

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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THE ROYAL ARCH DEGREE.

BY the courtesy of Comp. C. L. Mason we are this week enabled to reprint the address he delivered at the recent meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire, on the subject of the degrees of Freemasonry and the Royal Arch, and we are convinced its perusal will prove most instructive to all who are interested in the degree.

Perhaps the most attractive part of Companion Mason's paper is its finish, wherein he seeks to account for the small amount of interest displayed by English Masons in the Order. He refers to the alteration in the period of a Master Mason's probation prior to admission, which was agreed to a few years back, and shows that the improvement that was then contemplated has not resulted from the change, and he discusses probable causes for the inanition.

One particular point touched upon by Companion Mason is in reference to the allotment of Offices in Grand Chapter. He argues—and very rightly so—that the fact of appointment to Office in Grand Lodge should not of necessity lead to preferment in Grand Chapter also, and herein lies one of the chief subjects, to our thinking, to which Royal Arch Masons should devote their attention. There are many very active workers in the Royal Arch who deserve and would highly prize Grand honours, and they are excluded from receiving them because there are so many more working to the front in Craft Masonry, without a thought or a care for the higher degree, who win distinction in both, as a matter of form, rather than as a reward for merit as far as the Arch is concerned.

GRAND LODGES NEXT WEEK.

AMONG the most interesting items of business to be transacted at next week's meetings of our Grand Lodges are the proposals to grant sums of money to relieve the distress occasioned by the war in South Africa. The United Grand Lodge of England will be asked to sanction a grant of one thousand guineas, and Grand Mark Lodge one of a hundred guineas, and no doubt the two sums will be unanimously given, together with the warmest sympathy and best wishes of all who take part in the respective gatherings.

The nomination of a Grand Master and of a Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year will also require attention at the two meetings, while as regards other business—which we may dismiss as formal only—we refer our readers to the full agendas given elsewhere in this issue.

After nine years loyal service Colonel T. Davies Sewell P.M. P.G.S. has relinquished the Secretaryship of the Alliance Lodge, of which he was one of the founders. He is succeeded by another Guildhall official, Bro. Frank Stather P.M. Registrar of the Mayor's Court.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Wisbech, on Monday, Bro. Colonel R. Townley Caldwell Prov.G.M. presiding.

The following Officers for the year were appointed and invested :—

Bro. R. Smith 809	-	-	-	Senior Warden
W. H. Francis 859	-	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. A. C. Crossfield 809	-	-	-	} Chaplains
Rev. A. L. Brown 859	-	-	-	
C. H. Davey 2107	-	-	-	Treasurer
F. W. Potts 441	-	-	-	Registrar
Oliver Papworth 88	-	-	-	Secretary
A. S. Bell 859	-	-	-	Senior Deacon
R. J. Sharman 809	-	-	-	Junior Deacon
H. S. Davison 88	-	-	-	Superintendent of Works
F. Dewberry 441	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
F. H. Potts 2107	-	-	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
H. Kompton 2727	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
T. Cowling 809	-	-	-	Organist
A. J. Armitage 859	-	-	-	Pursuivant
W. Tyler	-	-	-	} Stewards.
W. Dudley Ward 859	-	-	-	
R. H. Adie 1492	-	-	-	
C. Lacey 2727	-	-	-	

MASONIC AID FOR WAR VICTIMS.

THE following additional sums have been acknowledged on behalf of the different relief Funds started in connection with the South African campaign :

MANSION HOUSE WAR FUND.

Mount Edgecumbe Lodge, No. 1446	-	-	-	£28 18 6
Jerusalem Lodge, No. 197	-	-	-	21 0 0
Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017	-	-	-	21 0 0
Haven Lodge, No. 2022	-	-	-	21 0 0
Clapham Lodge, No. 1818	-	-	-	10 10 0
Felix Lodge, No. 2371	-	-	-	10 0 0
St. Paul Lodge, No. 194	-	-	-	5 5 0
Corinthian Lodge, No. 1382	-	-	-	5 5 0
Salisbury Lodge, No. 435	-	-	-	3 13 6

DAILY TELEGRAPH FUND.

	Shillings.
William Preston Lodge, No. 766	525
City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563	500
Royal Warrant Holders' Lodge, No. 2789	500
Columbia Lodge, No. 2397	420
Ebury Lodge, No. 1348	380
Walthamstow Lodge, No. 2472	365
Old King's Arms Lodge, No. 28	210
Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871	210
De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 905	210
Tyrian Lodge, No. 1110	210
Gatwick Lodge, No. 2502	210
Temperance in the East Lodge, No. 898	203
Honour and Generosity Lodge, No. 165	200
Langhorne Lodge, No. 1421	200
St. Martin Lodge, No. 2455	200
Lewisham Lodge of Instruction, No. 2579	168
Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 34	155
Bromley St. Leonard Lodge of Instruction, No. 1805	} 150
Commemoration Lodge of Instruction, No. 2663	
St. Luke Lodge, No. 144	105
Vale of Jehoshaphat Chapter, No. 291	105
Victoria Lodge, No. 1056	105
Duke of Cornwall Chapter, No. 1839	105
Doric Chapter, No. 933	100
United Mariners Lodge, No. 30	80
Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744	65
Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198	63
Asaph Chapter, No. 1319	63
Stuart Lodge, No. 1632	63
Royal Victorian Jubilee Lodge of Instruction, No. 2184	60
Alleyn Lodge, No. 2647	42
New Cross Lodge of Instruction, No. 1559	34
Wanderers Lodge, No. 1604	32
Skelmersdale Lodge of Instruction, No. 1658	25
Granite Lodge, No. 1323	15

CONSECRATIONS.

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LEGGÉ LODGE.

THE date of the Consecration of this Lodge at West Bromwich, originally fixed for Tuesday last, has been altered to the 18th inst. The Earl of Dartmouth Provincial Grand Master will be present on the occasion, and it is hoped there will be a good attendance of members of Provincial Grand Lodge.

ROYAL WARRANT HOLDERS LODGE.

THERE appears to be as little limit to the creation of new Masonic Lodges as to the charitable instincts of the Order itself. The Grand Secretary, assisted by several leading Brethren, last week consecrated at Freemasons' Hall a new Lodge, to be known as the Royal Warrant Holders' Lodge, and numbered 2789. It is, as its name implies, for the use and accommodation of those men of business who hold Royal warrants and display the Royal Arms. Bro. Daniel Mayer (Erard and Co.) was the first Worshipful Master, and E. W. Stillwell and T. B. Tipton the first Wardens.—"Daily Telegraph."

At a meeting of the Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185, it was decided, at the instance of Bro. Philip Ornstien W.M., to vote twenty guineas from the Lodge funds towards the special appeal in aid of the wives and families of soldiers and sailors, reserves included, who are serving with the colours in South Africa; and also twenty guineas towards the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. Notice of motion was given by the W.M., that at the next meeting he would propose that a sum of ten guineas to each of the Masonic Charities should be voted out of the Lodge funds. It was unanimously agreed to send a letter of congratulation to the Rev. G. J. Emanuel, on his appointment to the office of Provincial Grand Chaplain of Warwickshire. It transpired that the Rev. G. J. Emanuel was formerly a member of the Lodge of Tranquillity, having been initiated into Freemasonry in that Lodge in 1861, and held office in the following year (I.G. 1862, J.D. 1862, S.D. 1863), an unusual quick preferment. He retired from the Lodge on being appointed Minister of the Birmingham Hebrew Congregation.

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A great international gathering of Freemasons was held in Ottawa last week, 150 Craftsmen from Ogdensburg and other points in the northern parts of New York state paying a fraternal visit to the Builders' Lodge. Mr. Mulock, the Postmaster-General, and Mr. Malby, Speaker of the New York Senate, were the principal speakers at the banquet. Anglo-Saxon unity was the keynote of all the addresses, every allusion thereto provoking great cheering. The following telegram from Grand Sec. Elhets, New York, was received with vociferous applause:—"The Brethren of New York send heartiest greetings. May the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes, one and inseparable in the cause of universal brotherhood, ever be borne by the armies of light and tolerance in warfare against darkness and superstition, teaching man the Mason's faith, the Mason's hope, the Mason's charity."—"Liverpool Courier."

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Bro. Henry Robinson, formerly the manager of the Town Hall Tavern, Kensington, has much pleasure in informing his friends that he has taken the "Old George," Church Street, Kensington, and will be pleased to see them there at any time, when they may rely on receiving a most hearty welcome. The busses to and from Earls Court pass the door.

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The election meeting of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, will be held on Friday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, the proceedings commencing at 5.15, with refreshments to follow at 7 o'clock. There is one candidate on the agenda for raising.

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A meeting of the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1524, took place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Thursday, when business in the three degrees was transacted. A detailed report will appear in our next issue.

THE DEGREES OF FREEMASONRY AND THE ROYAL ARCH.

Paper read by Comp. C. L. Mason, at the meeting of the Prov. Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire, 22nd November 1899.

BY the solemn Act of Union between the two Grand Lodges of Freemasons of England in December 1813, it was "declared and pronounced that pure Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, viz.: those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch." (1)

Before we proceed, it may be well to explain what is meant by a Degree. Let us adopt the definition of Brother Gould, who says: "A degree in its present Masonic sense represents a rank secretly conferred." (2)

Now the question of degrees is a vexed one, and thoroughly to go into the matter would take more time than I have at my disposal. Brother Hughan holds that originally there was but one degree. This opinion he supports very strongly in a paper on "The Three Degrees of Freemasonry," which he read before the Quatuor Coronati Lodge on Thursday, the 24th June 1897. (3) Hear what he says: "It is still a difficulty with me to understand how Brethren versed in Craft lore can see any proof that more than one esoteric ceremony was known to and practised by our Masonic forefathers anterior to the Grand Lodge era.

"Brother D. Murray Lyon and I have laboured in this particular field of research for over thirty years, have made ourselves acquainted with all known minutes and records of the period, have discovered not a few important manuscripts, have been assisted by numerous willing and earnest students, especially in more recent times, and yet have failed to find aught that weakens our position.

"In our judgment, until the second decade of the last century, there was but one simple ceremony; never were Brethren required to leave the Lodge because a higher degree was to be worked—for which they were not eligible—but whether Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, or Master Masons, all were equally entitled to be present, irrespective of any notion of degrees whatever. In other words, so far as we can determine in the light of duly authenticated facts, distinct and separate Masonic degrees are never met with, alluded to, or even probable, prior to 1716-1717 circa.

"I believe in the great antiquity of the Fraternity; in the Free and Accepted Masons of to-day being the lineal descendants of the Craftsmen who built our noble Cathedrals, and in the existing copies of the Old Charges (extending over a period of five centuries), constituting the title deeds to our Masonic inheritance. But the antiquity or continuity of Freemasonry is one thing, and that of degrees quite another; hence, while I do my utmost to strengthen the links of evidence which connect the original organisation with its operative and partly speculative predecessor—both esoterically and symbolically—I feel quite as free to reject any theory which seeks to date back the origin of degrees, and particularly that of the 'Third,' to the 17th century or earlier, because adequate proof is lacking."

This is Brother Hughan's view.

Brother Speth, the Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, argues that there were two degrees, and in a paper read before the Lodge on the 4th March 1898 (4), thus sums up his contention:

"In the olden days the operative apprentice was 'Entered,' which was a purely business proceeding, equivalent to our modern indentures or articles. Then, or shortly afterwards, came the degree work, making him a Mason, which comprised the administration of an oath, the communication of the Craft-legend, and the imparting of certain secrets, which are now divided between him and the Fellow Craft. Seven years later he was passed a Master after due examination, again a purely business proceeding. But if he desired to pursue the Craft for a living it became necessary, as in all other guilds, to join the Fellowship, and this entailed a ceremony conferring the secrets necessary for him to prove himself abroad a Fellow of the Craft and not a runaway apprentice. Moreover, this ceremony, which was mystic and a real initiation, imparted, naturally in a much less ornate manner than now, the 'Master's part,' or, in other words, the essentials of our Master Mason's degree.

