

THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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PROFICIENCY BEFORE ADVANCEMENT.

THE subject of our present remarks has often been discussed in our pages, but that does not rob it of interest at the present time, when there are many signs around us of need for reform, and a growing inclination, if we may so describe it, to neglect one of the most important features of the Masonic constitution.

To fully explain the facts of the case we can hardly do better than refer to the extract we give elsewhere from our Australian contemporary "Masonry," wherein it is recorded that an Entered Apprentice, when questioned prior to taking the second step in Freemasonry, was prompted word for word by the Deacon, and afterwards advanced to the higher degree as a reward for his "proficiency" in the former.

Unfortunately we need not go so far as the antipodes to find instances of such utter disregard of the regulations of the Craft, and it may well be left for "echo" to answer why preferment should be allowed under such conditions? We quite agree with our contemporary in saying that a candidate who is not able or willing to commit a few lines to memory is hardly a candidate worthy of advancement, but the pity of it all is that no steps are apparently taken to bring about a reform that, it seems to us, should be easy of accomplishment if a few of those who delight in the practice of Masonry in its fullest sense were to band themselves together for the purpose.

The test questions put to candidates from time to time as they progress in Freemasonry cannot by any stretch of the imagination be set down as difficult of acquisition, and to allow slipshod procedure or even indifference at this early part of a Mason's career is but setting the seed of what will prove indifference or carelessness in the future, to the injury of the candidate himself, and through him of the Masonic Order also.

It is at all times very unpleasant to have to take harsh measures in order to set a good example to others, but we really believe it would be in the interests of progress if a Worshipful Master occasionally declined to proceed with a candidate's advancement if his progress or proficiency in the former degree, as evidenced by his answers to the test questions, was an unknown quantity.

LEWISHAM LODGE.

THIS new Lodge, to be known as the Lewisham Lodge, No. 2582, was consecrated at Smethwick on Tuesday. The founders are Bros. John Edward Chambers, Alfred Caddick, John H. H. Manley, T. H. Spencer, E. Wood, C. Hodgkinson, J. E. Mitchell, G. Hadley, W. H. Reynolds, P. Howse, W. M. Jackson, W. H. Kendrick, S. Evans, S. Smith, J. Newey, T. Spencer, E. Walter, F. Arkinstall, and F. T. Jefferson.

The ceremony of inauguration took place at the Blue Gates Hotel, Smethwick. The large attendance of Brethren included Bro. Edward Letchworth Grand Secretary, the Earl of Dartmouth Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, Colonel John A. Bindley D.P.G.M. P.G.D. England, and many other distinguished members of the Order.

The ceremony of consecration was performed by the Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. E. V. Greatbach Prov.G.S.W. of

Staffordshire as S.W., C. Taylor Prov.G.J.W. of Staffordshire as J.W., the Rev. V. M. Holden P.P.G.C. of Staffordshire as Chaplain, G. Walton Walker Provincial Grand Secretary of Staffordshire as D.C., and G. Taylor Prov.G. Pursuivant as I.G.

The Lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the Consecrating Officer addressed the Brethren on the motive of the meeting, after which the Director of Ceremonies read the petition and warrant, and the Brethren of the new Lodge having signified their approval of the Officers named in the warrant, the Chaplain delivered an oration on the nature and principles of the institution.

The Provincial Grand Master constituted the Lodge, and the ceremony was concluded with the Patriarchal Benediction. Bro. John Edward Chambers P.M. 925 was subsequently installed as the first Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and he appointed and invested the Officers.

The Lodge having been closed, the Brethren adjourned to the dining-hall, where a sumptuous banquet was provided.

The usual Masonic toasts were observed. The Grand Secretary of England expressed his pleasure in knowing that Masonry was flourishing in the Midlands, and the Provincial Grand Master said he was glad a Masonic Lodge had been formed at Smethwick, and that the efforts of the founders had been so very successful. It was his desire to visit the whole of the Lodges in the Province of Staffordshire, all of which, he was glad to say, were doing a good work, especially on behalf of the charities.—"Birmingham Gazette."

ALPASS BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE annual meeting of the Governors and others interested in the charitable scheme carried out by this Institution, which has for its object ready and liberal help to the widows of Freemasons, was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, 5th inst., under the presidency of Brother Robert Wylie D.P.G. Master West Lancashire.

There was a numerous attendance of Brethren, including Bros. J. Pittaway Hon. Secretary of the Institution, G. A. Harradon Hon. Treasurer.

It was unanimously resolved to send a letter of sympathy to Bro. W. Goodacre P.G.Sec., in view of the great bereavement he had lately sustained by the death of his son.

It was reported that the present invested funds amounted to £5,530, and that at the festival at Southport (of which Brother P. Armstrong was Secretary) the donations amounted to several hundred pounds. Four candidates were recommended for election on the foundation of the Institution, although there were only three vacancies, but the additional case is likely to be favourably entertained and adopted.

We have repeatedly drawn special attention to the great necessity of candidates being thoroughly proficient before being admitted to a higher degree. It is, however, very rarely that the W.M. uses his prerogative and refuses to be satisfied with a blundering set of answers to important questions. The Deacons should withdraw from the candidate and let him rely on his own resources. If not able or willing to commit a few lines to memory is a candidate worthy of advancement? This question was forcibly brought to our mind at a recent meeting. A candidate arrived late and was examined alone, and it is no exaggeration to say that he had to be prompted word for word. The usual assent for the candidate being permitted to continue was asked for by the W.M., and the affirmative reply came from the Secretary alone, in a loud voice. Proficiency means, according to the English Dictionary "State or quality of being proficient." No man can accuse the candidate in question of being within hail of proficiency. Why was he allowed to be made Fellow Craft—Echo answers, Why?—"Masonry."

EARLY MASONRY.

ALTHOUGH the final and absolute cessation of Operative Masonry in Great Britain has been assigned to the early part of the fifteenth century, yet there is no doubt but that centuries before that time Masonry, or that system out of which Freemasonry was constructed, had had a moralistic character. Its cohesive force was its ethical nature. Progress in art culture was sought along the lines of mutual dependence and reciprocal obligation. The highest development of art was sought for in the most perfect development of the artisan. The living, vital principle, which quickened and unified a membership, scattered over the then known world, was the recognition of the fact of brotherhood.

The code imposed certain moralistic duties which the operative owed not only to his companions but to himself. It not only enjoined certain obligations towards each other, but went further and recognised the duty of all, to those in whose service they were engaged and to the service itself. An infraction of duty toward the employer was subjected to a discipline as rigorous as though the offence was against a companion. Culture, advancement, proficiency, industry, temperance, right-doing, were their watchwords. With them work was worship. Carlyle says: "Older than all preached gospels is this unpreached, inarticulate but uneradicable, forever enduring gospel: work and therein have well being."

Here, then, was a labour organisation formed, not upon narrow lines, but upon broad, equitable principles—seeking the best interests of the operation along the lines of the best service. It is not strange that while under the surveillance of such an organisation, architecture, and plastic art reached a stage of development and advancement not since surpassed. Nor is it singular that these organisations became so strong and acquired such a monopoly in the arts that by statute in Great Britain and by imperial decree in France and Germany, conventions of Freemasons as artificers were prohibited, and the practice of the arts in the secret recesses of the Lodges was interdicted. It was such a system that Speculative Masonry succeeded. It was from such material that centuries ago our moralistic system was formulated.

Society is an association of persons, each having certain rights defined by the general law or common usage. A community of persons is an association having common rights, privileges, or interests, determined by rules and regulations adopted by the persons associated.

A Masonic Lodge is something more than either. In its very constitution it embraces not only persons with warrant of authority issued by a power having regulations covering a limited range, but it has other essentials to its composition.

There must be present with every legislative act, present with every executive order, present when we sit in judgment, and in the discharge of every duty and obligation, not only the square and compass, symbols of an unwritten code, but underlying these the Holy Bible—unread, it may be, and uninterpreted, but still symbolical of Divine Presence, as was the Shekinah of old; a recognition of the existence of a Supreme Lawgiver and a higher law. These are the fires which illumine the altar of Masonry. The poet of incense is there, and he doeth well who actuates his senses to its presence. Masonic duty involves the interpretation of the signification of these types.

Masonry is not a mere pastime; not a mere amusement. It is an active, living principle. Its ritual, its symbolism, its drama are not mere empty mummeries, but they contain and exemplify important truths. Masonry may be said to teach two great truths, really but one, for one is but a deduction from the other, viz.: The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.—J. W. McGRATH, in "Voice of Masonry."

ROYAL ARCH.

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DE GREY AND RIPON CHAPTER, No. 1356.

THE installation meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, 5th inst., under the presidency of Comp. W. F. Ferguson.

Comp. R. Tunnicliffe was installed Z. in an effective manner by Comps. W. F. Ferguson and T. J. Jarman; Comp. E. Collesler-Jones being installed H., and Comp. W. Rawsthorne J.

A vote of condolence with Comp. Goodacre in connection with the recent death of his son was passed, after sincere expressions of sympathy.

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For some time past arrangements have been in progress for holding a Royal Arch Chapter in Newbury, a number of the local Brethren having for many years belonged to Chapters at Reading, Basingstoke, and elsewhere. The consecration of the new Chapter will take place in a few weeks.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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ADDRESSING THE CHAIR.

To the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have recently noticed different Brethren addressing the Master in Lodge as "Worshipful Sir," although they were not themselves Installed Masters, and being somewhat of a disciplinarian I have pointed this out to some of the Brethren concerned, and thought of addressing you on the subject, but I dismissed the matter as being, perhaps, too trivial for reference in your pages. Now, however, I find the matter editorially referred to in an Australian paper I occasionally see, and think there is good reason for asking you to ventilate the point. I think it will be admitted the proper way of addressing the occupant of the chair is "Worshipful Master," and I think a little supervision on the part of those in authority in our Lodges might judiciously be directed to the somewhat prevalent error I refer to.

Yours, &c.

EX-COLONIAL.

Ye Olde Friends Smoking Concert.—The well known firm of Messrs. Spiers and Pond, whose branches, like Freemasonry, are spread all over this kingdom, naturally employ an enormous staff of managers, and it has been their custom of late years to meet together to enjoy a pleasant evening to the mutual advantage of the firm and themselves. One of these festive occasions took the shape of a Smoking Concert, which was held on Friday of last week, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, W.C., the great hall being crammed with a numerous assembly of "Ye Olde Friends." Mr. J. M. Freshwater, one of the Directors, occupied the chair, and, though the contents of the bottles before him proved that his name was somewhat anomalous, kept the programme going in capital style. The Committee presided at various tables placed about the hall, where they welcomed their friends and promoted general good fellowship. They were T. M. Brownrigg Chairman, G. Ashton, W. Blanchette, H. Cheeseman, H. Cross Secretary, M. Fournier, J. H. Gerard, C. James, F. R. Janetsky, G. T. King, O. Luer, L. Mantell, T. Platten, H. Reed, L. Schmidt, S. F. Vandyke, R. Vorley, G. A. Wells, C. H. Wohlschlager, F. Williams, and E. E. Curling Honorary Treasurer. We wondered what were the duties of the last named gentleman, until we were informed that last year he was able to collect a sufficient sum to enable the Committee to give a Tea, Entertainment and Gifts to about three hundred poor children. We sincerely hope that this year his duty may be made more onerous. The concert was most enjoyable, the artistes including the names of Jos. O'Mara, Richard Green, Wallis Arthur, Bob Rae, G. T. Miles, Dudley Canston, Fred Frampton, the Queen's Glee Singers, and the Viennese String Band. During the evening Mr. Browning proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried with musical honours. Mr. Freshwater in his reply referred to the good work done by the Committee, and his keen appreciation of their efforts. He was sure that all present would re-echo his opinion that they had been provided with a very pleasant evening. Renewed cheers expressed the thanks of the visitors.

News of Nansen and the "Fram" is confidently expected during this year by the Danish explorer's friends, and preparations for this summer's Swedish Balloon Expedition to the Pole under Herr Andrée are already far advanced. Under these circumstances the Editor of "Cassell's Magazine" has been taking the opinion of experts in travel and exploration upon this "Race for the Pole," and in his February number will be found letters from Mr. H. M. Stanley, M.P., Sir Martin Conway, the President of the Royal Geographical Society, Admiral Sir Leopold McClintock, K.C.B., and Mr. Henry Coxwell, in answer to the question, "Can Nansen or Andrée reach the Pole?"

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

ON Friday, 31st ult., the remains of the late Brother Henry Thomas Nell, Studley Royal, Grove Road, South Woodford, were interred in the churchyard of St. Peter's-on-the-Forest, Walthamstow, in the presence of a large assembly. The service was conducted by the Rev. M. Rees, assisted by the Rev. A. Garthwaite, curate of St. Mary's, Woodford, while Brother Walter Latter Grand Organist of Essex presided at the organ. The congregation included from fifty to sixty Brethren, amongst those present being Bros. Langdon, William R. Hunt, J. Skeggs, G. Manuelle, Lindus, Taylor, J. Pick, T. Macklin, T. Taylor, T. A. Burgess, and A. V. Medcalf.

THE funeral of the late Bro. J. W. Belsham W.M. 1614 P.M. 733 took place at Kensal Green Cemetery, on the 11th inst. Our worthy Brother, who had been ill for several weeks with heart complications, bronchitis and pneumonia, breathed his last on the 6th, and was followed to the grave by his widow, two sons, and two daughters, all of whom in a marked manner displayed by their grief the love they bore to the husband and father, as also did many other relatives. Brother Belsham was W.M. of the Covent Garden Lodge, and was to have installed his successor on the day of his funeral. He was also P.M. of the Westbourne Lodge, and a Companion of the Westbourne

Chapter, and Treasurer of the Westbourne Lodge of Instruction. He was Life Governor of our three great Charities, a thorough good Mason and friend. Besides relatives and personal friends, and the Brethren of the Covent Garden Lodge, the other Lodge, Chapter and Lodges of Instruction were well represented, amongst those present being Bros. Rosenberg P.M., Campbell, Allen P.M. P.Z., Manne, Biorn P.M., Cuff P.M. P.Z., Huish, Hearnden P.M., Kilvert, Rogers P.G.S.Eng., Lander P.M. P.Z., Middleweek, Fairclough W.M. 733, Prior, Illings, Dehane P.M. P.Z. P.P.G.S.D. Essex, Wortham Sec. 733 Lodge of Instruction, Wiltshire, Rogers P.M. &c. The wreaths were many and beautiful, completely covering the coffin, besides which it took an extra carriage to convey those sent by the Lodges, Chapter, and Lodges of Instruction. Our Brother, who was only forty-seven, was highly respected by all who knew him, and his loss will be felt far and wide.

