr, Metham Masonic Hall, E. Stonehouse
1208 Corinthian, Masonic Temple, Dover
1255 Dundas, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
1443 Salem, Masonic Hall, Dawlish, Devon
1502 Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1631 St. Andrew, St. Andrew's Hall, Gorleston
1814 Worsley, Court Hotel, Worsley
1909 Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
2074 St. Clair, Masonic Hall, Landport
2086 Dacre, Assembly Rooms, Stevenage
2208 Horsa, Masonic Hall, Bournemouth
2289 Blundellsands, Alexandra Assembly Rooms, Great Crosby.

2327 St. Oswin, M.H., Norfolk Street, N. Shields
2349 West Lancashire Century, South Shore
Hydropathic Establishment, Blackpool.

R.A. 32 Jerusalem, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
R.A. 40 Emulation, Castle Hotel, Hastings.
R.A. 296 Loyalty, F.M.H., Surrey St., Sheffield
R.A. 345 Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
R.A. 428 Sincerity, Angel Hotel, Northwich
R.A. 482 St. James, New Inn, Handsworth
R.A. 779 St. Augustine, F.H., Ashby-de-la-Zouch
M.M. 141 Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton

Tuesday, 20th December.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, 4
30 United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, E.C.
73 Mount Lebanon, Bridge House, Southwark
95 Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, E.C.
162 Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

1339 Stockwell, Surrey M.H., Camberwell
1695 New Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury
2021 Queen's Westminster, Holborn Restaurant
2022 Haven, Lyric Hall, Ealing
2233 Old Westminster, 68 Regent Street, W.

R.A. 7 Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H., W.C.
R.A. 11 Enoch, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
R.A. 19 Mount Sinai, Anderson's Hotel, E.C.
M.M. 238 Prince Leopold, Anderson's Hotel, E.C.
M.M. 284 High Cross, Seven Sisters Hotel, Tottenham

213 Perseverance, 47 St. Giles Street, Norwich
223 Charity, Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth
384 St. David, Masonic Hall, Bangor
402 Royal Sussex, George Hotel, Nottingham
414 Union, Masonic Hall, Reading
418 Menturia, Masonic Hall, Hanley
432 Abbey, Newdegate Arms Hotel, Nuneaton
468 Light, Great Western Hotel, Birmingham
660 Camalodunum, Freemasons' Hall, Malt on
667 Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
830 Endeavour, Queen's Arms, Dukinfield
960 Bute, 9 Working Street, Cardiff

1006 Tregullov, Masonic Rooms, Scorrier, Cornwall
1039 De Shurland, Fountain Hotel, Sheerness
1225 Hindpool, Masonic Hall, Barrow-in-Furness
1276 Warren, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe
1424 Brownrigg, King's Arms, Old Brompton
1427 Percy, Masonic Hall, Newcastle
1551 Charity, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
1570 Prince Arthur, Mas. Hall, Hope St., Liverpool
1764 Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Northampton
1787 Grenville, Town Hall, Buckingham
1838 St. Keyna, Lamb and Lark Hotel, Keynsham
1893 Lumley, Estate Office, Skegness
1894 Herschel, Masonic Rooms, Slough
1903 Pr Edward of Saxe Weimar, M.H., Portsmouth
1941 St. Augustine's, Shrewsbury Arms, Rugeley
2146 Surbiton, Maple Hall, Surbiton
2155 Makerfield, Pied Bull, Newton-le-Willows
2407 Hicks-Beach, Imperial Hotel, Strand, Glos.

R.A. 41 Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Bath
R.A. 80 St. John's, Masonic Hall, Sunderland
R.A. 115 Royal Pavilion, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
R.A. 419 St. Peter, Star & Garter, Wolverhampton
R.A. 645 Humphrey Cheetham, F.M.H., Manchester
R.A. 792 Oliver, M.H., Osborn St., Basingstoke
R.A. 1151 Unity, Town Hall, Tywardreath, Cornwall
R.A. 2134 Wilberforce, M.H., St. Luke St., Hall
M.M. Lebanon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
M.M. 266 Amherst, Masonic Hall, San Igata
M.M. 330 Temple, Masonic Hall, Folkestone

Wednesday, 21st December.

Board of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
7 Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H., W.C.
174 Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham St. E.C.
969 Maybury, Inns of Court Hotel, W.C.