"In later times these two degrees were run into one when conferred upon a speculative candidate, and, as a natural consequence of the decay of the Lodges, the second degree was almost forgotten by the operatives, and, possibly, much confused by the speculative Masons. In 1717 these two degrees were taken over bodily by the Grand Lodge, and restored to sense, as well as the limited knowledge of the members would permit.

(1) Book of Constitutions, 1st Regulation.

(2) A.Q.C. x.—128.

(3) A.Q.C. x.—127.

(4) A.Q.C. xi.—55.

Finally, shortly after 1723, they were re-appointed into three degrees."

We thus see, Companions, that those most competent to form an opinion on the subject of degrees, admit that the present arrangement was made subsequent to 1717, and that as to whether previous to that date there were two degrees or only one, they are divided.

The form of words used at the admission of a Candidate—what in fact we call the ritual—was doubtless much less elaborate in early times than that which obtains to-day. No book, manuscript or printed, that I have heard of (beyond the Ancient Charges) exists, which gives any clear indication of the nature of the ceremony in the 17th century or before; but early in the 18th century we find certain pamphlets published which profess to give particulars of Masonic working within the Lodges, which, as Brother Hughan remarks, "have served to amuse, if not to instruct, the Fraternity for over one hundred and fifty years." (5) Of these I may mention two,

1. "The Grand Mystery of Free Masons discovered." (6)
2. Prichard's "Masonry Dissected." (6)

The first ("The Grand Mystery") was published in 1724, seven years after the formation of Grand Lodge, and briefly may be said to cover more or less what is comprised in the present three degrees.

The second (Prichard's "Masonry Dissected"), published in 1730, mentions three grades, but gives only one obligation, which naturally occurs at the first admission of the Candidate.

A careful consideration of this oath seems to point to the opinion that according to this writer's view there was but one obligation. This was in 1730. In a book of a similar character, styled "Jachin and Boaz," but published thirty-two years afterwards, viz., in 1762, and numerous editions since, we find three separate obligations for Candidates for the three degrees, as well as one for a Brother upon assuming the duties of W.M.

Now to what extent these accurately represent the Masonic ceremonies of the two periods it is not for me to determine, but there is no doubt that they indicate progression or advancement in Masonic Ritual.

In the oldest minutes of a Masonic Lodge extant, that of Mary Chapel, No. 1, we find that gentlemen were admitted "Fellows of the Craft." These same minutes, which bear date from 1599, also mention Deacons, Wardens, and Masters of Masons.

Elias Ashmole, in his diary for 1646, says that he and Colonel Mainwaring were made Freemasons at Warrington, in Lancashire, on the 16th October of that year, but there is no mention of degrees. On attending a Lodge in London in 1682, however, he describes himself as the "Senior Fellow" present. Many other cases might be quoted.

The conclusion to be reached from all this is, that our present arrangement of Masonic Ceremony into three degrees was the work of the early part of last century. The terms "Entered Apprentice," "Fellow Craft," and "Master Mason" were probably taken from the nomenclature of the Operative Masons' guilds, and suitably described a Brother at the various stages of his Masonic career. Once admit the need of dividing the ceremonies into degrees, and names for them would be found readily enough. Let us glance at this very interesting period in Masonic history for one moment.

In 1717 four or more Lodges in London met and constituted themselves into what they were pleased to call a "Grand Lodge." Who the leading spirits in this movement were is not now known, as there are no minutes preserved, and no Secretary was appointed. The first Grand Master was Anthony Sayer, and it was not until 1723 that Wm. Cowper was appointed Secretary. Of the first six years' proceedings of this new and specially constituted body we have no official account, but from the date named an unbroken record is extant. The progress of this Grand Lodge was rapid, for besides constituting new Lodges, it took into its association other bodies then existing in London and Westminster. Some, however, were not willing to submit to this self-constituted authority, and held aloof, and yet, notwithstanding this, in 1723 the engraved list gives the signs of fifty-one houses at which Lodges under this Grand Lodge authority were supposed to be meeting.

To minds like those of George Payne, who was Grand Master in 1718, and Dr. Desaguliers, Grand Master in 1719, it became at once evident that if the new body was to succeed, organisation and system would be needed. An enquiry for Masonic documents was made, a system of Masonic research instituted, and the result of these labours was the appearance of what is called Anderson's Book of Constitutions. This was in 1723. I regret that I cannot

stop to go into detail, but must pass rapidly over these most interesting events.

It would seem that it was about this time also that the ceremonial of Freemasonry was taken in hand, elaborated, and divided into its present recognised three degrees. For various reasons which I cannot now enter into, it appears probable that these changes and alterations were accompanied by omissions or additions, which were looked upon by the Lodges existing independent of Grand Lodge jurisdiction, as a distinct departure from the ancient landmarks. This, they therefore scornfully called "Modern" Freemasonry, in distinction to their own, which they claimed as "Ancient"; hence, when some thirty years after, a rival Grand Lodge sprang up, comprising Lodges which had not joined the organisation of 1717, they proudly claimed the title of "Ancients." This new Grand Lodge has been usually described as a secession, but Brother Henry Sadler has satisfactorily demonstrated that such was not the case (7), and that the societies forming the Grand Lodge of the Ancients owed no allegiance to the Grand Lodge of 1717 at all, and therefore cannot be described as seceders or schismatics.

And now the question arises as to the Royal Arch degree. There is no evidence to show that previous to 1740 such a degree, as a degree, existed.

Dr. Mackey says "that until the year 1740 the essential element of the Royal Arch constituted a component part of the Master's degree, and was, of course, its concluding part."

Brother Hughan (8) fixes the probable date of arrangement at 1740, but admits that he can say nothing definite as to the actual year, nor is it at all clear where and by whom it was originated.

Of the following details there can be no doubt: From the year 1743 downwards references to or mention of the Royal Arch occur. Dr. Chetwode Crawley, in Vol. I. of his "Cementaria Hibernica," quotes a paragraph from a Dublin newspaper of 1743, which, in describing a Masonic procession, mentions the Royal Arch as being carried by two Excellent Masons. Dr. Dassigny, in his "Enquiry" (1744), speaks of an Assembly of Masons in York, under the title of Royal Arch Masons. (9) These are printed statements. The oldest minute or written evidence relating to Royal Arch Masonry at present known to exist, is in the transactions of a Lodge at Bristol, 1758, and is in these words:—

"Bro. Gordon proposed to be raised to the degree of a Royal Arch and accepted."

There is an important difference which should be noted between the introduction of the three degrees' arrangement and the advent of the Royal Arch as a separate ceremony. The former was, there is little doubt, done under the sanction of the Grand Lodge, and the degrees so arranged were adapted and approved by that body. This is shown by the fact that the first Book of Constitutions (1723) lays it down that the degrees of "Fellow Craft" and "Master Master" could only be conferred in Grand Lodge. This rule, however, was abolished at the meeting of Grand Lodge held on the 27th November 1725. (10) In the case of the Royal Arch this does not appear to have been so. One of the first known references to it associates it with York, and the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns), whatever their attitude towards it at a later period, certainly for a time looked upon it with something approaching disdain, though it was started or promoted by some of their own members a dozen years or so before the "Ancients" were organised. The Ancients took it up warmly. Dermott, their Grand Secretary, in his "Ahiman Rezon" of 1756, says he firmly believes "the Royal Arch to be the root, heart, and marrow of Freemasonry." Contrast this with the official reply of Grand Secretary Saml. Spencer of the "Moderns." Writing to a petitioner, who, amongst other qualifications, described himself as a Royal Arch Mason, Brother Spencer says, "Our Society" (that is, the Moderns) "is neither Arch, Royal Arch, or Ancient, so that you have no right to partake of our charity." (11)

This being the state of affairs, it cannot be surprising that this degree for some time made little progress. In 1765 the minutes of a Royal Arch Chapter in Halifax begin, the oldest in this Province, and in the same year, not to mention many other cases, a Royal Arch Chapter was working in London, which afterwards developed into Grand Chapter, and was patronised by the Moderns. Besides there being two Grand Lodges flourishing at the same time in London, there was also this Grand Chapter, which, though independent of both, was really supported by the members of the premier Grand Lodge, as Bro. Hughan styles the Modern Masons. At the Union, in 1813, the Royal Arch degree

(5) English Masonic Rite, page 15.

(6) Have been reprinted by the Cincinnati Masonic Archaeological Society, copies having been kindly lent by Bro. W. Watson P.P.G.S.W.; the former is also found in Bro. Gould's History of Freemasonry.

(7) Masonic Facts and Fictions.

(8) Hughan's English Masonic Rite, page 46.

(9) One of the only three copies of this very rare and valuable book is in the Library of West Yorkshire, and is in the best condition of the trio. A facsimile has been published by Bro. Richard Jackson, Leeds.

(10) Hughan's English Masonic Rite, page 17.

(11) A copy of this document will be found in the "Ahiman Rezon."

was amalgamated with Craft Masonry, and was declared to be included in it. So much for its history so far as we know it.

Leaving this aspect of the subject and looking at our system from a philosophical point of view, one is naturally struck with the antiquity and peculiarity of our ancient Institution. To declare Freemasonry to be a relic or an adaptation of the mysteries of Egypt, Greece, or Rome, would be to make a bold assertion, yet those ancient mysteries were, amongst other things, intended to teach precisely those truths and lessons which are so strongly insisted upon in our Ceremonial. They may be briefly summed up thus:—

1. Acknowledgment of a Supreme Being.
2. Belief in the resurrection and the immortality of the soul.
3. The practice of Morality and Charity.

Now, if the conjecture is true that those who framed our present ritual went on the lines of these ancient mysteries, and worked in, as far as they could, the ceremonies used in conferring the grades among the old operative Masons, we can arrive at some idea as to the present arrangement of our degrees, and hence it became necessary that in the third degree both death, resurrection, and immortality should be typified; and one is not surprised to find that the third degree should be enlarged and elaborated by the arrangement of the Ceremony of the Royal Arch. In Prichard's "Masonry Dissected" (already referred to) we find these questions and answers:—

"Where are you going? To the West from the East."

"What are you going to do there? To seek for that which was lost and is now found."

This, I think, puts a different complexion on the third degree, to what we are accustomed.

Acting on these thoughts, what may we say of Freemasonry?

The first degree points out to us the birth of man; the world is all before him, unknown, untried, with its cares, struggles, and perplexities. The second degree represents man in the strength of his years, and he is bidden to extend his researches into the more hidden mysteries of nature and science. His attention is directed to mental improvement and enlightenment, which can only render him a fit member of society. He is taught to improve himself, to know the advantage of refining studies, to render himself useful in his generation, and to endeavour to leave the world better than he found it. In the third degree his attention is forcibly directed to the lessons which nature teaches; he is led to contemplate the closing hour of his existence, and finally taught "how to die." In the Royal Arch degree he is instructed to look beyond the grave and to contemplate the beauties of eternity. In all the Ancient Mysteries we find, under different names, the same central figures: birth, life, death, resurrection, and regeneration are symbolically depicted to us, and as in these religious cults of old, great and glorious truths were unfolded to the aspirant, so in our system of Masonry high and sublime mysteries are disclosed, and a perfect system of morality is laid down for our guidance.

If, then, in the Holy Royal Arch is the full completion of Masonic teaching and symbolism, why do we find so little interest displayed in the Order?

It was thought at one time that the interval of twelve months between Master Mason and Royal Arch was prejudicial to the success of the degree, and, therefore, in Grand Chapter on 1st November 1893, after due notice, it was moved by Companion Robert Grey President of the Committee of General Purposes, that "that interval be reduced to four weeks." He and others assured Grand Chapter that a probation so long "had been productive of great harm to Royal Arch Masonry," and that expressions of opinion from all parts of England had been unanimous in favour of the change. In support of the motion, Comp. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg said he was "quite certain there would be a great revival of the Order if the time were shortened to four weeks," and Companion W. A. Scurrah said that he was "convinced if the alteration is made, we should have a large number of candidates for Royal Arch Masonry, and the Royal Arch would then be what it should be."

Well, Companions, that alteration was agreed to, and at a subsequent meeting of Grand Chapter, in February 1894, notwithstanding a motion of Companion Le Feuvre to the contrary, the minutes were confirmed in an assembly of 150 members, by a majority of 18. The numbers were 83 for the confirmation and 65 against. Now, I am not to-day going to argue either for or against the change. I only ask, has it been justified? Let me give you a few figures.