WE regret to learn that Bro. F. C. Galloway, of Bradford, died on Saturday night, from typhoid fever, after an illness of only ten days. He was born in the year 1856, and was therefore a comparatively young man. He was the son of Mr. Jesse Galloway, who until recently took an active part in local municipal affairs, and he entered his father's business immediately on leaving school. Outside business circles he was a well-known personality, owing to the active interest which he took in local history and literature. He was Treasurer of the Bronte Society from its commencement in 1893, and was a member of the Council of the Bradford Historical and Antiquarian Society. He was also connected with the ex-Libris Society. At the time of his death he had in the press "A Descriptive Catalogue of the Objects in the Bronte Museum at Haworth," which he intended for private circulation among the members of the Society. This would have now been in their hands had not illness cut short his work. Bro. Galloway possessed a fine library of many thousands of volumes of Yorkshire topographical and historical works. He was not only a collector of books, but had made conchology, oology, geology, and numismatics a special study, and his museum at Greenfield House contains many rare treasures in these departments. Scarce local prints, bills, and circulars were not neglected, and many thousands of these were gathered by him during the past few years. He belonged to the Bolingbroke Lodge, No. 2417, and the Correspondence Circle of Lodge No. 2076, and was for several years Treasurer of the Grand United Lodge of Oddfellows. He was also a member of the Bradford Wool and Nail Association. Bro. Galloway married in 1877 Miss Elizabeth Butterworth, of Littleborough, a lady who is herself known as a writer of prose and verse, and he leaves a widow and five children. The funeral took place at Scholemoor Cemetery, on the 12th inst., amid every expression of regret from a very large circle of friends. Brother Dr. Chas. Forshaw represented the Bolingbroke Lodge of Freemasons, and he sends us a couple of Masonic Sonnets on the late Brother Galloway, which we append:

Masonic Sonnets, No. 110-111.

BY BRO. CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D., 295, 1242, 2417.

A SPRIG OF ACACIA.

BRO. F. C. GALLOWAY 2417.

OBIT 5TH FEBRUARY 1896.

HOW shall a Muse—a Brother's Muse portray
The grief we feel at this his early doom?
How shall the voice chant forth a requiem lay
And mingle with the mourners at his tomb?
'Tis but the other day, 'mid festal song
He was the life of those who shared our glee,
Joining with all that glad and merry throng
Assembled to do honour unto me.
May the Most High protect his dear ones here—
The lonely widow and the fatherless;
Yet not all lone, for He is ever near
To comfort and to soothe in their distress.
Giving of His great love abundant store
And leading, guiding, now and evermore!

LAS! too soon our Brother had to part
From all the treasures that he loved so well;
Rare works so dear unto his kindly heart
Choice gems from Nature's copious citadel.
But—still be praised our Architect Supreme—
These earthly gifts for Heavenly ones are his;
And, thrice blest thought, no fading, worldly theme
Now shares his raptures in God's Courts of Bliss.
And as we drop the sweet Acacia down
Upon his last sad earthly resting place,
O let us pray for that immortal crown
Which waits for all who seek His proffered grace.
And putting earthborn thoughts and passions by
Remember ever, we but live to die!

Winder House, Bradford,
12th February 1896.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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We shall be pleased to receive particulars of Masonic meetings for insertion in our columns, and where desired will endeavour to send a representative to report Lodge or other proceedings.

CRAFT: PROVINCIAL.

UNION LODGE, No. 38.

THE members held their installation meeting at Chichester, on Thursday, 6th inst., when Brother G. Fielder jun. was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by the I.P.M. Brother H. H. Moore.

A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Moore, in recognition of his services as W.M. during the year; and Bro. Hawes, who has for a number of years acted as Secretary, was presented with a handsome jewel. The Brethren dined together in the evening, to the number of fifty.

AMITY LODGE, No. 283.

THE members celebrated the festival of St. John at their Lodge Room at the Grey Mare Hotel, Haslingden, on Thursday, 30th ult., close on sixty Brethren being present.

ROYAL YORK LODGE, No. 315.

AT the meeting held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Tuesday, 4th inst., Bro. T. H. Challis S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. A Past Master's gold jewel was voted to the retiring W.M. Bro. Drury, in appreciation of the admirable manner in which he had carried out his duties during the past year.

CANDOUR LODGE, No. 337.

ON Thursday, 30th ult., the annual festival of St. John was celebrated, Brother C. A. Pontefract, of Bolton, being installed as Worshipful Master.

During the evening Bro. J. F. Tanner referred to the regrettable death of Bro. John Buckley, and on his motion it was decided to send a letter of condolence to the relatives.

ST. CUTHBERGA LODGE, No. 622.

THERE was a large gathering at the Masonic Hall, Wimborne, on Monday, 3rd inst., when Bro. E. Whitley Baker was installed as Master for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bros. R. G. Cave and T. H. Ensor.

ST. EDWARD LODGE, No. 966.

THE installation of Bro. Richard Clowes took place at the Masonic Room, Literary and Mechanics' Institute, Leek, on Thursday, 30th ult.

An interesting presentation was made of two splendid portraits of Bro. W. Allen, one to himself and one to remain in the Lodge Room, as mementoes of the services rendered by him to St. Edward Lodge, the cost having been subscribed by the Brethren. The presentation was made by the Prov.G.M. the Earl of Dartmouth, who paid a high tribute to the services rendered by Brother Allen, who was initiated at St. John Lodge, Longnor, in 1859, and is the only surviving founder of St. Edward Lodge.

KINGSTON LODGE, No. 1010.

AT the Masonic Hall, Kingston Square, Hull, on Wednesday, 5th inst., an unusually large attendance of Brethren assembled to witness the Worshipful Master initiate his own son into the mysteries of Masonry. This was the happy experience of Brother Charles Judge, V.D., the W.M., who initiated his son—Mr. Charles Foster Judge—through the first degree of Masonry, assisted by Bros. Colonel Fawcett Pudsey, Dr. Woodhouse, L.M., P.M., Colonel W. H. Wellsted, J.P., and John Bilson.

At the banquet which followed, a very warm reception was accorded the newly-initiated Brother, who replied to the toast of his health in a neat and graceful speech, in which he expressed the hope that he should prove to be worthy of the honour and privileges accorded him.

ST. PETER LODGE, No. 1024.

THE time-honoured widgeon supper, for which the Lodge of St. Peter has long been famous, took place at the King's Head Hotel, Maldon, on Wednesday, 29th ult. A bountiful supply of excellent birds was provided by the Worshipful Master Bro. Richard Orttewell, who presided. About forty Brethren and visitors sat down.

HARTINGTON LODGE, No. 1085.

THE annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Derby, on Wednesday, 5th inst., when Bro. Thomas Berridge was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year.

ELMS LODGE, No. 1212.

THE annual banquet was held at the Freemasons' Club, Plymouth, on Wednesday, 5th inst., the W.M. Brother A. Goad presiding over a company of upwards of one hundred.

The Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and an extensive musical programme was carried out. Those who contributed were Bros. W. Wingate, R. Wright, P. Wright, J. Jacobs, W. A. Staton, G. Miller, W. Willoughby, Mus. Bac., Oxon.; and Messrs. Scown, Brown, Vincent, and Gimblett. Mr. Pearce presided at the piano. Brother Harvey was complimented on the admirable way in which everything was served.

PHOENIX LODGE OF ST. ANN, No. 1235.

THE annual festival and installation was held on Thursday, 6th inst., at the Town Hall, Buxton. Bro. W. Brierley W.M. opened the Lodge, and Bro. W. Broadberry was installed W.M., Bro. Brierley being assisted by the Past Masters of the Lodge.

A Past Master's jewel was presented to Brother Brierley, bearing a suitable inscription, in token of the great appreciation by the Brethren of his worth.

Bro. J. M. McLeod Secretary Royal Masonic Institution for Boys made an eloquent statement of the position and prospects of that and the other charitable institutions connected with the Craft.

SQUARE AND COMPASS LODGE, No. 1336.

ON Tuesday, 4th inst., the installation of Bro. W. A. Fraser as W.M. took place at Wrexham, when there was a very large attendance from Wales and the border counties.

The retiring Master Bro. Catterall was presented with a P.P.D.C. jewel of the Province of North Wales, on behalf of the members of the Lodge.

BOOTLE LODGE, No. 1473.

THE regular meeting was held on Thursday, 6th inst., at the County Hall, Bootle, when Brother Rawlinson I.P.M. delivered a lecture on Masonry, which was highly appreciated. Bro. Lea S.W. was unanimously elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and received the congratulations of the Brethren.

FRIENDLY LODGE, No. 1513.

THE annual installation was held on the 6th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Barnsley, Bro. J. Spence Ingall being installed W.M.

ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1519.

ON Thursday, 30th ult., there was a large gathering at the Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors, the occasion being the celebration of the festival of St. John the Evangelist, and installation of Brother John Wolstanholme as W.M., by Bro. John James Tennant P.M. 1519.

It is an understanding in this Lodge that all Brethren who have served the office of W.M. should present the Lodge with their photo, in full regalia. Bro. Jonathan Hindle Calvert P.M. P.P.G.J.D. said he had much pleasure in complying with the custom, and handed to the W.M. a handsomely framed and excellent photo of himself in full Provincial regalia.

The W.M., in accepting the photo, expressed on behalf of the Lodge his great appreciation of the gift, which he assured Bro. Calvert would be highly valued.

The W.M. having presented Brother Charles H. Wilmore with a Past Master's jewel, the Lodge was closed.

EARL SHREWSBURY LODGE, No. 1520.

THERE was a large assemblage at the Council Chamber, Cannock, on the 29th ult., on the occasion of the installation of Brother Rev. Oswald Maugin Holden, B.C.L., as Worshipful Master.

Amongst those present were the Provincial Grand Master the Earl of Dartmouth, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master Colonel Bindley, the full complement of the Officers of the local Lodge, and many visiting Brethren.

The usual toast list was honoured, and the gathering proved the most successful ever held in connection with the Lodge.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing the health of the Earl of Dartmouth, remarked that their Provincial Grand Master came of a stock who had always been known to do their duty, and Lord Dartmouth, they might be sure, would worthily carry out the duties which he had undertaken with regard to Masonry. He referred with gratification to an incident in the lives of his great grandfather and one of Lord Dartmouth's predecessors in the title.

The Provincial Grand Master, in replying, congratulated the retiring Master on the admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony of the day. Speaking of some of the advantages of Masonry, he referred to his travels in Japan in 1873, and to the fact that, though he had letters of introduction to high magnates in the country, his best assistance came from a friendly Mason in Yokohama, who knew all the ropes. He thought one of the best points in Masonry was that they did not give any heed to differences of opinion in politics and religion. He referred to the proposal for establishing a foundation in the Orphan Asylum at Wolverhampton for the children of Masons in the Province, stating that the total sum required would be about 700 guineas, and so far there had been actually paid or promised £206 from the various Lodges, £68 from the Chapters, £52 from P.G. Lodge, in addition to private donations, making altogether about £482. He hoped, from the manner in which the proposal had been received by the Brethren generally, that before the year was out the full requisite amount would be provided. The success of the fund was a matter of congratulation, because, as they knew, one of the chief aims of Freemasonry was to help those who were not in so good a position as themselves, and in that particular, he was glad to say, this Province had never failed.

ELLINGTON LODGE, No. 1566.

THE Worshipful Master of this Maidenhead Lodge, Bro. Chas. Batting, was the recipient, on Tuesday, 28th ult., of a presentation in the shape of an elegant silver cradle, with a salver, the latter inscribed:—

Ellington Lodge, No. 1566.

Presented to

BRO. CHAS. BATTING W.M.

by the members of the Lodge. 28th January 1896.

The gift was in commemoration of an auspicious event in the family of the W.M.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE, No. 1834.

THE first regular meeting in the sixteenth year of the Lodge took place on Tuesday, 28th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Landport, when Bro. W. E. Duck was installed into the chair, and appointed his Officers for the ensuing year.

MINERVA LODGE, No. 1942.

THE annual festival of St. John and installation of Bro. F. H. Darwin took place in the Lodge Room at the Town Hall, Fenton, on Tuesday, 28th ult.

At the conclusion of the proceedings in Lodge, the Brethren travelled by special tramcar to Longton, where the banquet was held at the Crown and Anchor Hotel, excellent cuisine arrangements having been made by Bro. Bennion P.M. 546 P.G.R. The Worshipful Master presided, and when as a preliminary, being himself a recently installed benedict, he invited the married men to take wine with him, the company rose en masse, which was regarded as a remarkable testimony to the domestic virtues as associated with Freemasonry.

Bro. Stevenson proposed the health of the Earl of Dartmouth. His lordship, he said, was a gentleman in every sense of the word, was a personæ grata at Court, and was proving himself a most efficient Provincial Grand Master. Nothing would give them greater pleasure than to see him present on some occasion at the Minerva Lodge.

MOLESWORTH LODGE, No. 1954.

THE annual festival was held at Wadebridge, on Monday, 3rd inst., when a goodly number of Brethren attended the installation of Bro. W. Lucy as W.M. The impressive ceremony was ably performed by Brother B. F. Edyvean P.G.W. of Cornwall, supported by a strong Board of Installed Masters.

GROVE LODGE, No. 1957.

THE installation meeting was held at the Cock Hotel, Hazel Grove, on Thursday, 30th ult.