1349 Friars, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
1392 Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town
1507 Metropolitan, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street
1673 Langton, Holborn Viaduct Hotel, Holborn
2361 Cricklewood, Crown Hotel, Cricklewood
M.M. 144 Grosvenor, Masonic Hall, Air Street, W.

20 Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sin Hotel, Chatham
121 Mount Sinai, Masonic Hall, Penzance
127 Union, King's Head, Margate
137 Amity, Masonic Hall, Market Street, Poole
175 East Medina, Masonic Hall, Ryde, I.W.
178 Antiquity, Royal Hotel, Wigan
200 Old Globe, Masonic Hall, Scarborough
210 Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
221 St. John, Masonic Hall, Bolton
243 Loyalty, Masonic Temple, Guernsey
248 Royal Union, Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham
311 South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes
325 St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Salford
342 Royal Sussex, Freemasons' Hall, Landport
376 Perfect Friendship, M.H., Soane St., Ipswich
451 Sutherland, Town Hall, Burslem
537 Zetland, 9 Hamilton Street, Birkenhead
581 Faith, Grosvenor Hotel, Fairfield, Manchester
692 Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester
610 Colston, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol
662 Dartmouth, Masonic Hall, W. Bromwich
683 Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Newport, Mon.
728 Staffordshire Knot, The Swan, Stafford
823 Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
874 Holmesdale, Pump Room, Tunbridge Wells
938 Grosvenor, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
962 Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Worthington
972 St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury

1019 Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield
1040 Sykes, Masonic Hall, Driffield
1086 Walton, Skelmersdale M.H., Kirkdale
1129 St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale
1136 Carew, M.H., Torpoint, Cornwall
1161 De Gray and Ripon, Freem. Hall, Manchester
1246 Holte, Victoria Hall, Aston
1301 Brighthouse, Masonic Room, Brighthouse
1334 Norman, Freemasons' Hall, Durham
1353 Duke of Lancaster, Masonic Hall, Lancaster
1511 Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull
1634 Starkie, Grant Arms, Ramsbottom
1774 Mallor, Corporation Arms, Ashon-under-Ly
1983 Mawddack, Masonic Hall, Barmouth, N. Wales
2050 St. Trinians, M.H., Loch Parale, Douglas
2135 Constance, Masonic Hall, Christchurch
2153 Hope, India Arms Hotel, Gosport
2203 Farnborough and North Camp, Queen's Hotel, North Camp, Farnborough
2258 Western District United Service, Masonic Hall, Caroline Place, E. Stonehouse
2330 St. Lawrence, M.R., New Inn, Pudsey.

R.A. 258 Amphibious, F.M.H., Heckmondwike
R.A. 274 Fidelity, Boar's Head, Newchurch
R.A. 290 Prosperity, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield
R.A. 361 Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde
R.A. 591 Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury
R.A. 847 Fortescue, Masonic Hall, Honiton
R.A. 1387 Chorlton, M.H., Chorlton-cum-Hardy

Thursday, 22nd December.

House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, 4
1608 Kilburn, Queen's Arms Hotel, Kilburn
2012 Chiswick, Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge
M.M. 118 Northumberland, Masons' Hall, E.C.

51 Angel, Three Cups, Colchester
78 Imperial George, Assheton Arms, Middleton
202 Friendship, Masonic Hall, Devonport
348 United Brethren, The Grosvenor, Blackburn
349 St. John, Masonic Hall, Bolton
594 Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
734 Wellington, Public Rooms, Park St., Deal.
935 Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salford

1505 Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1626 Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Newcastle
1705 Prince of Wales, India Arms, Gosport
1971 Army and Navy, Masonic Hall, Aldershot
2017 Duke of Portland, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
2101 Bramston Beach, Masonic Hall, Godalming.
2131 Brownlow, Town Hall, Esher
2195 Military Jubilee, Masonic Hall, Dover.
2214 Josiah Wedgwood, Wesleyan Schools, Etruria, Staffordshire.

2215 Anfield, Sandon Hotel, Anfield, Lancashire
2261 Armitage, M.R., Market St., Middlesbrough
2263 St. Leonards, M.H., Surrey Street, Sheffield
2335 Cycling and Athletic, Coffee House, Church Road, Waverley.