I tried to get statistics from all the Provinces, and through the courtesy of the respective Secretaries, I have obtained complete returns from 27. These include all the large ones, but not London. In these 27 Provinces in 1890 there were

908 Lodges, with 45,243 Members;
356 Chapters, with 10,279 Members.

This works out to 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of Royal Arch Masons to Craft

Masons. Eight years afterwards, that is in 1898, the same 27 Provinces had

1,008 Lodges, with 55,413 Members;
407 Chapters, with 12,770 Members;

or 23 per cent. Between 1890 and 1893, therefore, the percentage of increase was hardly appreciable.

Let us look at the facts from another point of view. The change in the term of probation from twelve months to four weeks took place in 1893. I will take five years before that date and compare it with five years after it. From 1888 to 1892 the total of Grand Lodge Certificates issued to

Lodges under its jurisdiction numbered 41,168
Grand Chapter Certificates ... 9,384

From 1894 to 1898 the numbers were

Grand Lodge Certificates ... 45,052
Grand Chapter Certificates ... 10,025

The percentage of Royal Arch to Craft Certificates issued since the change, therefore, is actually less than before, it being 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ in the first instance, and 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ in the second.

This is remarkable, and disposes somewhat summarily of the arguments of our Excellent Companions, Robert Grey, Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, and W. A. Scurrah.

Figures for London I have not been able to get, so that I am not in a position to say how they stand, but it must be very gratifying to you Most Excellent, as Grand Superintendent of West Yorkshire, to know that this Province, although it has fewer Chapters than some, has above a hundred more Royal Arch Masons on its roll than any one of the twenty-seven Provinces I have referred to, and that the percentage of Royal Arch Masons to Craft Masons with us is 37 $\frac{1}{2}$, whereas in some very large Provinces I could name, the proportion is down to 15 per cent. and even as low as 13 per cent.

It has also been urged that the working of the other degrees, called according to the disposition of those who speak of them, "side" degrees or "higher" degrees, acts detrimentally towards the Royal Arch. This is entirely erroneous, for it must be borne in mind that in most, if not all, these cases, admission is granted only to those who are already Chapter Masons. It is true, under the English Constitution, this is not so with regard to the Mark, it being one of the few exceptions. In Scotland, Ireland, Canada, and in the United States it is only after taking the Mark (12) that a Brother can join a Royal Arch Chapter at all, and with regard to Mark Masons under the English Constitution, I do not know how it may be in other Provinces, but in West Yorkshire I find after careful enquiry that in one Mark Lodge 95 per cent. of the members are Royal Arch Masons, in another 94, and that the average for all the fifteen Lodges in the Province is as high as 67 per cent.

We may, therefore, dismiss this contention as groundless, and look elsewhere for explanation.

I was very much struck with an editorial paragraph which appeared in the "Freemason" newspaper of 5th August last. Speaking of the previous meeting of Grand Chapter the writer said: "There was no great attendance of the Companions, while the business was of the usual routine character. The proceedings, therefore, were very speedily at an end. It is just possible that if there were more to do at these quarterly meetings, greater energy might be shown by the private Chapters, and greater interest taken generally in the work of the Royal Arch. But how can we expect greater activity and zeal in the inferior bodies when there is none exhibited by the superior?"

In some cases doubtless, indifference, or shall I say ignorance, is the explanation. I myself was told more than thirty years ago, when seeking to enter the degree, that until I had passed the chair in my Lodge it was useless joining the Royal Arch. Another instance, I may mention, has come under my notice. In this case a Brother entered a Lodge, passed through the various Offices, served Worshipful Master, and continued an active and useful Past Master, and during the whole of those twenty years of regular attendance, although there was a Chapter attached to his Lodge, it was not even suggested to him that he ought to take the Royal Arch degree.

Only the other day I was talking to a young Mason of twelve months' standing, who, in reply to my enquiry about the Chapter, said he had been told he could not take the degree until he was an Installed Master.

From this we see how "old rules" or "old ideas" linger. Formerly, no one could take the Royal Arch till he had been "passed" through the chair of a Craft Lodge, hence we find in some of our old minute books of a hundred years ago such entries as this, "Brother Williams 'passed' the chair to enable him to take the Royal Arch."

Then there is the action of Grand Chapter itself. A Brother who is selected and appointed an Officer in the Grand Lodge of

(12) Some Grand Lodges encourage and work the Mark, as Scotland.

England (if a Royal Arch Mason) becomes, or is made also, an Officer in Grand Chapter. Cases are known of Brethren who have not entered a Chapter for years, who, though they have nominally passed through the Principals' Chairs, could not even open a Chapter, still less go through a ceremony; and yet to these Brethren are awarded high honours in Grand Chapter! Can we be surprised at the little interest taken in the degree? and is this likely to stimulate enthusiasm? How must it affect those who have spent, and are willing to spend, their time and their energies in diffusing the knowledge they have carefully gathered in regard to Royal Arch Masonry? Of course it is easy to say that work so performed should be disinterested and that virtue is its own reward, but you and I, Companions, know better. We know that human nature revolts when it sees honour bestowed where it is neither sought nor deserved, whilst at the same time the labourer, let him be never so worthy, does not even obtain his well earned hire. Conducted on lines like these, how can we expect the Royal Arch to be popular?

And what is the remedy? Many suggestions have been offered. One is that Grand Chapter should go back to what it was originally, and sever its connection as an organisation with Grand Lodge altogether. If this is not considered practicable, then, at least, Grand Chapter should take care that Office in that body should be conferred not on nominal, but upon real Royal Arch Masons; not upon the indifferent drones, but upon the working bees of the Chapters. Let those in authority remove this injustice—for such it is—let them offer some encouragement to the band of deserving enthusiasts, without whose steadfast application and devotion Royal Arch Masonry would speedily die of inanition, and there may then be some hope of an improved condition of matters.

I fear, Companions, I have tried your patience, have perhaps wearied you. Let me, however, briefly sum up. I have pointed out the time and circumstances under which our present three degrees probably originated. I have sketched, so far as it is known, the rise of the Royal Arch degree as a degree. I have looked at our great Masonic system from a philosophic point of view, as well as from its practical side. I have touched upon the lack of interest in the Royal Arch, discussed the supposed causes, and even put forth suggested remedies. And now, so far as this Province is concerned, the conduct and progress of Royal Arch Masonry is in your own hands. If it is worthy of support, which I honestly believe, then let us use our utmost endeavours to place it in the position of power and dignity which the beauties of its ceremonial and the excellence of its teaching so eminently fit it to assume, and let West Yorkshire, at least, no longer lie under the stigma of indifference to this, the most sublime and impressive of our Masonic degrees.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

WILL be worked at the Ranelagh Lodge of Instruction, No. 834, at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen Street, Hammersmith, on Fridays, 8th and 15th inst., commencing at 8 o'clock each evening. Bro. W. Hillier W.M. 1637 Preceptor of the Kensington Lodge of Instruction, No. 1767 will preside as W.M., with Bros. J. Knight W.M. 861 S.W., Robert Reid P.M. 1275 J.W., A. Williams P.M. 834 2090 Preceptor of the Lodge I.P.M., W. Hinds P.M. 185 Treasurer, F. Craggs P.M. 834 Secretary. The sections will be worked by the following: First Lecture (Friday, 8th inst.)—Bros. W. C. Palmer 1612, W. Hide P.M. 1275, W. Hinds P.M. 185, R. H. Williams P.P.J.G.D. Middx., W. J. Coplestone P.M. 834, M. Spiegel P.M. 1931, and Robert Reid P.M. 1275. Second Lecture (Friday, 15th inst.)—Bros. J. Worth W.M. 834, J. Knight W.M. 861, R. Reid P.M. 1275, W. T. Ridgway 1275, and F. Craggs P.M. 834. Third Lecture.—Bros. H. J. Cousens W.M. 172, A. Williams P.M. 834, and R. H. Williams P.P.J.G.D. Middx.

At the Chiswick Lodge of Instruction, No. 2012, at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, on Saturdays, 9th and 16th inst., commencing at 7.30 p.m. each evening. The same Brethren will occupy the chairs and act as I.P.M., with Bro. F. Craggs P.M. 834 as Treasurer, and R. Josey P.M. 1828 as Secretary. The sections will be worked by the following: First Lecture (Saturday, 9th inst.)—Bros. Ross 1686, W. Hide P.M. 1275, P. Cronin P.M. 1512, L. J. Powell W.M. 2246, R. Josey P.M. 1828, R. Reid P.M. 1275, and W. T. Ridgway 1275. Second Lecture (Saturday, 16th inst.)—Bros. T. Harrington P.M. 1686, R. Reid P.M. 1275, W. T. Ridgway 1275, J. Knight W.M. 861, and F. Craggs P.M. 834. Third Lecture.—Bros. H. J. Cousens W.M. 172, A. Williams P.M. 834, and F. Craggs P.M. 834.

List of Lodges for which Warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

- No. 2785.—Prince of Wales Lodge, Indwe, S. Africa.
- 2786.—St. Albans Lodge, St. Albans, Herts.
- 2787.—Kathiawar Lodge, Rajkot, Kathiawar.
- 2788.—Abercrombie Lodge, St. Lucia, West Indies.
- 2789.—Royal Warrant Holders Lodge, London.
- 2790.—Merton Lodge, London.
- 2791.—Hudson Lodge, Walsingham.
- 2792.—Cecil Rhodes Lodge, Buluwayo.
- 2793.—Assheton Egerton Lodge, Altrincham, Cheshire.

THE old-established advertisement agents, Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co., after spending upwards of sixty years at their well-known quarters in Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, have removed to larger and more convenient premises at Mitchell House, 1 and 2 Snow Hill, Holborn Viaduct. We congratulate our Bro. Wellsman, the head of the firm, on this evidence of prosperity and progression.

NEW MUSIC.

Lady Ursula.—Intermezzo for the pianoforte. By Jules Thérèse (Edwin Ashdown).—A very pretty and interesting melody; of easy compass, yet attractive and pleasing.

The Egyptian Patrol passes! Piano solo by Jasper Vale-Lane (Jefferys, Limited).—A characteristic rendering, suited to the spirit of the times, and which, played with good effect by the best military bands, has deservedly won its way into popularity, and is likely to long enjoy a prominent position.

Africano March.—By James B. Smart (Edwin Ashdown).—A well arranged march, with some taking snatches of melody and many pleasing points.

To Victory.—March for the pianoforte by Jessie Bradford (Edwin Ashdown).—An inspiring melody well suited to illustrate the theme of the composer. Some very pretty and original arrangements.

Madame Sans Gene.—Valse by Jasper Vale-Lane (Jefferys, Limited).—A very taking valse arrangement of the pretty music of this popular piece. Sure to take on at our dances.

Fresken und Miniaturen.—Pianoforte pieces by Nicolai von Wilm.: (4) Moderato con rigore in D. (5) Andante in A minor. (6) Presto in F. (Edwin Ashdown).—Well executed works, worthy of foremost places in any selection.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Mrs. Leicester's School, written by Charles and Mary Lamb, illustrated by Winifred Green.—J. M. Dent and Co.

Fairy Tales from Hans Christian Andersen, translated by Mrs. E. Lucas, and illustrated by Thomas, Charles, and William Robinson.—J. M. Dent and Co.

Temple Classics: Laxdæla Saga, translated from the Icelandic by Muriel A. C. Press (1s 6d); Microcosmographie or a piece of the world discovered in essays and characters, by John Earle (1s 6d).—J. M. Dent and Co.

Modern English Writers: Robert Louis Stephenson, by L. Cope Cornford.—Blackwood and Sons.

A Voice from Nazareth, by the Wandering Jew, Part 1. (1s)—Simpkin, Marshall and Co.

The Orange Girl, by Walter Besant. Fifth edition, with eight illustrations by Fred. Pegrarn (6s).—Chatto and Windus.

The Young Master of Hyson Hall, by Frank R. Stockton, with illustrations by Virginia H. Davisson and Charles H. Stephens (6s).—Chatto and Windus.