Bro. J. P. Bardsley installed Bro. J. D. Penney as W.M. for the ensuing year, and he appointed, invested and addressed his Officers.

The Treasurer's accounts were presented and adopted. During the evening a Past Master's jewel was presented to the retiring W.M. Brother H. Powell Jones, on behalf of the members of the Lodge.

FAIRFIELD LODGE, No. 2290.

ON Tuesday, 4th inst., the installation took place at the Lodge Rooms, 14 Fairfield Street, Fairfield, when Bro. R. G. Bradley P.P.G.D.C. was installed W.M. for the ensuing year by Bros. T. Bush, T. Vernon, and J. Hunter.

CENTURION LODGE, No. 2322.

THE regular meeting was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on the 3rd, the following among others being present:—Bros. Surg.-Capt. Arthur H. Smith W.M., Major Fred Pratt I.P.M., Capt. Geo. Kershaw S.W., Col. J. Howarth Clark, J.P., P.M. Treas., Surg.-Capt. J. J. Kent Fairclough Sec., Major John P. Peacock J.D., Major W. H. Hopkins P.M., Capt. O. Samson Organist, Capt. Arthur Galloway Std., Col. Henry L. Rocca P.M., Capt. Jas. Andrew P.M., Capt. A. B. Wilkinson P.M., Col. H. J. Robinson P.M. P.P.G.Reg., Major D. E. Griffiths, Capt. Alan Sykes, Lieut. Geo. Heys, Major W. Crompton Hall, Major H. B. Moss, Lieut. J. N. Sidebottom.

Visitors:—Bros. H. J. Cutter P.M. Treasurer 44, John Greaves 277 P.P.G.S.W., Geo. D. Brookes J.W. 1009.

After the minutes of the meeting held 2nd December, and the emergency meeting of 6th January had been read and confirmed, ballots, which were successful, were taken for Bros. Lieut. Joseph Boothby Pownall, Solicitor, Capt. John W. Pollitt, Carrier, Capt. William Kershaw Bradley, Bank Manager, all of the 3rd V.B. Manchester Regiment, and the Fidelity Lodge, No. 430, who make their advent into the Centurion Lodge as joining members.

Messrs. Surg.-Lieut. John Turville Smith, and Capt. John Ellis Russell Hall, who had been balloted for on a previous occasion, were then initiated into ancient Freemasonry, the former by his brother the Worshipful Master, and the latter by Bro. Col. Clarke. The ancient charge was delivered by Bro. Major Hopkins.

Lodge having been advanced, Bro. Major Henry Benjamin Moss was passed to the degree of F.C. by Bro. Smith W.M. after which the proceedings terminated in peace and harmony.

GOODACRE LODGE, No. 2495.

THE members assembled on Wednesday, 5th inst., at the County Hall, Bootle, when Bro. G. C. A. Moir S.W. was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by Bro. John Fletcher P.P.G.S.D.

In the course of the after proceedings the W.M. gave the toast of the Immediate Past Master, and referred in eulogistic terms to the work Brother Platts had accomplished, to the respect in which he was held in Masonic circles generally, and in that Lodge in particular. On behalf of the members of the Goodacre Lodge he asked Bro. J. Platts to accept a silver loving cup, which bore the following inscription:—

Goodacre Masonic Lodge, No. 2495.

Presented by the Brethren to

W. BRO. PLATTS P.M. P.P.G.S.W.

5th Feb. 1896.

The cup was a beautiful specimen of the silversmith's art. Having been filled with champagne it was passed round, each guest pledging Bro. Platts.

In reply, the recipient of the presentation expressed his appreciation of the honour done him, and assured his hearers that his interest in Masonry never ceased, and he felt that in that Lodge they had a body of gentlemen who would do credit to the Order. The cup would be a lasting memento of their regard, and would ever remind him of their kindness. He hoped that their Lodge would go on and prosper, and do work in the interest of the art they loved so much.

A ball was held in the Public Rooms, Selby, under the auspices of the St. Germain Lodge, No. 566, on the 31st ult., the company numbering upwards of 100.

INSTRUCTION.

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WESTBOURNE LODGE, No. 733.

ON Tuesday, at Bro. Butcher's, Oliver Arms, Westbourne Terrace North, Harrow Road, Bro. W. H. Fairclough W.M., Rogers P.M. S.W., Major J. Reed J.W., S. Manne S.D., H. H. Bagnall J.D., W. Rusby I.G., F. Wortham Sec., Dehane P.M. Preceptor, A. S. Butters, Richard Jourden W.M.-elect 1201, Beesley, Wynman, &c.

Bro. Jourden opened the Lodge, and rehearsed the investiture of Officers. Bro. Fairclough then assumed command, and, advancing the Lodge, rehearsed the ceremony of installation, Bro. Rogers P.M. acting as W.M.-elect.

Bro. Jourden was elected a member, on the proposition of Bro. Dehane, and suitably acknowledged the compliment paid him in allowing him to occupy the chair during a portion of the meeting.

Bro. Rogers P.M. was appointed W.M. for the next meeting.

Bro. Dehane P.M. Preceptor informed the Lodge of the death of Bro. J. W. Belsham P.M. and Treas. of the Westbourne Lodge, No. 733, and proposed that a letter of condolence should be sent to the widow, which was unanimously agreed to. It was announced that a wreath was sent on behalf of the Lodge of Instruction.

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CRUSADERS LODGE, No. 1677.

ON the 7th inst., at the Northampton Arms, Goswell Road, Bros. T. J. Bolton W.M., A. J. Blake S.W., M. Robinson J.W., W. J. Hunter Treas., E. Dimes Sec., C. Weeden P.M. Preceptor.

The ceremony of Initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Fletcher candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Brother Weeden, who rehearsed the ceremony of passing. Bros. Ball, Norton, and Smith answered questions leading to third degree, the W.M. returned to the chair, resumed and closed the Lodge. A Committee meeting of the Crusaders Charitable Association was then formed, when three ballots were drawn, which resulted in favour of Bros. King, Bolton, and Fletcher.

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ALL SAINTS LODGE, No. 1716.

AT the Town Hall, Poplar, E., on Friday, 7th inst., Bros. Boyce P.M. W.M., John Bennet W.M. 1765 S.W., Scott J.W., F. Waterson P.M. S.D., Wiseman J.D., Clemens I.G., Allen W.M. 1716 Preceptor and Acting Secretary, also Bros. Raymond P.M., Moore P.M., Jones, Forman, Patrick, and Madely.

The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Forman candidate.

The Auditor's report, which showed a balance in favour of the Lodge, was presented by Bro. Scott, received and adopted.

The following Brethren were unanimously re-elected Officers for the year:—Bros. C. R. Allen W.M. 1716 Preceptor, E. Waterson Treasurer, W. Boyce P.M. Secretary.

Bro. C. W. Moore, of the Mother Lodge, No. 1716, was elected a member. The Secretary's report for the year showed that:

The number of subscribing members registered as attending during the year was forty-four, of whom seventeen were annual subscribers. The number of meetings held was thirty-eight, at which twelve new members were elected. The average weekly attendance for the year was eleven.

The account of the past year's work is as follows:

Relief granted to distressed Brethren	...	on 4 occasions.
Installation ceremony rehearsed	...	2 "
Ceremony of Investiture of Officers rehearsed	...	1 "
Third Ceremony	...	15 "
Second Ceremony	...	16 "
First Ceremony	...	32 "
Charge in first degree delivered	...	11 "
Sections of the first lecture worked	...	2 "

There were also three Committee meetings held, and the annual Lodge supper, at which latter meeting thirty-two sat down. On only one occasion during the year were the members attending unable to form a quorum. It is gratifying to note that of the forty-four members which form the Lodge, thirty are members of the Mother Lodge.

Bro. J. Bennett was elected to occupy the chair on Friday, the 21st inst., to which date the Lodge was adjourned.

A meeting of the Masonic Charities Association was afterwards held, at which two ballots were taken, the successful members being Bros. Gearey and Ives.

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BROMLEY ST. LEONARD LODGE, No. 1805.

AT the Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow Road, E., on Wednesday, 12th inst., Bros. F. Thornton Secretary as W.M., Weeks S.W., Boyce P.M. J.W., A. Marks S.D., Alberg J.D., Marchant I.G., De Casseres P.M. Preceptor, Leapman, Vangilver, Cumin P.M., C. Holland.

Bro. Leapman answered questions leading to the second degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed by the W.M.

Bro. Thornton vacated the chair in favour of Bro. De Casseres, when Bro. Vangilver answered the questions leading to the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed.

Bro. Vangilver was elected a member. Bro. Weeks was appointed to the chair for 19th inst.

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CITADEL LODGE, No. 1897.

ON the 7th inst., at Bro. Witte's, Farleigh Hotel, Amburst Road, N., Bro. W. E. Jeanes W.M., Walter Clark S.W., Calley J.W., F. Dunstan P.M. &c. Preceptor, Harry Willsmer Sec., Frost S.D., Mason J.D., Schlosshauer I.G., Matthews, Feistel, Platt, Witte, Bishop, Friedlander.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Friedlander candidate. The first, second, and third sections of the lecture were worked by Brothers Dunstan and Witte.

Bro. W. Clark was elected W.M. for next meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Jeanes for having so ably occupied the chair for the first time in this Lodge of Instruction.

IXION LODGE, No. 2501.

THE Brethren of this Lodge of Instruction, which holds its meetings at the Denmark Arms, East Ham, paid a recent visit to their neighbouring Lodge, the Henley, No. 1472, at North Woolwich.

The Worshipful Master of the evening was Bro. Cowell, supported by Bro. William W. Ives as I.P.M., and as principal Officers Bros. Dale, Cockerill, Henshaw, James Chapman, Selves, William Chapman, Rudman, and Thomas.

The ritual was splendidly rendered, and after the banquet, provided by the Brethren of the Henley Lodge, had been partaken of, the visitors departed, having passed a very pleasant and enjoyable evening.

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MARK MASONRY.

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MINERVA LODGE, No. 12.

ON Tuesday, 4th inst., there was a large attendance to witness the installation of Bro. J. T. Towler as Worshipful Master, the ceremony being performed by Bro. R. R. Hawley.

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LANGLEY LODGE, No. 28.

THE annual festival took place at the Masonic Temple, Cardiff, on Thursday, 6th inst. The Lodge was opened by the retiring W.M. Bro. Captain W. H. Williams, and Bro. S. O. Williams S.W. P.P.G.I.G. was then impressively installed as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months by Bro. J. M. Gerhold P.M. P.P.J.G.W.

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BOOTLE LODGE, No. 478.

MASONRY has made rapid strides in Bottle during the past few years, and instead of one Lodge there are now several meeting in the borough. Fourteen months ago the Earl of Lathom consecrated the Bootle Lodge of Mark Masons, and it has made material progress. The first annual installation meeting since the consecration was held in the County Hall, Pembroke Road, Bootle, on Saturday, 1st inst.

Brother Walter Simpson G.J.D. Eng. P.P.G.W., who presided at the opening of the proceedings, was supported by a large gathering of members and visitors, including many Grand and Provincial Grand Officers.

The formal proceedings over, three Brethren were advanced to the degree, and subsequently the W.M.-elect Bro. Alfred Cross was impressively installed in the chair by Bro. Simpson, to whom, in the course of the evening, a very beautiful silver dragon spirit lamp was presented, as a token of the kindly regard and esteem in which he was held by the Brethren, and as a mark of their appreciation of the able manner in which he had conducted the affairs of the Lodge during his tenure of office.

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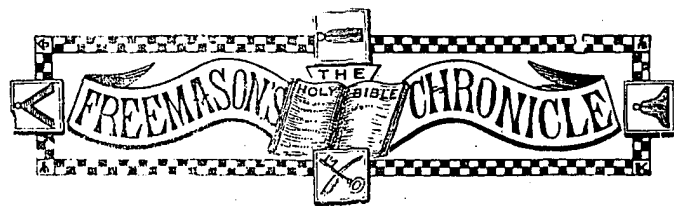
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SATURDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY 1896.

THE MASONIC ANNALS INVALUABLE.

THE annual publications of Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, Grand Councils, Grand Commanderies, and other bodies, which form the great bulk of the Masonic literature of the present day, are invaluable, and may be of incalculable good if properly appreciated. Year by year the volumes increase in size, because of the growth of the Institution; and the records become more important as the legislation affects a larger membership. These publications are the histories of the Craft in all of its doings. They portray in the most striking manner the labours of love and acts of charity which make the Institution of Freemasonry so honoured, and so important a factor in the beneficent works of man. They present a mass of information respecting the efforts of the Fraternity to elevate the race of mankind, to be found nowhere else. Their pages are beautiful with the profoundest thoughts of brilliant minds, sparkle with gems dug from the rich mines of Masonic truth, and are polished by some of the brightest intellects of the world. No one can read the reports on correspondence without being impressed with the grandness, the universality, and wonderful influence of Freemasonry. The regret is that these productions, the result of careful study, deep thought, and patient research, are not more universally read. They present in a concise form of word painting the institution as it exists in the world to-day. Every tongue in the civilised world contributes its share, and every phase of thought, tending to elucidate the great moral teachings of the Craft, are found clearly and logically discussed and graphically presented.

Freemasonry should strengthen our faith, intensify our love, and teach us to exercise charity in word and deed to all our fellows. The lessons of the Lodge Room, sacred from prying eyes or intrusive curiosity, taught by the most graphic symbols, and impressed by the most beautiful legends, should lead us to practice "out of the Lodge, those great moral precepts which are inculcated in it," and the day-dream of our hearts should be to so fashion our words, and so shape our actions, that wherever we are, or whatever we do, may be emblematic of the pillars of truth that support our beloved Fraternity. And we can learn much by a proper consideration of the thoughts of those who give their time and attention to finding the sublime, aye, divine, beauties of the Fraternity. They are found to no greater extent than in the annual publications of the various Grand bodies.—WILLIAM J. DUNCAN (Grand Librarian, New York), in "Voice of Masonry."

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND FREEMASONRY.