2337 Manchester Dramatic, F.M.H., Manchester
R.A. 113 Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Preston
R.A. 216 Sacred Delta, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R.A. 270 Fortitude, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester
R.A. 314 Royal Architect, Bull Hotel, Preston
R.A. 394 Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
R.A. 41: St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Peterborough
R.A. 1037 Portland, Masonic Hall, Portland
R.A. 1042 Excelsior, M.H., St. George Street, Leeds

Friday, 23rd December.

735 Twelve Brothers, Masonic Hall, Southampton
1621 Castle, Crown Hotel, Bridgton
1712 St. John, F.M.H., Grange Street, Newcastle
2415 Tristram, Sunday School Rooms, Shildon

R.A. 61 Sincerity, F.M.H. St. John's Place, Halifax
R.A. 431 Ogle, M.H., Norfolk Street, North Shields
R.A. 630 Sefton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R.A. 1086 Walton, Skelmersdale M.H., Kirkdale

Saturday, 24th December.

1541 Alexandra Palace, Holborn Viaduct Hotel

INSTRUCTION.

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Saturday, 17th December.

87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's Park, near Nunhead Junction, 730
179 Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C., 8
198 Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8
1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E., 8
1283 Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, 8
1364 Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Hackney, 7
1524 Duke of Connaught, Lord Stanley, Hackney,
1634 Eccleston, 13 Cambridge Street, Pimlico, 7
2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, Hammersmith, W.
R.A. Sinai, Red Lion, King Street, Regent St., W.

Monday, 19th December.

22 Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, 730
27 Egyptian, Atlantic Tavern, Brixton, S.W., 8
45 Strong Man, Bell and Bush, Ropemaker St.,
174 Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch St., 7
180 St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant, 8
248 True Love & Unity, F.M.H., Brixham, Devon
332 Royal Union, Chequers' Hotel, Uxbridge
643 Wellington, White Swan, High St., Deptford, 8
823 Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 730
975 Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, 730
1327 Upton, Three Nuns, Aldgate, E., 8
1339 Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 630
1425 Hyde Park, Prince of Wales's Hotel, corner of
Eastbourne Terrace, and Bishop's Rd., W. 8
1445 Prince Leopold, 232 Whitechapel Road, E., 7
1449 Royal Military, Masonic Hall Canterbury,
1488 M. of Ripon, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park, 730
1507 Metropolitan, The Moorgate, E.C., 730
1585 Royal Commemoration, Railway Ho, Putney
1603 Kilburn, 48 South Molton Street, W., 8
1623 West Smithfield, Manchester Hotel, E.C., 7
1693 Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., 830
1707 Eleanor, Rose and Crown, Tottenham, 8
1743 Perseverance, Deacon's Tavern, Walbrook, 7
1891 St. Ambrose, Baron's Ct. Hotel, W. Kensington, 8
1901 Solwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich, 8
2030 Abbey Westminster, Town Hall, S.W., 730
2192 Walthamstow, Chequers Hotel, High Street,
Walthamstow, 8

Tuesday, 20th December.

25 Robert Burns, 8 Tottenham Court Road, 8
55 Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Holborn, 7
74 Athol, M.H., Severn Street, Birmingham, 645
141 Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, S.W.
177 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 730
183 Jappa, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street, 8
212 Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, Camden Town, 8
241 Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
463 East Surrey Lodge of Concord, Grayhound
Hotel, Croydon, 8
551 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, 8
700 Nelson, Star and Garter, Woolwich, 730
753 Prince Fred. William, Eagle Tav., Maida Hill, 8
820 Lily of Richmond, Grayhound, Richmond, 730
829 Sydney, Black Horse Hotel, Sidcup, 7
860 Dalhousie, Middleton Arms, Dalston, 8
861 Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle St., 7

1041 Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Wandsworth, 8
1321 Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8
1343 St. John, Masonic Hall, Grays, Essex
1349 Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, 730
1446 Mount Edgecombe, Three Stars, Lambeth Rd., 8
1471 Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., 730,
1472 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich
1473 Bootle, 146 Berry Street, Bootle, 6
1540 Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High St.
1638 Brownrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Norbiton, 8
1695 New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav, N.
1839 Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, E.C., 7
1949 Brixton, Prince Regent East Brixton, 8
2146 Sarbiton, Maple Hall, Sarbiton
2411 Clarence and Avondale, M.H., Leytonstone, E
Metropolitan Chapter, White Hart, Cannon St., 630
R.A. 704 Camden, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., 8
R.A. 1365 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 8
R.A. 1612 E. of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting
Hill, 8

Wednesday, 21st December.