The Parson's Daughter, her early recollections and how Mr. Romney painted her. A story by Emma Marshall, with illustrations (5s).—Seeley and Co.

Wolf's Head, a story of the Prince of Outlaws, by the Rev. E. Gilliat, M.A., with illustrations (5s).—Seeley and Co.

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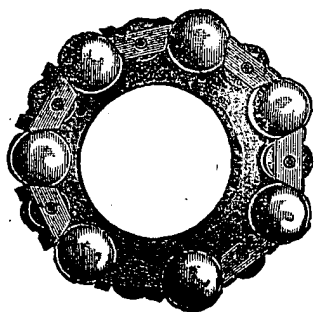
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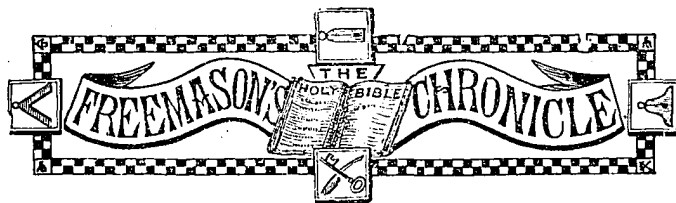
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SATURDAY, 2ND DECEMBER 1899.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE regular Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge will be held on Wednesday next, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, at 6 for 7 p.m.

BUSINESS.

1. The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 6th September for confirmation.
2. Nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year.
3. Nomination of a Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.
4. Appointment and Investment of a President of the Board of Benevolence.
5. Election of a Senior and Junior Vice-President of the Board of Benevolence.
6. Election of twelve Past Masters to serve on the Board of Benevolence for the year ensuing.
7. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:

A Brother of the Mount Edgecumbe Lodge, No. 1446, London ...	£75	0	0
A Brother of the Northern Lodge of China, No. 570, Shanghai ...	50	0	0
A Brother of the Zetland Lodge, No. 603, Cleckheaton ...	100	0	0
On behalf of the eight orphan children of a late Brother of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge, No. 469, Spalding ...	100	0	0
A Brother of the Royal York Lodge, No. 315, Brighton ...	50	0	0
A Brother of the Langthorne Lodge, No. 1421, Ilford, Essex ...	50	0	0
A Brother of the Southern Star Lodge, No. 1153, London ...	150	0	0
A Brother of the St. Chad's Lodge, No. 1129, Rochdale ...	50	0	0
A Brother of the Afan Lodge, No. 833, Aberavon ...	50	0	0
A Brother of the Bank of England Lodge, No. 263, London ...	75	0	0
A Brother of the Beaconsfield Lodge, No. 1662, London ...	75	0	0

And a resolution of a vote of thanks to the President, V.W. Bro. James H. Matthews, for the courteous manner in which he has, during the past year, presided over the meetings of the Board.

8. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board begs to report that it has received notifications from the several District Grand Lodges in New Zealand, and from Lodges in the Colony not within those districts, to the effect that, in compliance with the requirements of Rules 218A and 218B, special meetings of the Lodges within those several districts, and of Lodges in the Colony not within such districts, had been held within the prescribed period, for the purpose of deciding whether they desired to continue under the Grand Lodge of England or not; and it appeared that the following Lodges had either previously seceded, ceased to work, or had by the required majority decided to place themselves under the jurisdiction of the newly-recognised Grand Lodge of New Zealand:—

CANTERBURY.

The Ionic Lodge, No. 1917, Leeston.

OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND.

The Southern Cross Lodge, No. 997, Ivercargill.
The Waitaki Lodge, No. 1111, Oamaru.
The Lake Lodge of Ophir, No. 1195, Queenstown.
The Mount Ida Lodge, No. 1262, Naseby.
The Aparima Lodge, No. 1617, Riverton.
The Palmerston Lodge, No. 1749, Palmerston.
The Hercules Lodge, No. 1875, Tapanui.
The Hiram Lodge, No. 2008, Dunedin.
The St. John's Lodge, No. 2102, Mosgiel.
The Waikonita Lodge, No. 2115, Waikonita.
The Mokarita Lodge, No. 2287, Wyndham.
The Lodge of Fortitude, No. 2301, Bluff.

WESTLAND.

The Tatara Lodge, No. 1241, Ross.

AUCKLAND.

The Albion Lodge, No. 2003, Devonport.
The Alpha Lodge, No. 2014, Cambridge.

LODGES NOT UNDER A DISTRICT.

The Marlborough Lodge of Unanimity, No. 1236, Blenheim.
The Forest Lodge, No. 1481, Wakefield.
The Victory Lodge, No. 1927, Nelson.
The Waitoki Lodge, No. 2036, Picton.

The Board begs to recommend that the above Lodges be formally erased by vote of Grand Lodge.

The Board has to report that the following presentations have been made to the Library and Museum since the last meeting of Grand Lodge, all of which have been accepted with thanks.

Title or Object.

By whom Presented.

Modern Romanism Examined—James Nisbet and Co.
Masonic Poesy—Eli Broad, No. 29, N.S.W. (the author).
Jones's Masonic Miscellanies, 1797, and Tracing Boards, Harris's, 1849—Thomas Woods J.W. No. 87.
Medaillenwerk, Band II., Hamburg—C. Kupferschmidt A.G. Sec.G. Corres.
Set of Gold Masonic Studs—Wilfred A. Bowser P.M. No. 2000.

History of Practical Freemasonry, and Principles and Precepts of Freemasonry (in Arabic)—Shaheen Makarius W.M. No. 60 G.L. Egypt (the author).

Medal of Supreme Council, 33°, Illinois—Gen. John C. Smith Past G. Master Illinois.

Three Works on Tasmania—James Bonwick, F.R.G.S.

Old Silver Masonic Medal—Michael Burgoyne S.D. No. 957.

Studies in Architecture, 1702 (Italian)—Charles Pulman P.M. No. 1712.

Enoch T. Carson Medal—William Michie, Cincinnati.

Some Old Scottish Lodges, &c.—John Armstrong P.P.G.W.

History of Knight Templary in South Australia—Harry B. Taylor, Adelaide.

A Rare Masonic Certificate, 1787—Spencer and Co., Great Queen Street.

Photograph of Masonic Emblems—J. T. Stewart Tyler No. 2334.

The Board also submits a statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 17th day of November instant, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts Branch) of £10,195 5s 11d, and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £100, and for Servants' Wages £100.

(Signed) RICHARD LOVELAND-LOVELAND President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
21st November 1899.

9. NOTICES OF MOTION.

- (1) By V.W. Bro. Rev. F. Bethune N. Norman Lee, Chaplain to the Forces, Grand Chaplain:—

To add to Rule 165 of the Book of Constitutions—

"And if in any Lodge it should become impossible to hold the regular meeting upon the day named in the Bye-Laws for that purpose, the Grand Master, and in Provinces and Districts the Provincial and District Grand Master, may grant a Dispensation for the holding of such meeting upon a day not later than "seven" days before or after that day fixed by the Bye Laws, which day shall for all purposes be deemed the regular day of meeting."

- (2) By R.W. Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., Past Grand Warden:—

"That the sum of one thousand guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to be paid over to the Mansion House Transvaal War Fund for distribution in the following proportions:

400 guineas for the wives and children of those serving in South Africa.
200 guineas for the widows and orphans.
200 guineas for the sick and wounded.
200 guineas for the disabled soldiers and sailors."

10. APPEALS.

- (1) By W. Bro. J. Lockwood Wingate I.P.M. of Friendly Lodge, No. 239, Kingston, Jamaica, against a ruling of the Deputy District Grand Master in charge (W. Bro. Dr. C. J. Morse, C.B., M.L.C., &c.), at a meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Jamaica, on 27th July 1899.

- (2) By W. Bro. William Henderson P.M. of Franklin Lodge, No. 2486, Windsorton, Barkly West, South Africa, against a decision of the Deputy District Grand Master and the District Board of General Purposes of the District Grand Lodge of South Africa, Central Division.

11. NAMES OF BRETHREN NOMINATED TO THE OFFICES OF SENIOR AND JUNIOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

Brother David Dixon Mercer P.G.P., as Senior Vice-President.
Brother Henry Garrod P.G.P., as Junior Vice-President.

12. NAMES OF PAST MASTERS NOMINATED TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

Brother James Block P.M. No. 1158.
Brother Fredk. Wm. Downes P.M. 1158.
a Brother William H. Caton P.M. 1365.
a Brother George B. Chapman P.M. 299.
a Brother John Ellinger P.M. 2222.
a Brother Simon H. Goldschmidt P.M. 1329.
a Brother Frederick W. Hancock P.M. 548.
a Brother William Kirps P.M. 1275.
a Brother Edward Nightingale P.M. 87.
a Brother Charles Pulman P.M. 720.
a Brother Charles Henry Stone P.M. 507.
Brother Robert Wellwood Ker P.M. 194.
a Brother William Wills P.M. 1901.

a Members of the Board, 1898-9.

MARK GRAND LODGE.

THE regular Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge will be held at Mark Masons' Hall, London, on Tuesday next, 5th inst., at 5 for 6 p.m. The following is the Agenda of business:

1. Read and, if approved, confirm minutes of Quarterly Communication of 5th September 1899.

2. REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD.

5th December 1899.

During the three months ending 30th September 1899, there have been issued:—Mark Certificates, 229; total registered, 40,452.

Since the last report, four Warrants have been granted for new Lodges:
No. 527, Dunmow, Dunmow, Essex.
,, 523, Ladysmith, Natal.
,, 529, Scarsdale, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
,, 530, Irrawaddy, Sagiang, Burma.

Royal Ark Mariner Certificates, 42; number registered, 5,056.

Warrant for one Royal Ark Mariner Lodge, viz.:

Burkitt, attached to the Cyprus Lodge, No. 232, Benares, India.

His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been graciously pleased to re-appoint for a further term of three years:

R.W. Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., as Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire.

R.W. Bro. Charles Roper Martin, as District Grand Master for Victoria.

The Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 446, and the Goulbourn Valley Lodge, No. 488, both in the District of Victoria, have returned their Warrants to Grand Lodge.

The District Grand Master for Bengal having reported that the Garnet Lodge, No. 228, at Dinapore, and the Refuge Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners attached thereto, have not met since 1882, and that there is no prospect of their resuscitation, the Board recommends that they be removed from the Roll of Lodges.

The Godson Lodge, No. 330, having reported to the Board that Bro. Joseph Southall Morris had been installed in the Chair without a dispensation from the M.W. Grand Master, he not being a Master or Past Master of a Craft Lodge (Art. 99), and having expressed their great regret for the irregularity, the Board ruled that the Lodge be fined one guinea and be directed to apply at once for a dispensation, to be dated "nunc pro tunc," and that at the next regular meeting of the Lodge Bro. Joseph Southall Morris be re-obligated in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters, and that this decision be read in open Lodge at the next regular meeting of the Lodge.

The Board earnestly desires to call the attention of all Installing Masters to the absolute necessity of ascertaining that the Master-elect is duly qualified as an Installed Master of a Craft Lodge, or, failing the qualification, that a dispensation has been obtained.

The Board has great pleasure in announcing that the "Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for the Ashton-under-Lyne District" has been formally dissolved, and the funds voted to certain Masonic Charities in Lancashire and Cheshire. Thirty-six of the former members have applied for a Warrant of Confirmation, which has been duly granted under the style and title of "The Ashton District Lodge, T.I." and the Board has directed that the new Lodge should be placed on the Roll of Lodges immediately after "The Old Kent Lodge," fifth on the List. The sincere thanks not only of the General Board but also of Grand Lodge are due to those Brethren by whose desire for union, peace and harmony this truly Masonic result has been attained, and it is fully expected that the new Lodge will be one of the most numerous and most prosperous on the Roll of Grand Lodge.

It is the intention of the Pro Grand Master to hold a Moveable Grand Lodge in the Province of Cheshire sometime in the beginning of the coming year, in order that the new Lodge may be constituted and consecrated with all fitting ceremonial.

The Board has long considered that it is most necessary that the Grand Inspector of Works should be an "ex officio" member and begs to recommend to Grand Lodge that Article 154 be altered as follows:—

After the word "President" to insert "Grand Inspector of Works."