AT the Catholic Church, Bournemouth, on Sunday, 2nd inst., Father Chew, speaking on Freemasonry, referred to what he had said on the previous Sunday about the Masonic oath. I did not mean (he said) to imply that all those who took the oath intended to promise anything that would require them to violate their conscience. No, for men of honour and virtue are enrolled who would never intend to make such a promise. But I pointed out the fact, to which they do not advert, that the oath is still unlawful as being a rash oath, i.e., taken without sufficient care to find out the subject-matter to which one binds one's self. A Mason solemnly swears before God not to divulge the secrets of the Craft, confided to him at the time, or "to be confided hereafter." He takes a leap in the dark, commits himself to the unknown and to a society whose leaders, aims, and objects he is unacquainted with, and calls God to witness to the fact; and he reduces himself at least to the possibility of, one day, being in the dilemma of either being called upon to act against his conscience or to violate his oath. This is against the first principles of the natural law; and is also an act of irreligion, as being a rash oath. And further, if the object of Masonry, in his opinion, is simply acts of benevolence, is this a sufficient reason, does it supply a plausible pretext, for a solemn oath of secrecy? On what moral grounds can anyone who is a Christian justify the taking of the oath in the form in which it is taken?

But, even apart from the oath, Freemasonry is forbidden to Catholics by the Catholic Church, reasonably and in the true spirit of Christianity. For the Church rightly condemns the principles of Masonry. A Catholic, looking to the Church of nineteen centuries as a divine institution to guide and direct him in matters of faith and morality, knows that she, as a prudent director, would be slow to make such a prohibition unless it were necessary in the interests of the Christian faith. Perhaps no one at present is better acquainted with the workings of Masonry throughout the world than Leo XIII., who is in touch with the whole world, and himself surrounded by Masons. He has expressed his mind in a letter issued some years ago, and has shown us in what light we are to view Freemasonry.

As to the origin and history of Masonry, its members assume that it began with the building of Solomon's Temple. This is only a conventional fiction. Historical facts trace it to the guild of stonemasons of the middle ages. In those days there were guilds of various trades, religious guilds, each with its patron saint, under the approbation of the Church. Traces of them survive now in various London companies. They used their tools and implements in a symbolical way when made apprentices or masters; and they naturally had their secret signs and marks by which a true apprentice or member would be distinguished from an intruder. The stonemasons travelled in bodies for erecting buildings throughout Europe. They were often found in the south of France, where they seem to have come into contact with the Knights Templars. When this body of men was disbanded, because no longer useful and necessary, some of its members seem to have influenced the Masons and turned their harmless ceremonies into an elaborate ritual, and formed a secret society, which veiled errors in religion. Thus a good thing was turned into a bad thing; and secret societies called Masonic began to arise. One of the modern stamp seems first to have been introduced into France from Scotland in the eighteenth century, forming the Scotch rite.

But a definite form to their un-Christian tendencies was first given by Weishaupt, a professor in Bavaria: hence arose Illuminism with its anti-Christian ideas about property, marriage, &c. One member, a Sicilian, next started Cabalistic Masonry, known as the rite of Misraim. The Scotch rite, one of the worst, was introduced into Charleston, United States, by some Officers of the French army at the end of last century. Abroad, revolutionary societies were found usually affiliated to the higher Masonic grades: in Spanish-American States Masonry is active in revolutions; in Germany it was the bitter supporter of the Culturkampf; in France its Lodges took part in the Commune rising in 1871; in Belgium and France they have ordered their members to promote the "Teaching League"; to prevent all religious education. In Italy, their work is shown in the iniquitous life of Adriano Lemmi, who aspires to be the supreme head of Masons; this life is written by an ex-Freemason of high degree, Professor Marigotta, and is reviewed in the January number of the "Dublin Review." The Protestant writer in the "Encyclopædia Britannica" says it cannot be disputed that the foreign magazines of the Craft "occasionally exhibit a tone which is not at all favourable to Christianity, regarded as a special revelation": in plain words, they are anti-Christian. But what of England? Freemasonry is not one united society, but a number of societies working in different ways in different countries. And such a federation, as Leo XIII. says, is to be judged not so much by what it has done or is doing, as by the sum of its pronounced opinions.

Take an illustration. Were a stranger to come to England to examine Protestantism, he would find 200 or 300 varieties. In order to pronounce on it as a distinctive thing he would take the sum of its pronounced opinions. So with Masonry, made up, as it is, of various sects and factions, with different rules under different and opposing leaders. Now, the sums of its pronounced opinions is decidedly on the side of license and irreligion. If a country or branch protests such opinions, it should cease to call itself by a tainted name. English Lodges protest; but in name at least, if not in fact, they are the associates and allies of foreign Masonry. When the Prince of Wales was made Grand Master, he received official recognition from abroad. When Leo XIII. issued his letter, Lord Carnarvon courteously protested that social order and religion had strong supports in English Masonic Lodges. At

the same time he said "I grieve to think there are some Masonic bodies that have laid themselves open to many of the charges which the Encyclical Letter contains": words which imply both a recognition of foreign bodies and a condemnation of them. The "Freemason," of 7th June 1884, spoke to the same effect. But Leo XIII. does not directly condemn any branch or Lodge: he points out that the sum of the pronounced opinions of Masonry is anti-Christian. So, too, an Englishman may protest that he sits side by side with English magistrates and Protestant clergyman in a harmless Lodge.

But Leo XIII. does not say that all associates who called themselves Masons are thereby banded together for unlawful objects; but that the principles of Masonry, as gathered from its pronounced opinions, are on the side of irreligion; and, secondly, that the majority of the associates—because of the organisation of the bodies—are, without perhaps knowing it, or advertent to the fact, promoting the purposes which the prime movers keep in view. Hence he does not condemn any good and honest man who is a Mason; but he says: "if" you are a good and honest man, you will come out of such an association as this; and, to Catholics, "if" you would keep true to your Christian faith, you will not enter such a confederation. The English ritual, oath, secrecy, and Masonic truth are the same, fundamentally, as abroad: how is it to be dissociated in passing a judgment? A man may say that he has gone through the initiation—with the mystic rites, the drawn sword, the darkened room, and all that—and that he sees nothing objectionable, but much that is useful and that will be a great help to him in business. But does this justify him in enrolling himself in such a body.

Suppose a society were started for the spread of literature, its members taking an oath of secrecy without knowing clearly its methods and objects; suppose that abroad it purposely disseminated evil literature, but in England harmless literature only; the public judgment on such a society would be that it is a bad one: you, by joining it, are practically aiding and abetting an evil society. So, too, in joining Masonry, the sum of whose pronounced opinions is anti-Christian. Your practices in England, as known to you, and the chief objects of which seem to comprise an excess of conviviality, and a frequent use of the latch-key, with the helping of one another in trade and business, and in acts of benevolence, may seem harmless; still it is difficult to understand how any reasonable man can look on all this mystical ceremony, and all this ritual, these oaths and imprecations, this world-wide secret teaching, as imposed on innocent men simply for the purpose of enabling them to practise benevolence and to help one another in business.

One of the Dukes of Sussex, who was the head of English Masons, used to say there were not six Masons in England in his time who understood what Masonry was. Is it not much the same now with the rank and file? When the Marquis of Ripon ceased to be the chief of Masonry in England and became a Catholic, the fact created a stir, and people wondered why he could not continue to be a Mason. A certain Brother Parkinson, Master of a Lodge, said at the time that, while he regretted the resignation of the Marquis, he could not share the simple wonder of those who could not understand why a Catholic could not continue to occupy a position in the Order. "The system of the Roman Church (as he called it) and that of Masonry were not only incompatible, but radically opposed." If English Masonry is concerned with objects of mere benevolence, it can hardly be said to be "radically opposed" to the teaching of the Catholic Church. We may draw our own conclusions from this, and also leave innocent Masons to ponder.

Further, the Catholic Church asserts, and right reason and revelation prove it, that there is only one true form of religion instituted by Christ. The notion, arising from the varieties of Protestantism, that "one form of religion is as good as another"; that is, that you can make religion suit your own sentiments and taste, and choose amid contradictory forms as you would select your dress or your dinner, is becoming prevalent. This is called Liberalism in religion, or Indifferentism. Now, English Masonry, which tolerates all "forms of religion," and yet exacts some Masonic "truth," is promoting Indifferentism: a Catholic would be outwardly denying his Christian faith by joining it.

Hence it is in the true spirit of Christianity that the Catholic Church guards its members against a confederation which abroad is openly irreligious. France and Italy are what they are simply because they are honeycombed with Masonry, and the governments in the hands of a set of immoral infidels who are doing their best to root out the name of Christ and of God—which at home is lazily promoting Indifference and becoming less and less distinctively Christian, which is becoming more and more accustomed to the idea that the mere vague acceptance of an "Architect of the Universe," along with acts of benevolence, will supply the needs of the soul and satisfy our duties to our Creator and Lord while ignoring the distinctive truths of His Christian revelation, and teaching the rising generation to do the same by supporting the system of a godless education.

Many in England became Masons merely to promote success in their business or trade by securing the help of oath-bound fellow Masons. Thus for money's sake they promote an impious confederation, at least by adding to its ranks; and wantonly take an unlawful oath. A Catholic could grow richer by joining Masonry; a true Catholic refuses, and makes the sacrifice rather than deny his faith. Which is the truer Christian? A day is soon to come (said Father Chew, in concluding his discourse) when each will have to give an account of himself; we shall not be asked how much money we have made, but we shall be asked about the manner we have made it; and if a man has done so at the cost of his conscience and of the law of God, a Masonic oath will not avail him, but will rather be his condemnation.—"Bournemouth Observer."

MEETINGS IN THE METROPOLIS.

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CHANCERY BAR LODGE, No. 2456.

THE installation meeting was held on Wednesday, 5th inst., when Bro. G. P. Leach was installed, in Gray's Inn, in succession to Brother Horton Smith, Q.C. Among those who attended the subsequent banquet in the Hall was Lord Halsbury.

DRURY LANE LODGE, No. 2127.

A DISTINGUISHED company assembled on Tuesday, in the large Drawing Room of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, W.C., to celebrate the annual installation ceremony, a dispensation having been granted by Grand Lodge to hold it there instead of at the usual meeting place at Drury Lane Theatre. Bro. Oscar Barrett the W.M. presided, and was supported by his Officers, and the following Brethren:—Bros. Sir Hy. T. Prinsep District G.M. Bengal, Viscount Dungarvan Prov.G.M. Somerset, Lord Skelmersdale P.G.W., Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G.C., Sir W. T. Marriott D.P.G.M. Sussex, Sir Terrance O'Brien P.G.D., Dr. Lennox Browne P.D.D.C., Frank Richardson P.G.D., Sir Henry A. Isaacs P.G.W., J. L. Thomas P.A.D.C., C. F. Matier P.G.S.B., Sir J. B. Monckton P.G.W., Jas. Fernandez P.M., Thomas Catling P.M., J. C. Parkinson P.G.D., Edward Terry P.G.T., Thos. Fenn P.P.B. of G.P., Robt. Grey P.B. of B., R. G. Glover P.D.G.D.C., C. Martin P.A.G.D.C., R. S. A. Roumieu G.S. of W., F. Meade P.G.S.B., Col. Ritchie G.S.B., R. Clowes P.G.S.B., T. H. Bolton, M.P., J. H. Matthews P.G.D.C., Dr. Evans W.M. 969, R. G. Venables P.G.D.C., Col. Ward, C.B., G.S.B., Dr. Heather Bigg, General Hale Wortham, W. L. Southwell P.G.S.W. Shropshire, C. L. Reis P.M. 120, E. B. Holloway P.M. 108, H. Sprake P.M. 2192, Harold Smith P.M. 222, G. F. Hawkins P.M. 1224, W. H. Hammond P.M. 874, Sir Simeon Stuart, Bart., Col. F. C. Wemyss, Walter Jennings P.M. 142, Will E. Chapman P.M. 2190, J. Bruton P.M. 133, J. Irvine P.M. 862, W. Wavell P.M. 862, W. Weiss P.M. 1491, Wilhelm Ganz P.G.O., E. Hedley W.M. 2047, C. W. Gribble P.M. 2047, Hy. Higgs P.M. 2030, Sidney Jennings P.M. 142, W. L. Cook P.M. 592, A. H. Gibbons W.M. 562, J. George P.M. 1224, and a great many more of lesser degree in Freemasonry, but good and worthy Brothers all.

The Lodge being opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Henry Guarraimo, Albert George Francis Gartoide Neville, Hamon Le Roy Lewis, J.P., and Arthur Blomfield Jackson. The ballot proved unanimous and these gentlemen will be initiated at the next meeting.

Bro. Henry Neville W.M.-elect was presented by Bro. P.M. Catling and duly signified his assent to the ancient charges and regulations. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, with Bros. Thomas Fenn S.W., Robert Grey J.W., Frank Richardson D.C., Harry Nicholls I.G., and Bro. Henry Neville was regularly installed into the chair by Bro. Oscar Barrett, who performed the ceremony in a masterly manner. The address to the Master was delivered by Bro. Jas. Fernandez, that to the Wardens by Bro. Nicholls, and to the Brethren generally by Bro. Barrett.

A special anthem, composed and dedicated to the Lodge by Bro. Alfred J. Caldicott, was sung by Bros. George May, Lawrence Fryer, Alfred Kenningham, and Robert de Lacy, under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Ganz P.G.O.: "Brethren, behold how good and joyful a thing it is to dwell together in unity. Jerusalem is built as a City that is at unity in itself."

"For our Brethren's and Companions' sakes we will wish thee prosperity, yea, because of the House of the Lord our God, we will seek to do thee good. The Lord preserve thy going out and coming in from this time forth for evermore."

The new Master then invested his Officers for the year, viz., Will E. Chapman S.W., Gerald M. Maxwell J.W., Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G.C. Chap., J. S. Fleming Treasurer, J. H. Matthews Secretary, Guy Repton S.D., Lionel Rignold J.D., Colonel A. B. Bennett I.G., W. Ganz Organist, T. H. Bolton Steward, and R. Goddard Tyler.