3 Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, 8
30 United Mariners', Lugard, Peckham, 730
65 Prosperity, Old Parr's Head, Knightbridge St.
72 Royal Jubilee, Mitre, Chancery Lane, W.C., 8
73 Mount Lebanon, George Inn, Borough, 8
193 Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall St., 8
228 United Strength, Hope, Regent's Park, 8
538 La Tolerance, Portland Hotel, Gt. Portland St., 8
591 Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 7
673 St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 8
720 Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, 7
751 Merchant Navy, Silver Tav, Burdett Rd., 730
813 New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Rd. 8
862 Whittington, Red Lion, Fleet Street, 8
902 Burgoyne, King's Arms, John Street, Bedford
Row, W.C., 8
972 St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, 830
1037 Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
1269 Stanhope, Fox and Hounds, Putney
1356 Toxteth, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool, 730
1475 Peckham, 516 Old Kent Road, 8
1511 Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull
1601 Ravensbourne, Rising Sun, Rusby Green, Cat-
ford, 8

1604 Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, S.W., 7:30
 1662 Beaconsfield, Chequers, Walthamstow, 7:30
 1681 Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, May Fair, 8
 1692 Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent, 8:30
 1791 Creaton, Wheatshaf, Shepherd's Bush, 8
 1922 Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, 8
 1963 Duke of Albany, 153 Battersea Park Road, 7:30
 2206 Hendon, Welsh Harp, Hendon, 8
 R.A. 177 Domatic, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8
 R.A. 720 Pamure, Goose and Gridiron, E.C., 7
 R.A. 933 Doric, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., 7:30
 M.M. Grand Masters, Mark Masons' Hall, W.C.

Thursday, 22nd December.

141 St. Luke, White Hart, Chelsea, 7:30
 147 Justice, Brown Bear, Deptford, 8
 263 Clarence, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C.
 733 Westbourne, 112 Queen's Road, Bayswater, 8
 749 Belgrave, Albion Tavern, Russell St., W.C., 8
 754 High Cross, Coach and Horses, Tottenham, 8
 879 Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Rotherhithe New Road
 890 Hornsey, Masonic Room, Lewisham, at 8
 1017 Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, W.,
 1158 Southern Star, Sir Syd. Smith, Kennington, 8
 1178 Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, S.E. 7
 1182 Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool, 7:30
 1259 Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, Commercial Road, Limehouse, E., 7:30
 1278 Bardett Coutts, Swan, Bethnal Green Road, 8
 1306 St. John, Three Crowns, Mile End Road, 8
 1360 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales, Wimbled., 7:30
 1426 The Great City, Masons' Hall Avenue, 6:30
 1558 D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Camberwell, 8
 1571 Leopold, City Arms Tavern, E.C., 7
 1580 Cranbourne, Red Lion, Hatfield, 8
 1602 Sir Hugh Myddelton, 45 Upper Street, N., 8
 1612 West Middlesex, Bell, Ealing Dean, 7:45
 1614 Covent Garden, Criterion, W., 8
 1622 Rose, Stirling Castle, Camberwell, 8
 1625 Tredegar, Wellington, Bow, E., 7:30
 1673 Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 5:30
 1744 Royal Savoy, Blue Posts, Charlotte Street, 8
 1950 Southgate, Railway Hot, New Southgate, 7:30
 1677 Crusaders, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Road, Clerkenwell, 9
 1998 Priory, Constitutional Club, Acton
 R.A. 753 Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, 8
 R.A. 1471 North London, Northampton House, Canonbury, 8

Friday, 23rd December.

Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, 8
 General Lodge, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, 8
 167 St. John's, York and Albany, Regent's Park,
 507 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 7:30
 765 St. James, Princess Victoria, Rotherhithe, 8
 780 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, 8
 834 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith
 1056 Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, 7
 1185 Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, Wood Green, 7:30
 1228 Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone, 8
 1298 Royal Standard, Castle, 81 Holloway Rd., N., 8
 1365 Clapton, G.E. Hotel, Liverpool Street, 7
 1391 Kennington, The Horns, Kennington, 8
 1457 Bagshaw, Public Hall, Loughton, Essex, 7:30
 1642 E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, 8
 1901 Selwyn, Montpelier, Choumont Rd., Peckham, 8
 2021 Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, The Criterion, W., 8
 R.A. 95 Eastern Star, Hercules Tavern, E.C.
 R.A. 820 Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, 8
 R.A. 890 Hornsey, Prince of Wales's Hotel, corner of Eastbourne Terrace, and Bishop's Road, W. 8
 R.A. 1275 Star, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell, 7

Saturday, 24th December.