The Board has accepted with thanks the gift of an antique pistol by V.W. Bro. Percy Wallis P.G. Treasurer.

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The M.W. Bro. Rt. Hon. The Earl of Euston Pro Grand Master has most kindly consented to preside at the thirty-second Annual Festival in aid of the Benevolent Fund, which will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, 11th July 1900, and the Grand Secretary will be happy to receive the names of Ladies and Brethren willing to act as Stewards.

The Board has elected on the Educational Fund, without a poll:

Cyril Edward Hickman, son of the late Bro. William John Hickman, of the St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 63, Southampton.

The following cases have been relieved:

Bro. C. E. M., Lodge No. 72	...	...	...	£10
Bro. E. G. M. S., Lodge No. 307	...	...	...	£10
Mrs. A. C. S., widow of a Brother of Lodges Nos. 188, 209	...	...	...	£10
Bro. J. F. H., Lodges Nos. 53, 398	...	...	...	£20
Bro. E. B., Lodges Nos. 359, 393	...	...	...	£15

And the Board recommends to Grand Lodge,

£25 to Bro. B. R., Lodge No. 14.

£25 to Bro. H. V. T., Lodge No. 245.

R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND, President.

FRANK RICHARDSON, Vice-President.

C. FITZGERALD MATIER, Grand Secretary.

3. A motion will be made that the Report be taken as read.

4. A motion will be made that the Report be received and entered on the minutes.

5. Recommendations arising out of the Report:—

(a) That the Garnet Lodge, No. 228, Dinapore, India, and the Ark Mariner Lodge attached thereto, be removed from the Roll of Lodges.

(b) That the Grand Inspector of Works be an "ex-officio" member of the General Board; and that Article 154, Book of Constitutions, be altered as follows—after the word "President" to insert "Grand Inspector of Works."

(c) That the sum of £25 be voted to Bro. B. R., Prince Edward Lodge, No. 14.

(d) That the sum of £25 be voted to Bro. H. V. T., Simon de St. Liz Lodge, No. 245.

(e) That the sum of one hundred guineas be voted from the Benevolent Fund to the "Daily Telegraph" Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

6. A motion will be proposed that the Report be adopted.

7. Nomination of the M.W. Grand Master for the ensuing year.

8. Nomination of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

9. Presentation of Charity Jewels to the Stewards of the last Benevolent Fund Festival.

LODGE MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

Fuller 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.

12 Fort & O. O'land, Ship & Turtle
25 Robert Burns, Freemasons'-hall
69 Unity, Inns of Court Hotel
72 Royal Jubilee, Anderton's
83 United Prudence, Albion
188 Joppa, Freemasons' Tavern
256 Union, Freemasons'-hall
1319 Asaph, Freemasons'-hall
1625 Tredegar, London Tavern
1669 Royal Leopold, Camberwell
1731 Cholmeley, Café Royal
1853 Caxton, Freemasons'-hall
2020 St. Botolph, Albion
2098 Harlesden, Harlesden
2242 Tyssen-Amhurst, Stoke Newing.

53 Royal Sussex, Bath
107 Philanthropic, Lynn
113 Unanimity, Preston
119 Sun, Sq. & Compass, Whitechapel
135 Perpetual Friendship, B'water
154 Unanimity, Wakefield
156 Harmony, Plymouth
199 Peace and Harmony, Dover
251 Loyal, Barnstable
328 St. John, Torquay
331 Phoenix Ho. & Prudence, Truro
338 Vitruvian, Ross
395 Guy, Leamington
422 Yarborough, Gainsboro'
428 Sincerity, Northwich
431 St. George, N. Shields
441 Three Grand Principles, C'b'dge
478 Churchill, Oxford
482 St. James, Handsworth
529 Semper Fidelis, Worcester
622 St. Cuthberga, Wimborne
694 Oakley, Basingstoke
839 Rl. Gloucestershire, Gloucester
850 St. Oswald, Ashbourne
928 Friendship, Petersfield
959 Prince of Wales, Ipswich
977 Fowey, Fowey
1045 Stamford, Altrincham
1050 Gundolph, Rochester
1051 Rowley, Lancaster
1070 Starkie, Southport
1071 Zetland, Saltash
1077 Wilton, Blackley
1124 St. Oswald, Oswestry
1180 Forward, Birmingham
1211 Goderich, Leeds
1239 Wentworth, Sheffield
1254 Semper Fidelis, Exeter
1264 Neptune, Liverpool
1434 Nottinghamshire, Nottingham
1452 St. Margaret, Lowestoft
1573 Carodoc, Swansea
1954 Molesworth, Wadebridge
2039 Londonderry, Sunderland
2166 Cotchele, Calstock
2240 Arrow, Kingston
2322 East Lanc. Cent'rion, M'chester.
2497 Carville, Wallsend-on-Tyne
2520 P. of Wales, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2525 Thurston, Coniston
2533 Fitzwilliam, Peterborough
2586 St. Nicholas, Scarborough

Tuesday.

9 Albion, Freemasons'-hall
18 Old Dundee, Cannon St. Ho.
101 Temple, Ship and Turtle
166 Union, Criterion
172 Old Concord, F.M.H.
217 Stability, Anderton's
765 St. James, Southwark
1159 M'quis Dalhousie, 33, Golden Sq.
1257 Grosvenor, Freemasons'-hall
1259 Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Htl
1261 Golden Rule, Café Royal
1381 Kennington, Kennington Park
1397 Anerley, Anerley
1472 Henley, North Woolwich
1803 Cornhill, Piccadilly
U. N. Counties, Inns of Crt. Htl
2150 Tivoli, Frascati
2190 Savage Club, Freemasons'-hall
2398 Holborn, Holborn Restaurant
2469 Hortus, Freemasons'-hall
2524 Train Bands, Finsbury Barr'ks.
52 Union, Norwich
70 St. John, Plymouth
103 Beauford, Bristol
120 Palladian, Hereford
124 Marquis of Granby, Durham

158 Adam, Sheerness
209 Etonian, Windsor
226 Benevolence, Littleboro'
252 Harmonic, Dudley
265 Royal Yorkshire, Keighley
315 Royal York, Brighton
340 Alfred, Oxford
364 Cambrian, Neath
393 St. David, Berwick
421 Loyal of Industry, S'hmolton
457 Loyal Monmouth, Monmouth
493 Royal Lebanon, Gloucester
510 St. Martin, Liskeard
558 Temple, Folkestone
660 Camalodunum, New Malton
673 St. John, Liverpool
685 Northumberland, N'castle-on-T.
702 Sherborne, Stroud
734 Londesborough, Bridlington
794 Warden, Sutton Coldfield
304 Carnarvon, Havant
847 Fortesque, Honiton
948 St. Barnabas, Linslade
960 Bute, Cardiff
974 Pentalpha, Bradford
995 Furness, Ulverston
1002 Skiddaw, Cockermouth
1072 Aberystwith, Aberystwith
1095 Lord Warden, Walmer
1134 Newall, Manchester
1197 Nyanza, Ilminster
1222 Saint Kew, Weston-super-Mare
1244 Marwood, Redcar
1282 Ancholme, Brigg
1336 Square & Compasses, Wrexham
1367 Beamister Manor, Beam'ster.
1488 St. Eleth, Alwch
1509 Madoc, Portmadoc
1726 Gordon, Bognor
1780 Albert Edward, Southampton
1785 St. Petroc, Padstow
1807 Loyal Wye, Builth
1908 Cholmondeley, Frodsham
1970 Hadrian, South Shields
2129 Dorothy Vernon, Bakewell
2133 Swan of Avon, Stratford-on-Avon
2260 Ridley, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2290 Fairfield, Fairfield
2414 Wychwood, Burford
2490 Amphill, Amptill
2561 West Essex, Buckhurst Hill

Wednesday.

Quarterly Communication, Unite
Grand Lodge, 6 for 7.
511 Zetland, Anderton's
1585 Royal Commemoration, Holborn
2484 Second Mid. Artillery, F.M.H.
2562 Papyrus, Criterion
74 Athol, Birmingham
94 Phoenix, Sunderland
137 Amity, Poole
159 Brunswick, East Stonehouse
164 Perseverance, Sidmouth
168 Mariner, Guernsey
279 St. John, Leicester
282 Bedford, Tavistock
287 Unanimity, Stockport
298 Harmony, Rochdale
326 Moira of Honour, Bristol
327 St. John, Wigton
406 N'thern Counties, N'castle-on-T.
417 Faith & Unanimity, Dorchester
429 Royal Navy, Ramsgate
471 Silurian, Newport, Mon.
611 Marches, Ludlow
645 Humphrey Chetham, M'chester
678 Earl Ellesmere, Farnworth
838 Franklin, Boston
929 Waveney, Bungay
970 St. Anne, East Loos
992 St. Thomas, Manchester
1003 Prince of Wales, Jersey
1004 Athole, Douglas, Isle of Man
1010 Kingston, Hull
1013 Royal Victoria, Liverpool
1063 Mallory Abbey, West Mallory
1085 Hartington, Derby
1167 Alnwick, Alnwick
1205 Methem, E. Stonehouse
1206 Cinque Ports, Sandwich
1274 Earl Durham, Chester-le-Street
1333 Athelstan, Atherstone
1335 Lindsey, Wigan
1354 Marquis of Lorne, Leigh
1431 St. Alphege, Solihull

1461 Clausentum, Woolston
1478 Lougleat, Warminster
1532 Bective, Carlisle
1620 Marlborough, Liverpool
1660 Arlecdon, Frizzington
1736 St. John, Halifax
1862 Stranton, West Hartlepool
2193 Queen Jubilee, Nelson
2200 Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells
2224 Fairfield, Long Eaton
2330 St. Lawrence, Pudsey
2334 Jersey, Bicester
2368 Alan, Alderley Edge
2382 Loyal Hay, Hay
2391 Orde-Powlett, Middlesborough
2453 Duke of York, Cardiff
2464 Longsight, Longsight
2495 Goodacre, Bootle
2556 Glyn Ebbw, Ebbw Vale
2560 Earl of Lathom, Bury

Thursday.

10 W'minster & Keystone, F.M.H.
27 Egyptian, Anderton's
45 Strong Man, Guildhall Tav.
92 Moira, Albion
192 Lion & Lamb, Cannon St. Hotel
227 Ionic, Criterion
231 St. Andrew, Freemasons'-hall
538 La Tolerance, Freemasons'-hall
1178 Perfect Ashlar, Southwark
1216 Macdonald, Camberwell
1351 St. Clement Danes, Holb'n R'st.
1361 United Service, Café Royal
1425 Hyde Park, Paddington
1672 Mornington, Holborn Via. H'tl.
1707 Eleanor, Great Eastern Hotel
1765 Trinity Col., 13, Mandeville Pl.
1772 Pimlico, Westminster
1790 Old England, Thornton Heath
1891 St. Ambrose, St. James's Hall
2202 Regent Park, Frascati
2271 St. Pancras, Midland Grand Ho
2291 West Ham Abbey, Stratford
2411 Clarence & Avondale, L'yt'nst'n
2512 Fulham, Fulham
2550 Piccadilly, Piccadilly
2580 Crouch End, Highgate

24 Newcastle O.T., Newcastle
31 United Industrious, Canterbury
38 Union, Chichester
41 Royal Cumberland, Bath
110 Loyal C'brian, Merthyr-Tydvil
114 British Union, Ipswich
123 Lennox, Richmond, Yorks
195 Hengis, Pournemouth
219 Prudence, Todmorden
249 Mariner, Liverpool
254 Trinity, Coventry
266 Naphtali, Heywood
269 Fidelity, Blackburn
289 Fidelity, Leeds
294 Constitutional, Beverley
295 Combermere Union, Macclesfield
300 Minerva, Ashton-under-Lyne
305 Apollo, Beccles
309 Harmony, Fareham
317 Affability, Manchester
360 Pomfret, Northampton
362 Doric, Grantham
419 St. Peter, Wolverhampton
446 Benevolent, Wells
462 Bank Terrace, Accrington
509 Tees, Stockton
531 St. Helen, Hartlepool
539 St. Matthew, Walsall
633 Yarborough, Manchester
637 Portland, Stoke-upon-Trent

703 Clifton, Blackpool
792 Peilham Pillar, Grimsby
856 Restormel, Lostwithiel
913 Pattison, Plumstead
976 Royal Clarence, Bruton
1012 Prince of Wales, Bury
1231 Savile, Lland
1284 Brent, Topsham
1304 Olive Union, Horncastle
1324 Okeover, Kipley
1379 Marquess of Ripon, Darlington
1384 Equity, Widnes
1473 Bootle, Bootle
1500 Walpole, Norwich
1504 Red Rose of Lanc'ster, Padham
1513 Friendly, Barnsley
1557 Albert Edward, Hexham
1565 Earl of Chester, Lymm
1639 Watling St., Stony Stratford
1770 Vale of White Horse, Faringdon
1829 Burrell, Brighton
1874 Lechmere V'nt'r, Balsall H'th
1899 Wellesley, Sandhurst
2043 Kendrick, Reading
2169 Osborne, East Cowes
2321 Acacia, Bradford
2342 Easterford, Kelvedon
2350 Corinthian, Hindley
2386 Clarence, Chester
2496 Wirral, Birkenhead

Friday.