Accompanied with a graceful little speech Bro. Neville presented his predecessor with a very handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been voted by the Lodge.

Brother Barrett returned thanks, and said he felt great pleasure in having passed the chair of the Lodge, and that pleasure was considerably enhanced by being permitted to instal as good a successor as Brother Henry Neville.

The Secretary announced that four deaths had taken place among the members since their last meeting, and one resignation had been sent in. There was one nomination to be submitted at the next meeting.

The doxology having been sung, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the Brethren adjourned to the grand hall, where the banquet was served.

The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, Lord Skelmersdale P.G.W. replying for the Grand Officers. As several of those present had to leave early the speeches were as brief as possible. Thus the I.P.M. was limited in proposing the Master's health, as Bro. Neville had to quit the chair to assume the gallant hero at the Olympic Theatre. However, what was lacking in quantity was more than made up in the quality of Bro. Barrett's remarks. He said that the Drury Lane Lodge had every reason to be proud of its present Master; they welcomed him as an estimable man and an excellent actor. Being largely endowed with the gift of oratory they were sure he would keep up the high standard of the Lodge.

Bro. Neville said it was a great honour and pleasure to have his name inscribed on the banner of the Lodge, and to find himself the recipient of so many kindly expressions. Still he had no wish to repudiate anything they had said. Somebody had told them there were two great pleasures in life, viz., looking forward and looking backward. Freemasonry supplied both those delights, and he hardly knew which was the more pleasing to a Past Master. He referred to the addresses given in the Lodge, and remarked that they contained all the religion of Freemasonry, the religion of Brotherhood which makes us happy and happier. As he left the room, Bro. Neville was greeted with cheers, while Bro. Ganz took his seat at the piano and played "For he's a jolly good fellow," the company joining heartily in the refrain.

Brother Oscar Barrett then assumed the chair, and presided over the remainder of the proceedings.

Brother Sir Henry Isaacs submitted the toast of the I.P.M., to which Brother Barrett modestly replied.

Sir John B. Monckton responded for the Visitors, and the Officers of the Lodge having been complimented, the Tyler gave his toast, and the proceedings came to a happy termination.

During the evening a capital entertainment was given, in which Bros. Arthur Oswald, Lionel Brough, Harry Nicholls, Edward Terry, and James Fernandez took part.

PIMLICO LODGE, No. 1772.

ON Thursday, 6th inst., at a meeting at Victoria Mansions Restaurant, S.W., Mr. George Burgess, manager of the Royal, was initiated a member, being proposed by Bros. Ernest De Vere and Richard Wake.

Bro. Thos. Samuel Dickie was also elected a member, on the proposition of Bro. George Sinclair, seconded by Bro. Wake. Bros. Felix M'Glennon and Arthur Rigby were passed.

ROTHESAY LODGE, No. 1687.

ON the 5th inst., at the Rothesay Room, Frascati, Oxford Street, Bro. A. E. Clements W.M., T. J. Bolton S.W., M. Wartmann J.W., W. Adams P.M. Treas., E. L. P. Valeriani P.M. Sec. Visitors: Brothers James Terry P.G.S.W.B., Nelethrops 1622, and Beven 2128.

Bro. Duck was raised to the third degree, and Brothers Ladle, Muller, Timpson, and Watling passed to that of Fellow Craft.

The W.M. proposed a hearty vote of congratulation to Bro. Secretary on the safe return of his eldest son from the Transvaal (Bro. Valeriani jun. being a very active member of Dr. Jameson's force), which was carried unanimously.

MOUNT EDGCUMBE LODGE, No. 1446.

THE annual installation festival of this Lodge took place last Saturday, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, when a large number of Brethren assembled to take part in the interesting ceremony. The outgoing Master Brother G. H. Lindsey-Renton presided, and was supported by his Officers and the following Brethren:—O. P. Boret P.M., J. Whitehead P.M., G. W. Perry P.M., G. M. E. Hamilton P.M., T. Cull P.M.

Visitors: Henry Lockward P.M. 224 G.R.E., W. Haynes Dunn P.M. 1298 Prov.G.S.W. Herts, H. Aviey P.M. 1298, L. J. Power I.P.M. 869, C. T. Barlow P.M. 1441, J. W. Cain P.M. 179, F. J. Eedle P.M. 2184, J. H. Sansom W.M. 1364, John Gall P.M. 1695, Orlton Cooper P.M. 211, R. Bowers J.W. 15, A. J. Rippin 192, H. Bullen 2369, E. V. Robbins 2469, A. C. Wood 1586, W. Page 141, James Edge 1608, R. H. Eccles S.D. 1669, James Clark J.W. 2472, Henry G. Edwards 186, Howard Hilder 1608, Thos. Stewart 1563, C. Isler J.D. 1471, W. E. Hill 879, B. G. Elliott 2020, R. Greenway 1406, C. F. Parkington 3, B. J. Jones 2501, T. A. Stenner W.M. 861, R. E. Clarke 1693, J. Fleming 1787, G. R. Lambert 228, B. C. Kirby 228, and others.

After the Lodge was opened the minutes of the last regular meeting on 9th November 1895, and of the emergency meeting on 22nd January were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was presented by Brother T. D. Sankey, and upon the proposition of Bro. G. W. Perry P.M., it was accepted and passed, discussion on certain items being postponed.

The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Brother Rutherford Darling the Worshipful Master-elect was presented by Brother G. M. E. Hamilton P.M. to receive at the hands of his predecessor the benefit of installation. Having signified his assent to the ancient charges and regulations, a Board of Installed Masters was constituted, and Bro. Darling was duly placed in the chair by Bro. Renton.

Upon the re-admission of the Brethren the new Master was saluted, and then proceeded to invest his Officers for the year. These were J. Brown S.W., A. E. Mullins J.W., G. W. Perry P.M. Treasurer, G. M. E. Hamilton P.M. Secretary, Jesse Masters S.D., W. G. Hale J.D., J. J. Morse I.G., W. Duncan D.C., Vincent Wood A.D.C., G. S. Cockton Organist, J. Witney and T. K. Sherborne Stewards, and G. Harrison Tyler.

The ballot was taken and proved unanimous in favour of Messrs. James Parsons, Sydney Edward Mitchell, and Archie Darling. Unfortunately the last-named gentleman was absent through illness, but the others being in attendance were regularly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The ceremony was admirably rendered by Bro. Darling, who thereby proved his proficiency for the position of W.M. Two candidates were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and the Lodge resolved to send a respectful vote of sympathy to the Grand Master, with regard to the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg. A telegram was received from the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe D.G.M., regretting his inability to attend the meeting. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and the Brethren adjourned to the banquet room.

Good fellowship and jollity reigned supreme throughout the evening, the initiates receiving more than usual attention, and the Brethren were evidently resolved to show the visitors that they were "assembled on merry occasion."

The customary Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received with extraordinary enthusiasm, which was also extended to the Worshipful Master when he rose to respond for his, very gracefully proposed by the I.P.M.

Bro. Darling said he was proud at having reached the chair, after nearly eleven years' service in the Lodge. He hoped they would all work together in love and harmony, and do their utmost to support him, and so promote the happiness and prosperity of the Lodge. He subsequently paid a fitting tribute to his predecessor, and congratulated him upon the manner in which the installation ceremony had been carried out. He took the opportunity of presenting him with the Past Master's jewel which had been unanimously voted to him, and trusted the Great Architect would for many years allow him to regard it as a souvenir of a most successful year of office.

Bro. Renton, in reply, thanked the Brethren for their great kindness. He had always done his best to uphold the traditions of the Lodge, and he was glad to say that it had considerably increased during his year of office, no less than sixteen Brethren having joined, twelve of whom were initiates.

Bros. Parsons and Mitchell suitably expressed their thanks for being admitted as members of the Lodge, and hoped the Brethren would find them worthy Masons.

Bros. Elliott, Partington, Dunn, Eedle, and Bower acknowledged the toast of the Visitors.

Bro. Cull, responding for the Past Masters, tendered some good advice to the Brethren, by which it is hoped they may benefit, but need not be further alluded to here.

The Officers of the Lodge were also complimented, and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a pleasant termination.

During the evening some capital songs were given by Bros. Mullins, Faulds, Wood, Renton, and Rippin, which were much appreciated; and reference was made to a ball to be given to the lady friends of the Brethren at the Freemasons' Hall on the 21st inst., so it would appear that the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge is determined not to be behind its compeers.

Brother Rutherford Darling was born at Southampton, on 9th October 1863, and was initiated into Freemasonry in the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge on 11th April 1885. He has filled the various offices of the Lodge with commendable credit, and has been an ardent attendant at the Lodge of Instruction, with the result, as we have seen, that he is in all respects perfectly qualified for the Master's chair.

ST. MICHAEL LODGE, No. 211.

THE one hundred and first installation meeting of this good old Lodge took place on Tuesday, at the Albion, Aldersgate Street, under the happiest auspices.

Bro. George Cockrell W.M. opened the Lodge about five o'clock, when there were present Bros. Alfred Green P.M., W. Radcliffe P.M., P. J. King P.M., Alexander Dickson P.M., W. J. Dyer P.M., C. J. Groves P.M. 742, G. J. Austin P.M. 1791, F. J. Burton W.M. 1672, G. E. Higginson P.M. 1791, R. H. Catling P.M. 2157, Arthur E. Mullins J.W. 1446, James Smith 174, R. N. Larter, Thos. Rayner 2432, L. G. Hammond 1524, G. W. Goss 176, I. H. S. Harrison 194, F. A. Harrison 1671, and others.

Brother Howard E. Mullins, who was initiated at the last meeting, was passed to the second degree; the report of the Audit Committee, which was highly favourable, was received; a Committee for the general purposes of the Lodge was elected; and relief granted to two distressed Masons, formerly distinguished members of the Lodge. After this Bro. Arthur B. Spawforth W.M.-elect was presented and took the obligation, being subsequently installed into the chair. Both ceremonies were admirably rendered by Bro. Cockrell, and the delivery of the addresses evoked the liveliest appreciation of the Lodge.

The new Master invested his Officers as follow:—Cecil B. Mount S.W., Albert H. Collings J.W., Alfred Green P.M. Treasurer, William Radcliffe P.M. Secretary, Ernest Collings S.D., W. W. Colley J.D., Frederick W. Berry I.G., Orlton Cooper P.M. D.C., T. G. Johnson Organist, Henry Lindfield Steward, Barnes Tyler. Brother Spawforth having received congratulation of the Brethren then closed the Lodge.

One of the usual excellent Albion banquets followed, and the toasts which were afterwards proposed were interspersed by some fine singing by Miss F. Seccombe Bennett, Miss Helen Saunders, Charles Tilbury, and Fred Humble, Bro. A. H. Dalley of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co. accompanying on the piano.

After the Loyal toasts, Bro. Cockrell I.P.M. proposed the W.M. Bro. A. B. Spawforth, and said that in Brother Arthur Bingley Spawforth the St. Michael Lodge had a thoroughly good Master. The Brethren were aware that Bro. Spawforth had had a slight jump in coming into the chair, but still the Brethren and visitors who had been in the Lodge had seen the way in which he had done his work in investing his Officers, and they would all confess he had performed it in a perfectly Masonic style. Ever since he had known Bro. Spawforth he had found him a thoroughly good worker in all the offices of the St. Michael Lodge, and he was certain they would find him as Master a Brother perfectly capable to carry out the work. It was the Worshipful Master's intention to do so and to keep up the reputation of the good old St. Michael Lodge.

Bro. Spawforth, in reply, said he hardly knew how to thank Brother Cockrell enough for the optimistic views he had expressed, or for the Brethren's cordial reception of them; but he could say sincerely that since he came into the Lodge his highest ambition—as it should be with every initiate—was to occupy the chair of the Lodge as he did at that moment. He had now attained the height of his ambition, and he would leave nothing undone to render his year of office most acceptable to the members of the Lodge. He had been in other Lodges and had kept his eyes open as well as his ears, and by that course had seen how the work should be done. He wished to pay a tribute to the Lodge of Instruction, which was under the presidency of a Brother now present, Bro. Higginson P.M., for that Lodge of Instruction had taught him the greater practical part of the knowledge he now possessed of the work and the ceremonies.

The W.M. next proposed the I.P.M., which he considered the toast of the evening, because Brother George Cockrell had been in the chair twelve months, and had executed all the work of the Lodge in a thoroughly able and efficient manner. The Brethren had seen it, and they had also had the satisfaction of seeing him perform the ceremony of installation. If any Brethren had cause to feel deeply impressed with the solemnity of the obligations they took, and with the objects of Freemasonry as expounded by Brother Cockrell, it was those Brethren who had seen him go through the different ceremonies. Speaking only for himself he was particularly grateful to Bro. Cockrell for the way in which he performed the ceremony of installation; it had impressed his heart, and would never be effaced from his memory. In addition to being such a good Mason Brother Cockrell was a good man, one whom he was proud to call a friend of his own. The Brethren gave him their best wishes, and as a token of the regard in which they held him they had voted him a Past Master's jewel, which he now pinned on his breast. It was "the outward and visible sign" of the esteem in which they held him. The jewel was never placed on the bosom of a Brother more worthy.