87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's Park, near Nunhead Junction, 7:30
 179 Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C. 8
 198 Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tav, Southgate Rd., N. 8
 1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E. 7
 1288 Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, 8
 1364 Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Hackney, 7
 1524 Duke of Connaught, Lord Stanley, Hackney, 8
 1624 Eccleston, 13 Cambridge Street, Pimlico, 7
 2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, Hammersmith, 7:30
 R.A. Sinai, Red Lion, King Street, Regent St., W.

A fine wild boar from the Queen's herd in Windsor Great Park has been sent to Sandringham as a present to the Prince of Wales.

THE LAW COURTS.—The Judges will rise for the Christmas Vacation on Wednesday next, the 21st instant, after which there will be no farther sittings in court until 11th January, when the Hilary sittings begin.

Princess Victoria Mary of Teck has consented to become patroness of the Macready Seaside Holiday Institute at Hastings, which will be opened expressly for the members of the Theatrical Mission, Covent Garden, at the commencement of the new year.

THE BLENHEIM ORCHIDS.—The late Duke of Marlborough's collection of orchids will be sold by auction next Monday and following days, by Messrs. Protheroe and Morris, at the gardens of Blenheim Palace. The collection comprises 25,000 "established" plants, and includes many fine specimens.

The Pope has addressed a letter to the Italian Bishops and another to the Italian people in both of which he severely denounces the Freemasons, who, in his Holiness's opinion, pursue the Satanic aim of seeking to replace Christianity by naturalism.

We understand that a further sum has been granted by the Commissioners of the Chicago Exhibition to the Women's Section presided over by Princess Christian. The exhibits will be of a highly varied and interesting character.

A meeting of the Committee of Benevolence of the Province of Cheshire has been held at Crewe in connection with the proposed fund of benevolence for the relief of aged Freemasons and widows of Masons who cannot be got in the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in London. The following were elected members of the Charity Council:—Brother Alexander Owen, Stalybridge division; Bro. Henry Jackson, Hyde division; Bro. Herbert Finch, Stockport division; Bro. Edwin Crew, Macclesfield division; Bro. the Rev. C. W. Spencer-Stanhope, Crewe division; Bro. F. R. B. Lindsell, Altrincham division; Bro. W. H. Finchett, Chester division; Bro. G. H. Browne, Birkenhead division; Bro. John Lee, Seacombe division. Several petitions for relief were considered, and five grants, amounting in the aggregate to £50, were made. It was originally proposed to raise an amount of not less than £1,000, and towards this the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Egerton of Tatton, promised £100. At the meeting at Crewe reports were submitted by the Charity Representatives, and with promises made to the Provincial Grand Secretary, Brother Newhouse, the Chairman (Brother Salmon) was able to announce that the magnificent sum of £1,799 10s had been paid or promised towards the fund. It is now certain that the amount of £2,000 will be raised. The draft scheme for the proposed institution was adopted with some slight alterations, and a strong committee was appointed for the purpose of drawing up bye-laws.

The Queen will leave Windsor Castle, this Saturday morning, for Osborne, shortly after ten o'clock.

Mr. Nicholas O'Connor, the new British Minister at Pekin, has had an audience of the Emperor of China, to whom he presented his credentials.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has accepted a copy of Laura Dinham's new song, "Oh, Wind that Wand'reth," through her Grace the Duchess of Manchester, to whom it is dedicated.

The Duchess of Albany, who had been staying with the Queen, has come to London. Before leaving Windsor her Royal Highness paid a visit to the tomb of Prince Leopold in the Albert Chapel.

Viscount Templeton presided at the annual general meeting of the Home of Rest for Horses, held in one of the rooms at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, on Thursday. The Duke of Portland was re-elected President, and among the patronesses chosen was the Marchioness of Salisbury.

A Sunday school teacher was giving a lesson in Ruth. She wanted to bring out the kindness of Boaz in commanding the reapers to drop large handfuls of wheat. "Now, children, she said, referring to the six measures of barley which he gave to her, 'Boaz did another nice thing for Ruth. Can you tell me what it was?' There was silence for a few minutes, when a little boy exclaimed 'Married her!'