134 Caledonian, Ship and Turtle
157 Bedford, Freemasons'-hall
177 Domatic, Anderton's
780 Royal Alfred, Kew Bridge
1201 Eclectic, Freemasons'-hall
1559 New Cross, Greenwich
1997 John Carpenter, Albion
2399 Ordnance, Plumstead
2552 Stoke Newington, Stoke N'gton
36 Glamorgan, Cardiff
81 Doric, Woodbridge
170 All Souls, Weymouth
458 Aire and Calder, Goole
526 Honour, Wolverhampton
680 Sefton, Liverpool
786 Croxeth United Service, L'pool
815 Blair, Manchester
916 Hartington, Eastbourne
1001 Harrowgate & Claro, Harr'wg'te
1087 Beaudesert, Leighton Buzzard
1102 Mirfield, Mirfield
1121 Wear Valley, Bishop Auckland
1289 Rock, Birkenhead
1428 United Service, Landport
1605 De la Pole, Hull
1661 Newton, Newark-on-Trent
1676 St. Nicholas, Newcastle-on-Tyne
1983 Martyn, Southwold
2244 Cowper and Newton, Olney
2554 Manchester, Manchester
2558 Furnival, Sheffield

Saturday.

108 London, Ship and Turtle
173 Phoenix, Freemasons'-hall
176 Caveac, Albion
1426 Great City, Cannon St. Hotel
1612 West Middlesex, Ealing
1671 Mizpah, Albion
1928 Gallery, Anderton's
2369 Cornish, Markmasons'-hall
2384 Mitcham, Lower Mitcham
1347 Lorne, Sutton
1755 Eldon, Portishead
2359 Doric, Didsbury

RHODESIAN SHARES BOOMING!

IN view of the great rise in the price of the shares of the Chartered Company (with its capital of several millions sterling), to nearly £4 per share, there has been great activity in the shares of other Rhodesian companies, and it is generally agreed that Rhodesian shares are meeting with an amount of attention never before bestowed upon them. More than half the business in the Kaffir market is taking place in Rhodesian shares. The new treaty with Germany will enable the Chartered Company to connect its railway system with the South-West Coast of Africa. This will give another route to Rhodesia, which will probably be the shortest available and the most convenient, and it is calculated that Rhodesia will thus be brought within twenty days of London. The almost complete cessation of mining operations in the Transvaal has enabled the Rhodesian mines to obtain the native labour of which they stood in need, and we ought, as a consequence, to witness a great development of gold mines and land. One of the most promising Companies devoted to the exploration and development of lands and gold mines in Rhodesia is the Austen (Gwelo) Development Syndicate, Limited. Taking into consideration the smallness of its capital, which is only £50,000, in £1 fully paid up shares, of which £20,000 is for working capital; that it owns a farm of 6,000 acres and 507 claims in the best known and most important gold mining districts of Rhodesia, and that the latest reports from the manager in Rhodesia state that he has struck ore giving over 18 oz. of gold per ton, the present price of about £1 10s. per share, at which the shares of the Austen (Gwelo) Development Syndicate, Limited, are now dealt in on the London Stock Exchange, should make them a good speculative investment.

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.

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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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LADIES' BANQUET AND CONCERT OF THE CITY OF LONDON LODGE, No. 901.

THE first Ladies' night of this popular Lodge took place on Monday, 20th ult., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, E.C.

The Lodge was first regularly opened, the minutes duly confirmed, and other business disposed of.

The W.M. Bro. Joseph Hatton, who was accompanied by his wife, received the company, which included Bros. R. W. Dobin I.P.M., W. H. Haylock S.W., E. Beadle J.W., H. Harbord P.M. Treas., W. R. Haylock P.M. Sec., W. Reeve S.D., W. Grant J.D., T. Leete I.G., Dr. J. Haskins P.P.G. Org. Essex and Hertfordshire Org., G. A. Bolland, H. G. Hancock, F. Hall, W. Bridger, A. E. Britton, F. W. Salmon, H. E. W. Poole, G. Bailey, C. A. Riley, in all there being about 150 Brethren and visitors present, the majority of the Brethren being accompanied by their wife or lady friend.

After formal introduction the company retired to the banqueting room, where an excellent banquet was provided and appreciated by those who partook of it.

After the repast the W.M. proposed the toast of the Queen, and referred in warm terms to her Majesty's wonderful career as wife, mother, ruler, and pattern of the best traits in womanhood. Her Majesty had always taken the deepest interest in Freemasonry, and in all good works that concerned the welfare of her subjects, one of her latest kindly acts being the opening of a charitable institution at Bristol. The toast was most enthusiastically received, the Venetian Part Singers rendering "God Save the Queen" in excellent voice.

Bro. H. Harbord P.M. Treasurer of the Lodge in well deserved terms gave the toast of the Worshipful Master, saying that his ability as ruler of the Lodge was well known. He studied the welfare of the Lodge in every sense of the word; but he studied the pleasure of the Brethren likewise, as he was the first ruler of the Lodge since its consecration in 1862 who had presided at such a charming assembly as that evening's.

The W.M. thanked Past Master Harbord for his very kind remarks, and the Brethren for receiving the toast in such a cordial manner, but he must remind them that the principal toast of the evening was that of the Ladies. He desired to impress on the Brethren how much they were indebted to the Ladies for the charms of life. As the mouthpiece of the Lodge he gave the Ladies a most hearty welcome, and assured them that the best endeavours of the members of the Lodge had been made to afford the guests a pleasurable evening. He hoped a Ladies night would in future be an annual event in the Lodge, and concluded by calling on Bro. H. G. Hancock, the youngest of their members, to respond for the Ladies.

Bro. Hancock said he felt it an honour to be asked to reply for the Ladies, and sincerely thanked the Worshipful Master, and the members generally, for the enthusiastic manner in which they had honoured the toast, also for coupling his name as the youngest member of the City of London Lodge. He could but assure them, from the remarks which he had heard from several Ladies, that all had been highly delighted in being amongst them that evening, especially as the opportunity was not often offered them of being able to see how the Brethren enjoyed themselves on such occasions. The Ladies were very grateful to the Lodge for having provided such an excellent entertainment.

There was an enjoyable concert, and a full programme of music, under the direction of Bro. Dr. J. Haskins, who was supported by the Venetian Part Singers, Miss Clarabelle Hyde, Miss Tina Cullen, Miss Margaret Ruby, Bro. John Batchelor, Bro. T. Best Folkes, Messrs. Sidney Rawnsley, C. Magrath, Arthur Papworth, W. T. Knight, and others.

In our issue of the 18th inst., reporting the meeting of this Lodge, we spoke of the election and initiation of Mr. Cook Thomas Wright; the name should have been Mr. Charles Alfred Riley, of the Harrow, 22 Whitefriars Street, E.C., who was then regularly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft.

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WALTHAMSTOW LODGE, No. 2472.

THE Worshipful Master Bro. Thomas William Stacey presided at an ordinary meeting of this Lodge held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C., on Saturday, when he was supported by Bros. William Shurmur P.G.S.B. Eng. P.M. Treasurer, Wm. Gower P.M., James Clark P.M., A. J. Stacy I.P.M., H. H. Finch S.W., Samuel Hubert Secretary, Amos Oakden S.D., Leo Taylor J.D., S. Fortescue D.C., Frank Budd I.G., and a large number of other Brethren.

The following visitors also attended: Bros. Geo. R. Brown P.M. 2467, W. M. Beck 2374, W. H. Bathurst 1331, Thomas How 2374.

The only work was the passing of Bro. James Tennant Stewart to the second degree, which was accomplished most satisfactorily by the W.M. and the Officers concerned.

The Lodge was in a very generous mood, and firstly, upon the proposition of Bro. William Shurmur, awarded the sum of thirty guineas to the fund being raised in aid of the widow and children of the late Bro. F. R. Peck Junior Warden of the Lodge. It must be recorded in connection with this vote that upon the last meeting of the Lodge the Brethren gave up their banquet in order that this sum should be devoted to the family of their deceased Brother, who was highly esteemed. Bro. Shurmur thanked the Lodge in the name of Bro. Peck's family, for the very acceptable donation.

The W.M. then proposed that the sum of ten guineas should be voted for the "Daily Telegraph" Fund for the Widows and Orphans of the Soldiers serving in South Africa, which was also carried. This amount was subsequently increased by a shilling collection made at the dinner table.

A letter of condolence and sympathy was ordered to be sent to the family of the late Bro. Wilgress Nathaniel Pipe, for whom the Brethren appeared in Masonic mourning. Two candidates were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and this concluding the business the Lodge was closed.

PROVINCIAL.

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ASHBURY LODGE, No. 1459.

THE annual installation took place on Thursday, 16th ult., at the Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde Road, Manchester, when a large number of Brethren and Visitors attended to honour Brother H. E. Massie W.M.-elect.

The Lodge was opened at an early hour by the W.M. Bro. A. E. Burgess. The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed the ballot was taken for Mr. Coomber, and declared unanimous in his favour. The W.M. then initiated Mr. Coomber into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The N.E. corner charge was delivered by Bro. I. Hurlow J.W. in finished style. The working tools were presented and explained in an impressive manner by the Senior Warden.

Bro. H. E. Massie S.W. W.M.-elect was then presented by Bro. G. W. Davies P.M. Prov.G.A.P. Installing Deacon to Bro. Wm. Bee P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., to receive from his hands the benefits of installation. Bro. Bee first addressed the Brethren, and then obligated the W.M.-elect.

A large board of Installed Masters was formed, and Brother Massie was installed in the chair of K.S. and proclaimed Worshipful Master of the Ashbury Lodge for the ensuing twelve months, the ceremony being rendered by Bros. Bee and Davies in excellent style.

The W.M. having invested his predecessor the Board of Installed Masters was closed, and then the Officers for the year were appointed, the investiture of the Wardens and Stewards being undertaken by Bro. J. Townley Trotter P.M., the Treasurer by Bro. Drabble P.M., the Deacons by Bro. Burgess I.P.M., the Inner Guard by Bro. John Jee P.M., the Director of Ceremonies and his Assistant by Bro. S. Richardson P.M., the Organist and Tyler by Bro. W. Bee P.M.

The working tools were presented to the W.M. in each degree by Bro. W. Drabble P.M., and the customary addresses delivered by Past Masters S. John Gee and S. Richardson.

After correspondence had been read by the acting Secretary from Brethren expressing regret for non-attendance, and the names of three gentlemen had been submitted for initiation, the Lodge was closed.

The Brethren adjourned while the room was prepared for the banquet, which was provided and well served under the personal superintendence of Brother Edward Pitt.

At the close of the repast the W.M. proposed the toast of the Queen, which was heartily responded to, as was that of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family.

In giving the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales, the W.M. said his Royal Highness had always taken a deep personal interest in the Craft, and had been most happy in his selection of Officers. The latest instance of tact displayed was the appointment of the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P. as Prov.G.M. for East Lancashire. All who attended at the Free Trade Hall on the 3rd November agreed that the Brethren of East Lancashire had got a splendid Prov. Grand Master in Lord Stanley, and he hoped the Brethren would give him the same loyal support which they had done to the late Provincial Master Brother Starkie.