Bro. George Cockrell, who was received with enthusiastic cheers on rising to respond to the toast, said the duty cast upon him was, to a man who had anything of a heart in him, one of great responsibility. It had been his great ambition since he took office in the Lodge to gain the position of W.M., and after that to have a Past Master's jewel presented to him. He now stood before the Brethren with that honour conferred. He had tried his "level best" in every office he had held in the Lodge to do his duty as efficiently as he could. The Brethren knew what an excitable year it had been for the Lodge, as it had been its centenary year, and if the celebration of that centenary had been a success—which everyone acknowledged it had been—he was thoroughly repaid for any efforts he had made to bring it to a glorious issue. There was not a Brother in the Lodge who did not know he had Freemasonry at heart, and that he was always trying to do everything he could in its interest. He had stood a Steward for one of the Charities, and had taken up a sum that the Brethren might be proud of. He was also one of the executive of the Lodge of Instruction, which he was proud to say was going on splendidly. During the last two years it had paid £1 a week into the Masonic Charities, and for the next two years it had a guarantee to pay a guinea a week to the same Institutions. He had worked in this cause, and he adduced the fact to show the interest he took in Freemasonry. As regarded the performance of his duties that night, he had to say it had been his ambition to instal his successor. This was wrought perhaps by the Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction Bro. Higginson, who had said he had done the ritual very well, and ought to instal the W.M. He did so, and the Brethren had applauded him that evening for the way in which he had performed the task. He exhorted all the Brethren to attend Lodges of Instruction, where they would learn to do the work as it ought to be done. He begged the Brethren to accept his hearty thanks for the beautiful jewel the Lodge had voted.

Bros. Rowe and Higginson responded to the toast of the Visitors, Brother Rowe stating that it was good to work the ceremonies all though as well as the installation. The Brethren who saw the work that evening must have been highly gratified, as the Installing Master did his work magnificently, and his worthy successor ought to have a good year of office.

Brother Higginson said he should mention nothing about the Lodge of Instruction, except to repeat the words of the W.M.—they had done what

every Mason tried to do. They were proud of the amount of money they had sent to the Charities. St. Michael Instruction Lodge was doing a vast amount of good, both in teaching members the ritual, and in training Brethren to become good Officers of Lodges. The I.P.M., as Steward of their Lodge, took up 150 guineas to the Girls School Festival in 1895.

Bro. Spawforth, in proposing the Treasurer, Secretary, and Past Masters, referred to the excellent work these Brethren had done for the Lodge and for the Charities.

Bro. Green P.M. Treasurer, replying, said he had always been ready to assist the Lodge. As Treasurer he had tried to keep the finances within bounds, so as to be satisfactory to every member. They had a good balance, and had also materially assisted the charities. The Lodge had given during the past year three separate donations to the charities, a thing it had never done before. This showed that they all took a real interest in Masonry.

Bro. Radcliffe P.M. and Secretary also responded. Anything the Past Masters could do for the interest of the St. Michael Lodge all these Brethren would do. He had been twenty-one years in the Lodge, which was his Mother Lodge, and this was the thirteenth year he had been appointed its Secretary. He supposed he must have done the work properly, or he would not have been re-appointed.

Bro. Orlton Cooper P.M. said the Officers were ready and willing to support the W.M. to the best of their ability.

The toast of the Officers was given and responded to, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

FIDELITY LODGE, No. 3.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge, held on Wednesday, 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, was in every way a success, the large number of Brethren who were present testifying in the most hearty manner to the general excellence of all that was undertaken, albeit the business that was transacted was of a heavy and varied character, including the three degrees in addition to the Installation, and necessitating a very long sitting.

The Lodge was called for 3.30 p.m. and no delay took place in getting to work, Bro. John Cooper the Master of the past year undertaking the whole of the four ceremonies, and displaying wonderful powers of memory in the delivery of the different portions of the ritual. In due course Bro. Harold Imray was installed into the chair, and appointed the following as his Officers: Bros. H. J. Gregory S.W., F. Shepherd J.W., G. Low P.M. Treasurer, Dr. S. R. Lovett P.M. Secretary, Dr. Fallon P. Wightwick S.D., G. S. Dixon J.D., John Falconer I.G., A. W. G. Weekes P.M. D.C., R. Sebastian Hart Organist and R. F. Potter P.M. Tyler.

The ceremony of installation being regularly completed and the general business disposed of the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the banquet, after which the customary toast list was gone through, this portion of the day's work being pleasantly relieved by an excellent Musical entertainment, under the direction of Bro. John Probert, whose personal ability as a vocalist was ably supplemented by the talented artistes who supported him, these being Miss Katie Thomas, Miss Bessie Dore, Miss Adelina Dinelli, Bro. Wilson James and Mr. Ralph Norris (at the piano).

The Worshipful Master introduced his remarks with the observation that as the hour was late and there was a long programme of music to go through the speeches would be cut very short. He contented himself, accordingly, with merely submitting the customary Loyal sentiments, calling upon Gen. Laurie to respond for the Grand Officers.

Bro. Laurie's rising was the signal for a hearty burst of enthusiasm, and in acknowledging it he said he felt, if he might be permitted to refer to the matter, that the applause just given the Grand Officers rather belonged to the Brother on his right—Bro. Samuel Cochrane Past Grand Treasurer—a Past Master of the Lodge and the elect of the Craft, than to himself, a nominated member of Grand Lodge. It was the aim of the Craft to endeavour to unite, by the broadest bonds, the largest number possible under the banner of Freemasonry. They were united by the common desire to benefit the human race, on the broadest principles. He had personally had the honour of holding office in Masonic Lodges in all four quarters of the globe, and although he had not yet had the opportunity of doing the same in Australia he did not despair of ultimately rising to distinction there also. It might be imagined he had a wide experience, yet he had always found a common platform on which as Masons they could unite, and mutually assist each other in the beneficent work of the Craft. He spoke of the magnificent record achieved by the Grand Lodge of England, with its roll of upwards of 2,500 Lodges, and hoped the same success would attend its future as had marked its past. The position of England was very different to that occupied by the Grand Lodge over which he had had the honour to preside, which had a roll of only 80 Lodges, but the members in Nova Scotia always strove to work on the same lines as governed the old Grand Lodge of England, and fully appreciated the position it had achieved. The Grand Lodge Officers were men who had done their duty in the Craft and had risen to distinction as reward for their exertions on its behalf. He urged his hearers to make themselves prominent in Masonry, carrying out its teachings and its splendid principles, and they would ultimately receive the reward of the purple.

The I.P.M. next submitted the toast of the Worshipful Master. Bro. Imray, he said, had raised himself to his present position by merit, and could safely be referred to as a good man in many ways. He did not know a more pleasant companion than he outside of Freemasonry, or one whose companionship would make a holiday trip more enjoyable. He was an active Mason, and held office elsewhere than in their Fidelity Lodge, and with a fair prospect of work before him on all sides he had every opportunity of qualifying himself for the post he now occupied; in fact he felt the Lodge would reap the benefit of having Bro. Imray as its Master. He was also a staunch supporter of the Charities, and was, he believed, an active worker on some of the Committees connected with them. One of his chief efforts during his Mastership would be on behalf of the Institution for which he had promised to act as Steward, and for which, as their Worshipful Master, he naturally desired to secure as large an amount of support as was possible from the members. He hoped Bro. Imray would have a successful year, and that everything would conduce to his happiness and comfort in the chair of their Lodge.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, tendered sincere thanks for the very kind way in which the Brethren had met the toast just proposed. There was no doubt, so far as he was concerned, that the event of that day was really the event of a lifetime—to occupy the chair of the famous Lodge of Fidelity. He hoped he might be able to fulfil the duties of his position as well as his predecessors had done, and that he should be able to carry out the work as efficiently as the Brother who had just occupied the chair, and who was blessed with a great natural advantage in having a good memory. It would certainly be his endeavour to satisfy the members in all he attempted.

The proposition of the next toast, said the Worshipful Master, was to

him the most pleasing thing of the whole evening, it being indeed a gratification to submit the health of the Immediate Past Master, and a yet greater one to present him, on behalf of the Lodge, with a Past Master's jewel, which he did with the hope that their Bro. Cooper would be able to look upon it with every mark of respect for many years to come, and with the full knowledge that he had won it by sheer hard work and merit.

Bro. Cooper felt he had done nothing to deserve such hearty expressions of approval as had followed the observations of the Worshipful Master; he thanked the Brethren most heartily and sincerely for their reception at all times.

The toast of the Initiate—Bro. P. C. Gibbs—was next honoured, the Worshipful Master saying their new member had been introduced by one they were all very fond of, and seconded by one of their Officers—no light recommendation, it must be conceded.

The Initiate replied. He did not think they could fairly expect much from the poverty-stricken apprentice of that afternoon. He had long desired to join Freemasonry, and was pleased that he had had the opportunity of associating himself with it through the Fidelity Lodge, wherein he hoped to remain for many years without, he trusted, ever disgracing it.

In submitting the toast of the Visitors, Bro. Imray said he believed the Fidelity Lodge had always been somewhat to the front in regard to the entertainment of guests, they more often than not outnumbering the members—on the present occasion they were about three to one. Hospitality appeared to come foremost in their Lodge, and although many of the members knew most of those who were present, he saw some new faces around him, and hoped all would so far enjoy themselves as to desire to become better known to the members of the Fidelity Lodge. Bro. Imray referred to several of the guests by name, and coupled with the toast Bro. J. M. McLeod, who he hoped would also add a word on behalf of the Charities, a separate toast being impossible in view of the lateness of the hour; Bro. Passmore Edwards, a name almost a household word throughout the country; Bro. F. Sackett, a very old personal friend and a past Officer of Essex; Bro. C. Gray, one of his most sincere friends, and one who had always been ready to give him help and advice whenever he required it in Freemasonry; and Bro. S. J. Heilbron.

Bro. McLeod expressed the pleasure he felt in seeing one of his fellow Founders of the Barnet Lodge in the chair of the Fidelity, and offered the heartiest of good wishes from all who were associated with Bro. Imray in the former. He also tendered his sincere thanks to Bro. Imray and the other members of the Fidelity Lodge for the great and increasing support it gave to the Institutions, and had personally to thank the Master of the past year for his efforts in the cause. He hoped, as the present Master had given his promise to serve as a Steward for the Boys, the members would be equally enthusiastic in supporting him as they had been in supporting Bro. Cooper.

Bro. Passmore Edwards said that before that night he had thought everything was good in Freemasonry, but henceforth he should consider otherwise, for not a moment before he was called upon to respond to the toast had he been told his name would be coupled with it. He was taken at a disadvantage, yet he felt the Fidelity Lodge had the true spirit of Brotherhood within it. He saw before him an American, and he was reminded of recent events. Truly America was a great power, but there was a greater—the British Empire; similarly there was a greater power than the British

Empire, and that was Freemasonry. Bro. Edwards proceeded to refer to the peculiarities associated with the figure 3—the number of their Lodge—and concluded with the remark that while it was a great thing to be an Englishman, it was a greater to be a Mason, and a yet greater to be associated with its No. 3 Lodge.

Bros. Sackett, Gray and Heilbron also acknowledged the toast.

The Master next proposed the toast of the Past Masters who, he said, were not the old fossils some would have them believe, but rather a kindly band of Brethren who strove to do all in their power to advance the welfare of every Brother in the Lodge. Theirs was a toast deserving of the greatest enthusiasm.

Brother Macdougall acknowledged the toast, expressing the pride and gratification of the Past Masters in hearing the kind words of the Worshipful Master when he spoke of the past records of the Lodge. They were pleased that the old Lodge maintained its position, notwithstanding the many new Lodges which were springing up around it.

The toast of the Treasurer and Secretary was next on the list, the Master referring to the long association of the Treasurer with the Lodge, extending as it did over a period of forty-five years. It was quite exceptional to have a Brother who had been so long a member, one who was always ready to look to the interests of the Lodge and its members. Whenever any assistance was needed in the work of the Lodge they could always rely on their Treasurer, who was always ready, never being tired of doing his share for the Lodge. Equal praise might be showered upon Bro. Secretary Lovett, who was ever ready to lend his aid for their advantage.

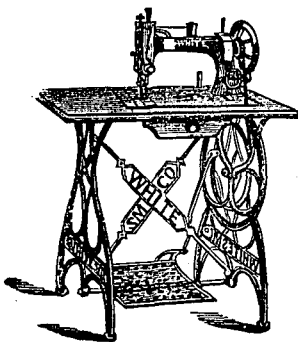
The Treasurer, in the course of his reply, said it was a pleasure to hold the office, the duties of which he hoped he filled to the advantage of the Lodge. The very enjoyable meetings of the Lodge were to him red letter days in the year, and although he could hardly hope to be present at many more he hoped the same spirit of Brotherhood would always be among them in the future.

Bro. Lovett responded as Secretary, and then the Master submitted the toast of the Officers, which sentiment was responded to by the Senior Warden, Junior Deacon and Inner Guard, the proceedings closing with the Tyler's toast.

The Visitors included Bros. S. Laurie Past Grand Master Nova Scotia P.G.W. England, W. Lewis P.M. 1885, H. Whale 771, E. G. Spiers Secretary 1503, Alfred Oliver 1987, J. Heilbron 1668, A. Cohen 1668, R. Sullivan 1668, J. Ferguson P.M. 1691, H. T. Matthews S.W. 1910, W. Baddeley S.D. 25, F. G. Baker J.D. 2509 1866, S. J. Heilbron I.G. 1668, A. J. Henderson 889, J. Brittain P.M. 1885 P.P.G.W. Herts, E. Beare 172, T. J. Grylls 21, Henry W. Brooks 21, W. H. Kempton P.G. Steward, James Bayne Org. 1668, C. Coram Treas. 2552, S. G. Rogers I.G. 1177, S. Wales W.M. 1803, Frank Sackett P.M. 1843 P.P.J.G.D. Essex, G. F. S. Gill 21, John Chandler J.W. 5, W. Haynes Dunn 869 Prov.G. Supt. Works, R. Cranston W.M. 2509, Wm. Stephens 2165, F. G. Mason S.W. 1885, Charles Hurford 1877, T. J. Bolton S.W. 1687, Frederick Taylor S.D. 2256, Bullen Spicer 1885, S. Lloyd P.M. 1201, J. M. McLeod P.P.S.G.W. Derbys. Sec. R.M.I. Boys, C. Gray P.M. 1885, F. S. Plowright W.M. 193, L. Mantell J.W. 1897, W. W. Morgan 177, J. Passmore Edwards, A. Boden 2168, F. W. Izard J.D. 1017, Frank Evans S.D. 9, H. O. Winter 2432, John Probert 340, R. S. King 2438, W. H. Lowery I.P.M. 1899.