The infant son of the Duke and Duchess of Westminster was christened in the private chapel at Eaton Hall, on Thursday. In addition to the parents, a large company was present, including the Duke and Duchess of Teck. Princess May of Teck was the godmother, the godfathers, who were represented by proxy, being Mr. A. J. Balfour, M.P., and Sir Henry Loch. The child was named Edward Arthur.

By command of the Queen, several of Normann's Norwegian Fjord paintings were sent to Windsor Castle this week for her Majesty's inspection. Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise has bought "A Summer Evening at Lofoten," by the same artist. Her Majesty has been pleased to purchase two water colour figure studies by Alice Mand Langford, Queen's Scholar of the Royal Female School of Art for this year.

The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution have received a handsome donation, which is to be as handsomely applied. Mr. B. Stretton, of Wisboro' Tower, Billingshurst, Sussex, has forwarded to the Secretary, 26 Charles Street, St. James's, £1,000, and, in accordance with the wish of the donor, the Council have resolved not to invest this sum, but to spend it in providing additional pensions for ruined farmers and their wives and widows.

The Duchess of Teck distributed the prizes to the Chester Volunteers in the Music Hall of that city on Wednesday. In acknowledging a vote of thanks to the Duchess, the Duke of Teck took the opportunity of expressing, on behalf of his daughter, Princess May, her thanks to the women of Cheshire for their handsome present, which had been accompanied by so touching an inscription.

A white marble monument has been sent to Spain to be erected over the tomb of the late Mr. E. A. Freeman. It bears an inscription of dedication: "To the pious memory of Edward Augustus Freeman, who enshrined in letters for all time the Early History of England, the Norman Conquest, and the destinies of Sicily. Fired with a zeal for topographical research, he was struck down in the midst of a journey in Spain, by sudden sickness, and died there March 16, 1892."

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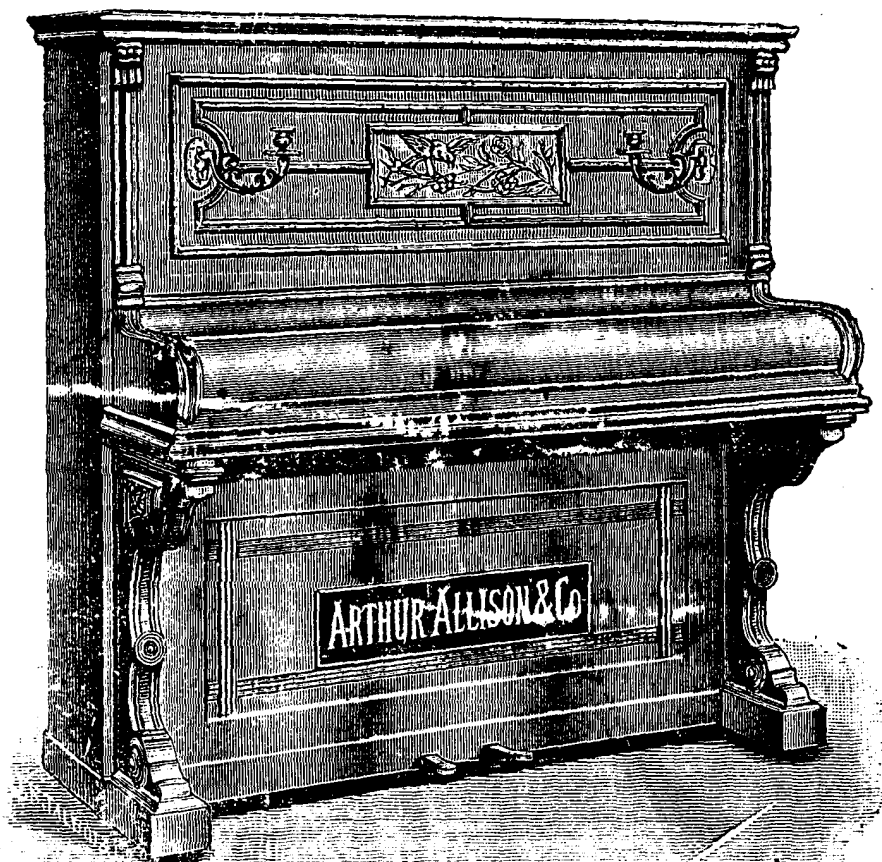
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