Bro. W. Bee now proposed the toast of the W.M. Bro. H. E. Massie, explaining that a little over four years ago he attended his initiation in the Lodge of Integrity, No. 163, and in due time his raising. Shortly after it was intimated to him that Bro. H. E. Massie was desirous of becoming a joining member of the Ashbury Lodge, which he did in due time. Very soon after this event they were in want of a working Brother, and they thought they saw in Bro. Massie the right man to act as Secretary, which important position Bro. Massie occupied for two years, discharging the duties in a very satisfactory manner. Higher positions awaited him in the J.W. and S.W. chairs, and the work done in those positions was of a very high order, and had given the utmost satisfaction to the Brethren. Now he had the pleasure of submitting the toast of Bro. Massie as the Worshipful Master, feeling sure he would be an ornament to the Lodge, and an excellent ruler. The toast was warmly responded to.

The W.M. Bro. Massie, on rising to respond, received quite an ovation. He sincerely thanked those present for the kind manner in which they had received the toast, and Bro. Bee for the flattering remarks respecting himself. He assured the Brethren that any little work he had done had been a labour of love. During his year of office he would do his very best to worthily maintain the dignity and importance of the chair of K.S., and when he left it, twelve months hence, he hoped to carry with him the good will and fraternal regard of every member of the Lodge, just as he hoped he possessed it that day. Although feeling equal to any of the ceremonies, he proposed to share the work amongst the Past Masters and Officers, and he was sure, with such an able body of supporters they would have a successful year. He again begged to thank the Brethren for placing him in the proud position of Worshipful Master.

In proposing the toast of the I.P.M. and Past Masters, the W.M. said that night the toast referred more particularly to the outgoing W.M. Bro. A. E. Burgess, who they all agreed had been an excellent Master, and had performed all the work he had undertaken in a most creditable manner. It was now his pleasing duty to place upon Bro. Burgess's breast a Past Master's jewel, presented from the Brethren of the Lodge with feelings of love and appreciation for good services well rendered, and he trusted he would wear the jewel in good health for many years to come.

Bro. A. E. Burgess I.P.M. thanked the W.M. and Brethren for their kindness. He had had a most delightful year of office. He had been supported by two of the best Wardens in the whole Province, and a most capable staff of Officers and Past Masters, and in one sense was sorry to leave the chair, but he must make room for a successor. He felt sure the Lodge was now in possession of a better Master than he had proved to be. What he had done for the Lodge he had done with pleasure, and for the best. He thanked them most heartily for the beautiful jewel, which he would ever wear with pride. The jewel was inscribed:—

Presented by the Brethren to

Bro. P.M. A. E. BURGESS,

for services rendered as W.M. of the Ashbury Lodge, No. 1459.—1893-99.

November 16th, 1899.

The proceedings were enlivened by songs given in first class style by Bro. Bentley, Bro. George Thompson, Ardwick, No. 2125; Bro. C. H. Griffiths W.M. Faith, No. 581, and Bro. W. A. Bacon W.M. Egerton, No. 1030.

Besides a strong muster of the members of the Lodge, the following visitors were present:—Bros. Walter Newton P.P.S.G.D. Cheshire P.P.J.G.D. East Lancashire, Herring P.M. 1458, Cotton W.M. 2464, Wolfenden W.M. 210, G. H. Walker W.M. 2185, T. Smith W.M. 1774, W. M. Wilton 1077, R. A. Hepworth P.M. 163, Ben Wilmot 163, Councillor Phythian P.M. 2464.

The proceedings were brought to a close by a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Pitt for the excellent banquet, and the admirable manner in which the whole arrangements had been carried out. Bro. Pitt, in reply, said he was pleased his efforts had met with success, and he could assure the Brethren that so long as he had anything to do with the establishment he would only be too pleased to do all he could for the Lodge. He begged to thank them for the vote.

ALBERT VICTOR LODGE, No. 1773.

THE annual meeting and Festival of St. John took place at the Town Hall, Pendleton, on Friday, 17th ult., Brother Wm. Thos. Blease W.M., with a capital attendance of members and visitors.

The principal Lodge business was that of installing Bro. Wm. Woodeson J.W. Worshipful Master-elect into the chair of K.S., Bro. Blease the retiring Master performing the ceremony of installation, assisted by Past Masters Samuel Statham P.P.G.Tr., Thomas Threlfall Prov.Gr.P., Wm. Lambert, Thos. T. Sefton, F. Townson, and Wm. Mosley.

We append a list of Officers for the ensuing financial year: Bros. W. Allen Smith S.W., A. H. Sellers J.W., Rev. Wm. G. Edwards-Rees, M.A., Chaplain, F. Townson P.M. Treasurer, Wm. Mosley P.M. Secretary, T. T. Sefton P.M. D.C., Gilbert L. Hardcastle S.D., J. H. Burton J.D., Jas. Stewart I.G., J. Horricks Org., J. Hart Dep. Org., W. Robinson, Fred Daniels, J. B. Kenyon, G. J. Blore Stewards.

Lodge business over, the Brethren adjourned to the large room of the Hall, which had been appropriately decorated for the occasion, and where a sumptuous banquet was served.

The initial toasts were submitted by the Worshipful Master Bro. Woodeson, Bro. James Newton P.G.S.B.Eng. Prov.G.Sec. East Lancashire responding on behalf of the Grand Officers. In the course of his remarks he referred to the length of time he had known Brother Statham, and other members of the Lodge—more years in fact than he would like to mention. He explained that he was present at the Consecration, and but for another important engagement would also have been present at the recent coming of age of the Lodge. It was rich in past Officers, whose work had been a credit to them, and whose beneficence had been worthily extended to the Masonic charities. Next year it was intended to honour the memory of their late and revered Provincial Grand Master Col. Starkie, by purchasing a perpetual annuity. Further details of the scheme would shortly be forthcoming, and he knew that when the Albert Victor Lodge was appealed to, substantial help would not be withheld. In closing his very interesting remarks, Bro. Newton heartily wished prosperity to the Worshipful Master, Officers and members of the Lodge.

The toast of the Provincial Officers was, by request of the W.M., responded to by Bros. Saml. Statham, the doyen of the Lodge, Thos. Threlfall Prov.G.P., and Edwd. Roberts Prov.G.Tr.

That of the Worshipful Master was entrusted to Bro. Blease I.P.M., who paid the necessary tribute to his work as a member and Officer of the Lodge, and said he sincerely anticipated a good year under Bro. Woodeson's guidance.

Bro. Woodeson Worshipful Master responded, saying there was a peculiar difficulty in replying to the toast, from his new and strange position. New, because he had not hitherto occupied such a distinguished place, and strange because he had not yet become accustomed to the dignity of the chair. Had circumstances permitted, he should have preferred completing his Masonic training by occupying the Senior Warden's chair, but having been called thus early to his exalted position, he first thanked them for the toast, so ably proposed by the I.P.M., and so cordially and enthusiastically received by them all. After the very recent coming of age celebration, which some feared might somewhat overshadow the St. John's Festival, it was particularly gratifying to have so large a company that evening, which included such a good proportion of their own members, whose presence was specially inspiring, and, he trusted, a good omen for their future constant attendance and for the unflinching progress of their cherished Lodge. Replying more particularly to the toast—whilst appreciating the honour of his new position, he was profoundly sensible of the responsibility which rested upon the Master of so large and respected a Lodge as the Albert Victor, occupying as it did an important and influential position in the Province of East Lancashire. It appeared to him that the honour might be reserved for a later period of the Worshipful Master's year (instead of at its opening), when he had had an opportunity of displaying his qualifications, winning his spurs, and proving himself worthy of the great trust; but as this was taken somewhat for granted, he could only assure the Brethren of his intention to maintain the efficiency of their working, and to preserve intact the integrity of their reputation. He was a strong believer in what was sometimes called the "Fourth Degree," and considered the social part of their proceedings to be a very necessary element to the happiness and well-being of any Lodge; but he trusted none of them would for one moment forget that the chief aim of their existence was to proudly wear the truly Masonic ornaments, "Benevolence and Charity," and use them as the foundation and glory of their honourable Fraternity. It was not his intention to take up time, as they were no doubt as anxious as he was to hear the musical Brethren, and as many of the visitors as time would permit. He would therefore conclude by saying it was a proud moment for him to be the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, the honour of which he should remember to the latest period of his existence.

Bro. Woodeson subsequently proposed the health of the Installing Master, saying it was his pleasing duty to submit for their acceptance the next toast, that of the Installing Master and I.P.M. of Albert Victor Lodge. Bro. Blease was not only the I.P.M., but he had completed the 21st and red letter year of the Lodge's history by putting the finishing touches to a period of unqualified success by installing his successor. He had not, before that day, attended an installation ceremony proper, but he ventured to assert that Bro. Blease's performance that afternoon would secure him pre-eminent rank among those who had been able to undertake the important duty. He had been greatly impressed with its beautiful meaning, and by Bro. Blease's demonstration of it. The year just closed had seen several additions to their ranks, and those Brethren they hailed with every satisfaction. Most of the initiations, passings and raisings had been performed by Bro. Blease in a way which left an example worthy of his successor's closest imitation, because of its efficient and admirable execution. His term of office had been marked by great cordiality and high literary tone. The social board, the enjoyable family gathering in January, the successful summer picnic, the elaborate and eventful coming of age celebrations, all bore the impression of his methodical care and thoughtful arrangement. He felt sure that he was voicing the sentiment of every Brother when he offered Bro. Blease their united congratulations upon his past faithful record, and their best wishes for his future. In doing so, he had to ask Bro. Blease to accept their jewel, as an untarnished memorial and pledge of lasting regard and good fellowship.

He concluded by asking the Brethren to rise and drink heartily to the long life and happiness of the Worshipful Installing Master and I.P.M. Bro. Blease. The jewel contained the following inscription:

Presented to

BRO. WM. THOS. BLEASE P.M.,

by the Brethren of the Albert Victor Lodge, No. 1773.

17th November 1899.

Other toasts followed, notably those of the visiting Brethren, proposed by Bro. E. Winterbottom Prov.G.D.D.C.; the Masonic Charities, proposed by Bro. J. Harrop P.P.G.D.; and prosperity to the Salford Lodges, introduced by Bro. T. M. Brown.

During the evening a telegram was read from Bro. J. J. Lambert P.P.G.Reg. W.L. Past G. Deacon Eng., as follows: "Absence unavoidable. Am very sorry. Hearty good wishes and congratulations. Fraternal regards to Brethren."

The harmony was contributed by Bros. Fred Daniels, H. S. Daniels, Wild, and Hart, with a recital of Bro. Rudyard Kipling's poem by Bro. Samuel Gaskill 163, which, upon a collection being made, was the means of realising a substantial sum in aid of the local fund for the relief of wives, widows, and children of our brave defenders in the Transvaal.

METROPOLITAN: INSTRUCTION.

—:o:—

RANELAGH LODGE, No. 834.

ON Friday, 17th ult., at the Six Bells Hotel, Hammersmith, W., Bros. K. M. Ross W.M., R. H. Williams P.M. S.W., H. J. Cousens J.W., W. Hinds P.M. Treas., F. Craggs P.M. Sec., Arthur Williams P.M. Prec., W. Atkinson S.D., H. Inderwick J.D., W. G. Palmer I.G., Robert Reid P.M., John Worth W.M. of the Mother Lodge, G. T. Meek, C. Woods, M. F. Wilkins, C. T. Hayward, W. F. Bennett, R. D. Simpson 1923, and others.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Wilkins candidate. Lodge was called off and on. The first section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Palmer, under the direction of Bro. Preceptor, and the second by Bro. W. Hide P.M., under the same conditions.

Bro. R. H. Williams P.M. P.P.G.J.D.Middx. and Preceptor of numerous Lodges of Instruction was elected to occupy the chair of W.M. at the next weekly meeting.