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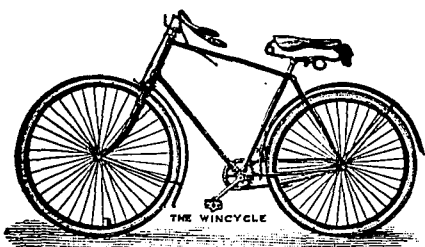
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Globe.—8, The Journey's End. 9, Charley's Aunt. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Prince of Wales's.—7:35, A Woman's Caprice. 8:15, Gentleman Joe. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Gaiety.—8, The Shop Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Criterion.—8:30, The Squire of Dames. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Terry's.—8, An Old Garden. 8:50, Jedbury Jun.
Garrick.—8, The Interview. 8:20, The Professor's Love Story. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:30.
Avenue.—8:30, The new Barmaid.
Daly's.—8:15, Second edition of An Artist's Model. Daily, Matinées of Carl Rosa Opera Company.
Comedy.—8:10, Gaffer Jarge. 9, The Late Mr. Castello. Matinée, Saturday, 2:15. (Last day).
Haymarket.—8:30, Trilby. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:30.
Lyric.—8:15, The Sign of the Cross. Matinée, Tuesday, and Saturday, 2:30.
Savoy.—7:50, After all. 8:30, The Mikado. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Adelphi.—8, One of the best. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Shaftesbury.—8, Jeremy Diddler. 8:30, A Woman's Reason. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:45.
St. James's.—8, The Prisoner of Zenda. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Royalty.—8, Kitty Olive—Actress. 8:40, The Chili Widow. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Olympic.—7:30, Cheer, Boys, Cheer! Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 1:30.
Princess's.—7:45, Here she goes. 8:30, The Colleen Bawn.
Alhambra.—7:50, Variety Entertainment. Two Grand Ballets. 8:15, Lochinvar. 10:30, Blue Beard.
Empire.—7:45, Variety Entertainment. 8, On Brighton Pier. 10:10, New Ballet Divertissement, La Danse.
Palace.—7:45, Variety Entertainment, Tableaux Vivants, &c. Matinée, Saturday, 2:15.
Royal.—7:30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2:30.

Oxford.—7:30, Variety Entertainment. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.

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Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily.

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Tivoli.—7:30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2:30 also.

Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. Maskelyne's Magical Entertainment.

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From "Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News," 25th May 1895:—"The Duke and Duchess of York, with Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, on Wednesday afternoon visited THE ROYAL CYCLE RIDING SCHOOLS, 81 EUSTON ROAD, The Royal Visitors were shown over the buildings by the Manager, Mr. Brown, and before departing expressed themselves most pleased with the clever cycle-riding of some of the young ladies."

NEXT WEEK.

Further particulars as to place of meeting of the undermentioned Lodges are given in the Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket Book published by Grand Lodge, for the benefit of the Charity Fund).

Monday.

- 1 Grand Masters, F.M.H.
- 8 British, Freemasons'-hall
- 21 Emulation, Albion
- 185 Tranquility, Guildhall Tavern
- 862 Whittington, Freemasons'-hall
- 901 City of London, Guildhall Tav.
- 907 Royal Albert, Freemasons'-hall
- 1506 White Horse of Kent, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
- 1537 St. Peter Westminster, Critn.
- 1657 Aldersgate, Albion
- 1694 Imperial Clout's Restaurant
- 1728 Temple Bar, Anderton's
- 2489 Willesden, Willesden Green
- 2545 Iris, Rainbow, Fleet Street
- 77 Freedom, Gravesend
- 148 Lights, Warrington
- 236 York, York
- 248 True Love and Unity, Devon
- 312 Lion, Whithy
- 359 Peace & Harmony, Southampton
- 377 Hope and Charity, Kidderminster
- 424 Borough, Gateshead
- 455 Perseverance, Kettering
- 466 Merit, Stamford Baron
- 872 Lewis, Whitehaven
- 900 St. George, Tewkesbury
- 925 Bedford, Birmingham
- 949 Williamson, Monkwearmouth
- 986 Hesketh, Croston, Preston
- 1030 Egerton, Heaton Norris
- 1113 Anglesea, Menai Bridge
- 1141 Mid-Sussex, Horsham.
- 1146 De Moulham, Swanage
- 1170 St. George, Manchester
- 1199 Agriculture, Yatton
- 1208 Corinthian, Dover
- 1238 Gooch, Twickenham
- 1255 Dundas, Plymouth
- 1337 Anchor, Northallerton
- 1443 Salem, Dawlish
- 1502 Israel, Liverpool
- 1631 St. Andrew, Gorleston
- 1674 Carodoc, Rhyl
- 1814 Worsley, Worsley
- 1833 St. Keyna, Keynsham
- 1909 Carnarvon, Nottingham
- 2069 Prudence, Leeds
- 2074 St. Clair, Landport
- 2081 Golden Fleece, Leicester
- 2086 Dacre, Stevenage
- 2114 Prudence, Liverpool
- 2208 Horsa, Bournemouth
- 2289 Blundellsands, Great Crosby
- 2295 Scarisbrick, Southport
- 2327 St. Oswin, North Shields
- 2349 W. Lancashire Century, Blackpool
- 2425 Ecclesburne, Duffield
- 2482 Duchess of York, Manchester
- 2557 Temperance, Newcastle-o-Tyne

Tuesday.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 5.
- 30 United Mariners, Guildall Tav.
- 73 Mount Lebanon, Bdge. Ho. Ho.
- 95 Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle
- 162 Cadogan, Freemasons'-hall
- 194 St. Paul, Cannon Street Hotel
- 435 Salisbury, Freemasons'-hall
- 1339 Stockwell, Camberwell
- 1695 New Finsbury Park, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
- 2021 Queen's Westminster, Holborn Restaurant
- 2022 Haven, Ealing
- 2045 Wharton, Willesden
- 2500 Old Boys, Criterion
- 213 Perseverance, Norwich
- 223 Charity, Plymouth
- 384 St. David, Bangor
- 414 Union, Reading
- 418 Menturia, Hanley
- 432 Abbey, Nuneaton
- 462 Frederick of Unity, Croydon
- 468 Light, Birmingham
- 476 St. Peter, Carmarthen
- 551 Yarrowburgh, Ventnor, I of W.
- 560 Vernon, Stourport
- 660 Camalodunum, Malton
- 667 Alliance, Liverpool
- 681 Scarsdale, Chesterfield
- 830 Endeavour, Dukinfield
- 958 St. Aubin, Jersey

- 960 Bute, Cardiff
- 1006 Tregullov, St. Day
- 1046 St. Andrew, Farnham
- 1075 St. Maughold, Ramsey
- 1089 De Shurland, Sheerness
- 1096 Lord Warden, Walmer
- 1225 Hindpool, Barrow-in-Furness
- 1276 Warren, Seacombe
- 1410 St. Peter and St. Paul, Newport Pagnell
- 1424 Brownrigg Unity, Old Brompton
- 1427 Percy, Newcastle-on-Tyne
- 1551 Charity, Birmingham
- 1570 Prince Arthur, Liverpool
- 1621 Castle, Bridgnorth
- 1764 Eleanor Cross, Northampton
- 1787 Grenville, Buckingham
- 1893 Lumley, Skegness
- 1894 Herschel, Slough
- 1903 Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, Portsmouth
- 1941 St. Augustine, Rugeley
- 2146 Subition, Subition
- 2155 Makerfield, Newton-le-Willows
- 2316 Princes, Liverpool
- 2360 Victoria, Southport
- 2407 Hicks-Beach, Stroud
- 2530 Shirley Woolmer, Sidcup
- 2536 Staines, Staines
- 2584 Queen Victoria, Manchester
- 2572 Tyldesley, Tyldesley

Wednesday.

- General Committee, Grand Lodge and Board of Benevolence, at 5
- 7 Royal York of Perseverance, Albion
- 140 St. George, Greenwich
- 174 Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern
- 190 Oak, Freemasons'-hall
- 969 Maybury, Inns of Court Hotel
- 1044 Wandsworth, Wandsworth
- 1150 Bucknham & Chandos, F.M.H.
- 1349 Friars, Ship and Turtle
- 1382 Corinthian, Cubitt Town
- 1507 Metropolitan, Anderton's
- 1539 Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
- 1571 Leopold, Southwark
- 1624 Eccleston, Criterion
- 1673 Welcome, Holborn Via. Hotel
- 1677 Crusaders, Cook Tavern
- 1681 Londesborough, Café Royal
- 2266 Cator, Beckingham
- 2345 Duke of Fife, Clapham Com.
- 2348 Lombardian, Ship and Turtle
- 2361 Cricklewood, Cricklewood
- 2409 Woodgrange, Forest Gate
- 2589 Borough, Bridge House Hotel
- 20 Royal Kent of Antiquity, Chatham
- 121 Mount Sinai, Penzance
- 127 Union, Margate
- 137 Amity, Poole
- 175 East Medina, Ryde
- 178 Antiquity, Wigan
- 200 Old Globe, Scarborough
- 210 Duke of Athol, Denton
- 221 St. John, Bolton
- 243 Loyalty, Guernsey
- 246 Royal Union, Cheltenham
- 261 Unanimity Sincerity, Taunton
- 285 Love & Honour, Shepton Mallet
- 311 South Saxon, Lewes
- 325 St. John, Salford
- 342 Royal Sussex, Landport
- 376 Perfect Friendship, Ipswich
- 451 Sutherland, Burslem
- 537 Zetland, Birkenhead
- 581 Faith, Openshaw
- 592 Cotteswold, Cirencester
- 610 Colston, Bristol
- 662 Dartmouth, West Bromwich
- 683 Isca, Newport, Mon
- 726 Staffordshire Knot, Stafford
- 823 Everton, Liverpool
- 874 Holmesdale, Tunbridge Wells
- 934 Merit, Whitefield
- 938 Grosvenor, Birmingham
- 950 Hesketh, Fleetwood
- 962 Sun and Sector, Workington
- 972 St. Augustine, Canterbury
- 1019 Sincerity, Wakefield
- 1040 Sykes, Driffield
- 1086 Walton, Kirkdale
- 1114 Joppa, Fakenham
- 1129 St. Chad, Rochdale
- 1136 Carew, Torpoint
- 1161 De Grey & Ripon, Manchester
- 1179 Rutland, Ilkeston
- 1212 Elms, Stoke Damerel
- 1246 Holte, Aston
- 1294 St. Alban, Grimsby
- 1301 Brighthouse, Brighthouse
- 1323 Talbot, Swansea
- 1334 Norman, Durham
- 1353 Duke of Lancaster, Lancaster
- 1511 Alexandra, Hornsea
- 1634 Starkie, Ramsbottom

- 1774 Mellor, Ashton-under-Lyne
- 1797 South Down, Hurstpierpoint
- 1842 St. Leonard, St. Leonards
- 1973 Saye and Sele, Belvedere
- 1988 Mawddach, Barmouth
- 2050 St. Trinians, Douglas
- 2135 Constance, Consett
- 2153 Hope, Gosport
- 2502 Gatwick, Horley
- 2203 Farnborough and North Camp, Farnborough
- 2258 W.D. United Service, E. Stonehouse
- 2412 Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield
- 2434 Anderida, Eastbourne
- 2475 Border, Blackwater
- 2514 City, Liverpool
- 2587 Radnor, Folkestone

Thursday.

- House Committee, Girls School, Battersea, at 4-30
- 6 Friendship, Criterion
- 23 Globe, Freemasons'-hall
- 49 Gihon, Gresham Street
- 55 Constitutional, City Term. Ho.
- 63 St. Mary, Freemasons'-hall
- 169 Temperance, Deptford
- 179 Manchester, Anderton's
- 657 Canonbury, Holborn Rest.
- 1287 Great Northern, Freemasons-h.
- 1320 Blackheath, Bridge House Hot.
- 1475 Peckham, Camberwell
- 1593 Ley Spring, Anderton's
- 1613 Cripplegate, Albion
- 1716 All Saints, Poplar
- 1901 Selwyn, East Dulwich
- 2551 Clissold, Highbury
- 42 Relief, Bury, Lancashire
- 56 Howard of Brotherly Love, Littlehampton
- 57 Humber, Hull
- 98 St. Martin, Burslem
- 100 Friendship, Great Yarmouth
- 203 Ancient Union, Liverpool
- 230 Fidelity, Devonport
- 245 Mechanics, Jersey
- 267 Unity, Macclesfield
- 268 Union, Ashton-under-Lyne
- 280 Worcester, Worcester
- 286 Samaritan, Bacup
- 322 Peace, Stockport
- 343 Concord, Preston
- 345 Perseverance, Blackburn
- 350 Charity, Bolton
- 363 Keystone, Whitworth
- 367 Probity and Freedom, Rochdale
- 394 Southampton, Southampton
- 425 Cestrian, Chester
- 430 Fidelity, Ashton-under-Lyne
- 489 Benevolence, Bideford
- 523 John of Gaunt, Leicester
- 600 Harmony, Bradford
- 605 Combermere, Birkenhead
- 659 Blagdon, Blyth
- 663 Wiltshire Fidelity, Devizes
- 758 Ellesmere, Runcorn
- 802 Repose, Derby
- 833 Afan, Aberavon
- 939 Pelham, Workson

- 940 Philanthropy, Stockton
- 1000 Priory, Southend
- 1011 Richmond, Manchester
- 1037 Portland, Portland
- 1042 Excelsior, Leeds
- 1184 Abbey, Battle
- 1299 Pembroke, Liverpool
- 1332 Unity, Crediton
- 1386 St. Hugh, Lincoln
- 1393 Hamer, Liverpool
- 1432 Fitz-Alan, Oswestry
- 1459 Ashbury, West Gorton
- 1470 Chiltern, Dunstable
- 1512 Hemming, Hampton Court
- 1534 Concord, Prestwich
- 1562 Homfray, Risca, Mon.
- 1776 Landport, Landport
- 1821 Atlingworth, Brighton
- 1869 Sandown, Sandown, I. of W.
- 1872 St. Margaret, Surbiton
- 1887 St. Hilda, Wallingford
- 1892 Wallington, Carshalton
- 2107 Etheldreda, Newmarket
- 2158 Boscombe, Boscombe
- 2226 St. David, Rhymney
- 2268 Hallamshire, Sheffield
- 2302 St. Mary, Southwell
- 2305 Stour, Ashford, Kent
- 2325 Rose of Lancaster, Southport
- 2341 Clemency, Oldham
- 2523 Roll Call, Hounslow
- 2430 Runnymede, Wraysbury
- 2555 England's Centre, Weedon

Friday.

- Board of Management, Boys School, Wood Green, at 2-30.
- 143 Middlesex, Albion
- 975 Rose of Denmark, Kennington
- 1962 London Rifle Brigade, Anderton's
- 2157 St. Mark's College, Holborn
- 2346 Warrant Officers, F.M.H.
- 152 Virtue, Manchester
- 155 Perseverance, Liverpool
- 271 Royal Clarence, Brighton
- 347 Noah's Ark, Tipton
- 541 De Loraine, Newcastle-on-Tyne
- 993 Alexandra, Levenshulme
- 1108 Royal Wharfedale, Otley
- 1311 Zetland, Leeds
- 1330 St. Peter, Market Harborough
- 1357 Cope, Sale
- 1389 Fenwick, Sunderland
- 1773 Albert Victor, Pendleton
- 1794 De Vere, Nottingham
- 2063 St. Osyth's Priory, Clacton-on-Sea
- 2231 Talbot, Stretford
- 2447 Palatine, Manchester

Saturday.

- 1541 Alexandra Palace, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
- 1584 Loyalty and Charity, Kew
- 2513 Sir Walter St. John, Camberwl.
- 2049 Henry Levander, Harrow Stn.
- 2421 Carrington, Amersham

Viscount Valentia, M.P., Provincial Grand Mark Master of Berks and Oxon has intimated his willingness to attend the next meeting of the Porchester Lodge, for the purpose of installing Bro. Charles E. Keyser, of Aldermaston Court, as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year.

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We cull the following from the "Yorkshire Gazette":—"Dr. Charles Forshaw, of Bradford, eldest son of Mr. T. G. Forshaw, M.P.S., is the most prolific author connected with the dental and chemical professions, being a contributor to no less than 3,000 journals, and having published 33 books. He has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Microscopical Society, the Edinburgh Geological Society, the Society of Arts, the Society of Chemical Industry, and is an honorary F.C.S., Berlin. Some time ago he was created an honorary LL.D. of Tusculum University, Tennessee, and in 1891 the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery conferred upon him their honorary D.D.S. Dr. Forshaw shares with Sir Edwin Saunders, F.R.C.S., dental surgeon to the Queen, the honour of being the only British Dentists who enjoy this distinction. The doctor is special constable for the Borough of Bradford, honorary dental surgeon to three Bradford Charities, consulting dental surgeon to Pembroke College, Harrogate, and was for sixteen months dispenser of medicine to the Bradford Eye and Ear Hospital. One of his most popular works is entitled 'Is Smoking Tobacco Injurious? No!' of which more than a million copies have been sold. He is also known as the Masonic poet, having written more than 200 poems on Freemasonry; one entitled 'A Centenary Ode' is the longest poem on Freemasonry ever written."

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LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Monday.

- 22 Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., 7-30
 174 Sincerity, Blackwell Railway Hotel, London Street, E.C., 8
 180 St. James's Union, St. James Restaurant, Piccadilly, 8
 211 St. Michael's, Norland Arms, Addison Road North, W., 8
 511 Zetland, The Falkland, Falkland Road, N.W., 8
 548 Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross Road, S.E., 8
 975 Rose of Denmark, L. and S.W.R. Institute, Wandsworth Road, 7-30
 1139 South Norwood, Jolly Sailor Hotel, South Norwood, 8-15
 1227 Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C., 8
 1320 Blackheath, Milkwood Tavern, Loughborough Junction, 8
 1339 Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 6
 1349 Friars, 94 White Horse Lane, Mile End Road, E., 8
 1360 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel, Wimbledon, 7-30
 1425 Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne Terrace, Bishop's Rd., 8
 1489 Marquess of Ripon, Lord Stanley, Paragon Road, Hackney, 8
 1507 Metropolitan, The Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., 7-30
 1572 Carnarvon, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C., 6-30
 1585 Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, 8
 1586 Upper Norwood, White Hart Hotel, Church Road, Upper Norwood, 8
 1612 West Middlesex, Feathers Hotel, Ealing, 8-15
 1698 Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, 8-30
 1707 Elcanor, Rose and Crown, High Cross, Tottenham, 8
 1743 Perseverance, Old Parr's Head, Doctor's Common, E.C., 7
 1804 Coborn, George Hotel, Woodford, 8
 2029 King Solomon, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C., 7-30
 2150 Tivoli, Frascati, Oxford Street, W., 7
 2242 Tyssen-Amherst, Amherst Club, Rectory Road, Stoke Newington, 7-30
 2319 Scots, Craig's Restaurant, 184 Fleet Street, E.C., 7
 2400 Brentford, Castle Hotel, Brentford, 8
 2472 Walthamstow, Masonic Hall, Chequers Hotel, Walthamstow, 8
 R.A. 1471 North London, Cock Tavern, N., 8

Tuesday.

- 25 Robert Burns, Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, W., 8
 55 Constitutional, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, 7
 79 Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London Street, Greenwich, 8-30
 140 St. George (M.M.), New Cross Hall, 8
 141 Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria Street, Westminster, 8
 177 Domatic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, 7-30
 188 Joppa, Boundary Tavern, 109 Aldersgate Street, 7-30
 238 Pilgrim, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, 6-30
 263 Clarence, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W., 7-30
 554 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, 8
 700 Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis Street, Woolwich, 8
 706 Florence Nightingale, Roy. Mortar Ho., Beresford Sq., Woolwich, 7-30
 733 Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne Terrace North, Harrow Road, 8
 749 Belgrave, Albion Tavern, Russell Street, Covent Garden, 8
 753 Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Vale, 8
 858 South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, S.W., 7-30
 861 Finsbury, Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, E.C., 7
 879 Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd., 8
 1044 Wandsworth, St. Mark's Schoolroom, Battersea Rise, 8
 1076 Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, 6
 1155 Excelsior, Dover Castle Hotel, Broadway, Deptford, S.E., 8
 1196 Urban, Mark Masons' Hall, 9
 1321 Emblematic, St. James' Restaurant, Piccadilly, 8
 1382 Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town, 8
 1420 Earl Spencer, Albert Palace, Battersea, 8
 1446 Mount-Edgumbe, Havelock Arms, Naylor Road, Peckham, S.E., 8
 1471 Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, Islington, 7-30
 1540 Chaucer, Old White Hart, High Street, S.E., 8
 1593 Royal Naval College, Greenwich Hospital Schools, 8
 1695 New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, 8
 1766 St. Leonard, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park Road, South Hackney, 8
 1767 Kensington, Scarsdale Arms, Edwardes Square, Kensington, 8
 1769 Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, 6-30
 1839 Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen Street, Cannon Street, 7
 1949 Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich Road, Herne Hill, 8
 2032 Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, 8-30
 2184 Royal Victorian Jubilee, The Feathers, 116 Lambeth Walk, S.E., 8
 2206 Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, 8
 2411 Clarence and Avondale, Masonic Hall, Leytonstone, E., 8
 2427 Hampden, Hampden House, Phenix Street, St. Pancras, 8

Wednesday.

- 3 Fidelity, Alfred Tavern, Roman Road, Barnsbury, 8
 27 Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate Street, 7
 30 United Mariners, Duke of Albany, Kitto Road, Nunhead, 7-30
 45 Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164 Fenchurch Street, 6-30
 65 Prosperity, Old Parr's Head, Knighttrider Street, E.C., 7
 72 Royal Jubilee, The Crown, Lambeth Road, 8
 73 Mount Lebanon, Half-Moon Hotel, Borough, 7-30
 186 Industry, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, 8
 193 Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14 Lime Street, E.C., 7
 228 United Strength, Hope Tavern, 179 Stanhope Street, Euston Road, 8
 538 La Tolerance, Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, 8
 720 Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, 7
 781 Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, E., 7-30
 813 New Concord, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst Road, N., 8s
 860 Dalhousie, Lord Stanley, Paragon Road, Hackney, E., 8
 862 Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's Court, Fleet Street, 8
 871 Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wootton Road, Deptford, 8
 898 Temperance in the East, Greenwich Pensioner, Bow Lane, Poplar, 7-30
 933 Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, E.C., 8
 1269 Stanhope, Fox and Hounds, Putney, 8
 1421 Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford, Essex, 7-30
 1475 Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent Road, 8
 1601 Ravensbourne, Black Bull Inn, Lewisham, S.E., 8
 1604 Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Rest., Victoria St., Westminster, 7-30
 1642 Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke Grove, Notting Hill, W., 8

- 1662 Beaconsfield, Chequers Hotel, Walthamstow, 8
 1681 Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, W., 8
 1685 Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone Road, E., 8
 1705 Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Church End, Finchley, 7-45
 1805 Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow Road, E., 8
 1922 Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New Road, 8
 1928 Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office Court, E.C., 7
 1950 Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, 8
 1963 Duke of Albany, Clock House, Battersea Park Road, 8
 2090 Hammersmith, Board Room, Bath & Wash-house Co., Hammersmith, 7
 2266 Cator, Railway Hotel, Beckenham
 2310 London Scottish Rifles, Albert Hotel, Victoria Street, 8-30
 2346 Warrant Officers, 38 Old Compton Street, W.C., 7-30
 2384 Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham, 8
 R.A. 1365 Clapton, Amherst Club, Amhurst Road, Hackney, 8

Thursday.

- 13 Union Waterloo (M.M.), Earl of Chatham, Thomas Street, Woolwich, 8
 15 Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, 8
 70 St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, 8
 144 St. Luke, Victoria Tavern, Gertrude Street, Chelsea, 8
 147 Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, 8
 167 St. John, Court House, Harlesden, N.W., 7-30
 435 Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air Street, Regent Street, 8
 754 High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, 8
 890 Hornsey, Masonic Rooms, White Hart, Lewisham, 8
 902 Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348 Clapham Road, S.W., 7-30
 907 Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 6-30
 1017 Montefiore, St. James' Restaurant, Piccadilly, 8
 1158 Southern Star, Sir Sydney Smith, Chester St., Kennington Rd., S.E., 8
 1178 Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, 7
 1259 Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, Commercial Road, Limehouse, 7-30
 1278 Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green Road, 8
 1306 St. John, Queen Victoria, Exmouth Street, Stepney, 8
 1366 Highgate, Falkland Arms, Falkland Road, N.W., 8
 1441 Ivy, Railway Tavern, Battersea Rise, 8
 1602 Sir Hugh Myddleton, Star in Garter, 45 Upper Street, N., 8
 1614 Covent Garden, Criterion, Piccadilly, 8
 1622 Rose, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell, 8
 1625 Tredegar, The Town of Ramsgate Inn, High Street, Wapping, 7-30
 1673 Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, E.C., 5-30
 1791 Creation, Shepherd's Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, 2
 1815 Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, 8
 1816 Victoria Park, George Hotel, Broadway, Stratford, 7-30
 1986 Honor Oak, Crystal Palace Tavern, Crystal Palace Rd., E. Dulwich, 8
 1996 Priory, Berrymead Priory, Acton
 2168 Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, 8
 2202 Regent's Park, Frascati, Oxford Street, W., 8
 2348 Lombardian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, 7
 2467 Pickwick, 134 Kingsland Road, N.E., 6-30

Friday.

- 9 Albion, The Moorgate, Moorgate Street, E.C., 7
 169 Temperance, Railway Tavern, near L. B. Station, New Cross Road, 8
 212 Euphrates, Green Man, Mansell Street, Aldgate, 8
 217 Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Coleman Street, 6
 256 Unions (Emulation Improvement for M.M.), Freemasons' Hall, 6
 507 United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, 7-30
 704 Camden, Earl Russell, 2 Pancras Road, N.W., 8
 765 St. James, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica Road, S.E., 8
 780 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, 8
 834 Ranelagh, Six Bells Tavern, Hammersmith, 8
 1056 Victoria (Metropolitan), Coach and Horses, Farringdon Street, 7
 1185 Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, 7-30
 1228 Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone, 8
 1298 Royal Standard, Castle, 81 Holloway Road, 8
 1310 Harrow, Waterloo Arms, 50 High Street, Marylebone, 8
 1364 Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, 7
 1365 Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, 7
 1381 Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington, 8
 1472 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, 7-30
 1607 Loyalty, 206 Mare Street, Hackney, 8
 1677 Crusaders, Northampton Arms, Goswell Road, 8-30
 1716 All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, E., 8
 1891 St. Ambrose, St. James Restaurant, Piccadilly, S.W., 8
 1897 Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst Road, Stoke Newington, 8
 1901 Selwyn, Montpelier Hotel, Peckham, 8
 2000 Earl of Mornington, 49 Queen Anne Street, 8-15
 2021 Queen Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly, 8
 2030 Abbey, Town Hall, Caxton Street, Westminster, 7-30
 2190 Savage Club, Savage Club, 7 Adelphi Terrace, 6
 2409 Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., 8
 M.M. Grand Masters', Mark Masons' Hall, W.C., 1st and 3rd Friday, 6

Saturday.

- 87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, Kitto Road, Nunhead, 7-30
 179 Manchester, Old King's Head, Euston Road, N.W., 8
 198 Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, Islington, 8
 1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Broadway, 7
 1288 Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, 8
 1348 Ebury, The Grapes, 123 Borough High Street, 8
 1524 Duke of Connaught, Lord Napier, West Side, London Flds., Hackney,
 1541 Alexandra Palace, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, 7-30
 1624 Eccleston, Windsor Castle Restaurant, Victoria Station, S.W., 7
 1719 Evening Star, Rutland Hotel, Perry Hill, Catford, S.E., 8
 2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, King Street, Hammersmith, 7-30

Sunday.

- 205 Israel, Rising Sun, Globe Road, Bow, E.