ON the 24th ult., Bros. R. H. Williams P.M. P.P.G.J.D.Middx. W.M., H. J. Cousens W.M. 172 S.W., W. Atkinson J.W., W. Hinds P.M. Treas., F. Craggs P.M. Sec., Lewis Bryett P.M. 834 P.P.G.S.W. Berks and Bucks acting Preceptor, R. Reid P.M. S.D., J. Worth J.D., K. M. Ross I.G., J. H. Cumming P.M., and others.

Lodge was advanced to the third degree, when the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Worth taking the candidate's place. Bro. R. H. Williams gave the traditional history in a faultless manner, earning for himself the approbation of the Brethren. Lodge was resumed to the first degree; the first section of the lecture was worked by the Brethren, and the questions in the third section were answered by Bro. W. Hinds P.M.

Bro. H. J. Cousens W.M. of the Old Concord Lodge was elected to the chair for the next meeting.

FINSBURY PARK LODGE, No. 1288.

THE special meeting to which we have recently referred, as arranged for Saturday last, at this Lodge of Instruction, proved in every way a success. There was a large assembly, excellent working, and—the chief item in the programme of the day—an impressive and interesting musical service, and we think all who were present will agree with us in wishing that similar good work may be repeated at many of the future meetings of the Lodge.

The gathering took place at the usual quarters, the Old Cock Tavern, Highbury, and was presided over by the Preceptor of the Lodge Bro. H. Hill P.M., who was supported by Bros. J. W. Hunt S.W., J. A. Chalk J.W., F. Linfoot W.M. No. 27 acting Preceptor, W. Syckelmoore P.M. Treas., John Thom acting Sec., W. H. Pocklington P.M. Musical Director, M. M. Taylor P.M. S.D., Mount Brown J.D., T. Bean I.G., A. A. Kelly Org.; while amongst the numerous Brethren we had the pleasure of seeing were Bros. Thos. Humphreys P.M. Preceptor of the Perseverance Lodge, No. 1743, A. J. Davis, T. E. Edmonds P.M., W. W. Snelling P.M., A. H. Lee P.P.S.G.D. Kent, F. Partington P.M., W. J. Lewis, J. Hume, W. Hudson, H. Ovens, A. Sargood, E. Edwards, G. Graham Foster, C. W. Fink, J. Hoffman, A. A. Ibbott, W. Newbold, W. Windsor, W. Hinton, A. E. Macey, E. Grant, W. Jarvis, E. Robinson, G. Shervington, G. E. Inch, J. Wynman, and several others.

The Lodge being duly formed was opened with musical accompaniment, when the minutes were read and confirmed. The Lodge was advanced to the second degree, when the W.M. announced that he intended to rehearse the ceremony of raising, for which Bro. Pope was accepted as the candidate. Having answered the regular questions he was entrusted, the Lodge was further advanced, and the ceremony was rehearsed, the whole of the ritual being given in extenso, including the traditional history.

The Lodge was resumed to the second and first degree, and the following Brethren were elected members, which compliment was acknowledged by each Brother separately:—A. H. Lee P.P.S.G.D. Kent, W. D. Ovens S.W. 1017, C. W. Fink 1623, Ch. Gregory Smith 1580, W. J. Richardson 1580, G. E. Nich 2558, G. Foster 2728, G. Shervington 1623.

It was proposed by Bro. Hill W.M., that a hearty vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the valuable services rendered by Bro. Pocklington, the Musical Director, and the Brethren belonging to the choir; and he also took the opportunity of thanking the Officers for their able assistance. The vote was carried unanimously.

The W.M. in addressing Bro. Pocklington, thanked him for the excellent musical entertainment he had provided; he and the Brethren were highly delighted. He also thanked the Brethren belonging to the choir for having contributed so greatly to a very pleasant evening.

Bro. Pocklington, on behalf of the Brethren belonging to the choir and for himself, thanked the W.M. for his very kind remarks. He was pleased to hear their services had been appreciated. The labour of the evening being ended the Lodge was closed in harmony and with solemn prayer.

We cannot let the opportunity pass without complimenting Bro. W. H. Pocklington P.M. the Musical Director for the high class music he provided, while the following professional Brethren: W. Syckelmoore P.M. Treasurer of the Lodge of Instruction, W. Wheeler, E. P. Baker, E. Lo'or, W. Windsor, all deserve praise for showing their talent on the occasion. Bro. A. A. Kelly, in

his well-known able manner presided at the organ. Praise is also due to Bro. H. Hill, for the excellent manner in which he fulfilled the duties of the chair. We can but add, the work of the meeting afforded a real Masonic treat, and we congratulate the Brethren of the Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction on having such a perfect worker as Bro. Hill for their Preceptor.

LANGTHORNE LODGE, No. 1421.

At the Angel Hotel, Ilford, on Wednesday, 29th ult., Bros. Clark W.M., Pallant S.W., Harris J.W., C. Lorkin P.M. and Sec. 1524 acting Preceptor, Jesseman Sec., Cormack S.D., Stone J.D., Ward I.G., Whitehead, Burrows, Chapman, Keen, Bodes, Harris, Ward, Holmes, Brown, James, Jackson, Stone, Evans, Iles, Weir, and others.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., and the lecture on the tracing board given by Bro. Lorkin.

Bro. Pallant, who is W.M.-elect of the Mother Lodge, was elected to preside at the next meeting.

WOODROW LODGE, No. 1708.

ON Monday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, at Bro. Rudderforth's (Stone's) Restaurant, Panton Street, Haymarket.

According to the rules Bro. C. Woodrow Preceptor had the privilege of taking the chair, but not being able to attend, on account of indisposition, Bro. C. E. Wetton P.M. Deputy Preceptor assumed the position, with Bros. C. West S.W., G. Yeowell J.W., G. Spice W.M. 193 acting Preceptor, J. W. Simeons Sec., J. W. Ollington S.D., H. J. Rose J.D., J. E. Culverhouse I.G., J. G. Lobb, G. W. Catling, J. Wynman, Victor Weston, G. Baker.

The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Catling acting as candidate. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the work of installation was rehearsed, Bro. J. W. Simeons being presented as W.M.-elect. The Lodge was opened in the third degree, and he being placed in the chair, was saluted in regular form, Bro. G. Spice making a perfect D.C. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree and the W.M. invested the Officers, which was done without the slightest mistake. Bro. Wetton proceeded with the addresses.

Bro. Culverhouse will preside as W.M. on Monday next.

ALFRED NEWTON LODGE, No. 2686.

ON Tuesday, at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, W., Bros. W. R. Flack W.M., W. H. Arnold S.W., A. Strutt J.W., R. H. Williams P.P.G.D. Middx. Preceptor, D. F. Norrington Sec., E. Vernon Dep. Sec., E. Rix S.D., A. R. Catlin J.D., A. England I.G., H. Day Steward, H. Redgrave, G. Hinds, N. Cawley, A. Swann, S. W. Gatt, J. R. Francis, J. Wynman.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Le Sueur acting as candidate. This being ended the Lodge was called off and on. The W.M. examined Bro. H. Redgrave, the Lodge was opened in the second degree and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, the working of both the degrees being perfection, and rendered in such a manner as to be very instructive to the Brethren. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and by desire of the W.M. Bro. Williams Preceptor worked the first section of the lecture.

Bro. Arnold was elected W.M. for the 12th inst.

Bro. Catlin proposed that an Annual Supper should be held in connection with the Lodge, the first at a short date, which was seconded by the W.M. and agreed to, Bros. Norrington, Catlin, and Day being elected to act as the Stewards.

ROYAL ARCH.

—:o:—

SYMPATHY CHAPTER, No. 483.

A CONVOCATION of this very flourishing Chapter was holden on Tuesday, at the Royal Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend. The Principals, Orton Cooper Z., R. J. Beamish H., and W. Hawker J. presided, and were supported by Comps. William Russell P.G.S.B. Eng., Henry Forss Prov. G.D.C., Frank Hitchens Prov.G.R., J. Percy White I.P.Z., Arthur Ronaldson P.Z. Scribe E., E. Ingman Scribe N., W. Spencer Bowen P.S., J. A. Gillett, and C. Percy Bowen Assistants, T. T. Hogg Treasurer, T. A. Mummery D.C., A. J. Walklin and George Masters Stewards, J. Axccl, R. Vivyan.

The Chapter was opened in due form by the Principals, and the Comps. were admitted. After the minutes had been read and confirmed the ballot was taken for the following Brethren, as candidates for exaltation: Frederick W. Martin, of the Lodge of Freedom, No. 77; Robert Matthews, St. John's Lodge, No. 1343; and Stanley Hogg, a member of a Scottish Lodge. Being approved of these Brethren were admitted and regularly exalted to the supreme degree. The beautiful ceremony was admirably conducted by all concerned, and made a considerable impression upon the candidates. The Lectures were delivered by the Principals.

Comp. George Rackstraw P.S. High Cross Chapter, No. 829, was received as a joining member.

The Chapter voted the sum of five guineas, to be added to a similar amount by the M.E.Z., for the purpose of purchasing two votes in perpetuity for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. It is hoped that this will be the nucleus of a more substantial number in future years.

A P.Z.'s jewel was presented in the name of the Chapter to Comp. Percy White, who returned his thanks for the same. There being no further business the Chapter was closed, and the Companions subsequently dined together.

MARK MASONRY.

—:o:—

ST. ANDREW LODGE, No. 34.

THE regular meeting took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on the 21st ult., Brother John Lawrenson W.M.

After the reading, approval, and confirmation of minutes, a successful ballot was taken for Bro. John William Stubbert, Manager, Avon Lodge, No. 1633, who was duly advanced into Mark Masonry by the W.M. The usual festive board followed.

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Adelphi.—7.45, With flying colours. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.
Avenue.—8, An old Admirer. 8.45, A message from Mars. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Comedy.—8.15, El Capitan. 10.40, The Regenerates. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15.
Court.—8.30, A Royal Family. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Criterion.—8.15, A pretty piece of business. 9, My Daughter-in-Law. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3. Friday, 8th December, 3, One law for man.
Daly's.—8.15, San Toy. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Drury Lane.—7.30, Hearts are Trumps. Matinée, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 1.30.
Duke of York's.—8.15, The Christian. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Gaiety.—8.15, A Runaway Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Garrick.—8.30, The Degenerates. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
Globe.—8, The Gay Lord Quex. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Haymarket.—8.15, The Bugle Call. 9, The Black Tulip. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday 2.15.
Her Majesty's.—8.15, King John. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15.
Lyceum.—Monday, 4th December, 8, The Manxman. Matinée, Wednesday, Saturday, 9th December, 2, Hamlet.
Lyric.—8, Florodora. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
Prince of Wales's.—8.15, The Sacrament of Judas. 9.15, The Canary. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15.
Princess's.—8, The Absent-minded Beggar.
Savoy.—8.15, The Rose of Persia. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Belle of New York. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Strand.—8.15, The Grey Parrot. 9, The wrong Mr. Wright. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
Terry's.—8.15, The Silence of a Chatterbox. 9, The Lady of Ostend.
Vaudeville.—8.15, The Italian Quarter. 9, The Elixir of Youth. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Wyndham's.—8.30, Dr. Johnson. 9, David Garrick. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Alexandra.—Next week, 7.45, La Poupée.
Grand.—Next week, 7.30, Sporting Life.
Queen's Opera House, Crouch End.—Next week, 8, The Frence Maid.
Standard.—Next week, 7.45, A Greek Slave.
Surrey.—Next week, 7.45, For a Child's Sake.
Alhambra.—8.15, Variety Entertainment. A Day Off, Napoli, &c.
Aquarium.—The world's great Show. United Chinese Twins. Varied Performances, daily.
Empire.—8.15, Variety Entertainment. Ordered to the Front. Round the Town again, &c.
London Pavilion.—8, Variety Entertainment.
Oxford.—7.30, Variety Entertainment, &c. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Palace.—7.40, Variety Entertainment. New American Biograph, &c. Saturday, 2 also.
Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2.30 also.
Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Talma, &c. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Agricultural Hall.—8, Mobawk Minstrels. Smithfield Club Cattle Show.
Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
Madame Tussaud's (Baker Street Station).—Open daily. Portrait models of modern celebrities, &c.
Moore and Burgess Minstrels (St. James's Hall).—Every evening at 8, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 3 and 8.
Olympia.—Boer, Briton, and Black in Savage Africa,