

THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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PREFERMENT IN LODGE.

IN the "Antient Charges" of a Freemason, prefixed to the Constitutions of the English Craft, it is distinctly laid down that "All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only," and in face of such an injunction it is a somewhat difficult task to set about attempting to convince our readers, or even ourselves, that the proper method of advancement in our Lodges is by a strict adherence to seniority; and yet we think there are very few, who have had any practical experience of the working of the two methods, but will agree upon the point that to ensure peace, harmony, and progress in a Lodge, preferment must go by rotation, and not by favour; and in view of circumstances which have lately been brought under our notice we propose to devote attention to the subject on the present occasion, and weigh the pros and cons of the different methods. Of course there are exceptions to this, as to every other rule, but the exceptions in the very large majority of cases only go to prove the rule, and more often than not may be pointed to as practical evidences of the ill effects of departing from strict routine, in favour of promotion by merit—this latter, more likely than not, being simply a more euphonious expression than if the action were described as the direct result of favouritism, or underhand, or outside influence—and this being so it becomes most difficult to say how best to harmonise the theory and the practice of the Craft in the matter.

Our first Grand Master has told us, more than once in his Proverbs, that "in the multitude of counsellors there is safety," and recognising the weight of his words it is very opportune we should be able to refer at the moment to a Lodge which probably enjoys the greatest multitude of counsellors of any under the English Constitution—the Jubilee Masters Lodge, No. 2712—which has a membership closely bordering on a hundred and fifty, all of whom are now, or recently have been, Masters of Lodges in the metropolitan area. But in referring to the regulations of this Lodge, in regard to the selection of Officers, it must be borne in mind it is a most exceptional case: every one of its members has already been installed into the chair of a Lodge, and the rule practised in Grand Lodge, of appointing an entirely new set of Officers at each annual Festival, is followed, so that no Brother selected expects or anticipates further preferment, unless under most exceptional circumstances. The rule in this Lodge is to leave the nomination of Officers to a Permanent Committee, who make their selection in recognition of services rendered to the Craft, and make a formal recommendation to the ruler of the year as to who he shall appoint to assist him in the government of the Lodge during his term of Mastership. This selection, on the basis of real worth and personal merit only—the action of the multitude of counsellors—is in direct accord with the Antient

Charges of the Craft, and, were it not for the exceptional character of the Lodge, might be held up as a pattern for imitation; as it is we think it really serves to support the argument that promotion should go by rotation, as it is only in a Lodge where every member has risen to the highest station in his individual Lodge, that it is deemed expedient to appoint a Permanent Committee to suggest to the Master as to whom he should appoint as his Assistant Officers. Such a Committee would not only be most unusual, but would really be out of place, in an ordinary Private Lodge.

Our arguments thus far may be regarded as wholly in favour of the principle of promotion by merit, and were it not that the Jubilee Masters Lodge, to which we have more particularly referred, is so very exceptional in its organisation, we should almost feel disposed to dismiss the subject at this point, and decide in favour of that line of procedure; but the system of selection which will probably work satisfactorily in connection with a Lodge of Installed Masters is practically impossible in an ordinary Lodge, where a large proportion of the members are equally anxious to rise to the dignity of the Mastership, and where—in the words of our ritual—it is the hope of reward that sweetens labour. Selection by a Committee, or by a Worshipful Master, under such conditions, is quite out of place, and at the outset we may point to what we regard as an insurmountable obstacle—the decision of what really constitutes real worth or personal merit. A Brother may be a perfect master of the ritual of the three degrees, a splendid elocutionist, and an effective actor, and yet may lack the ability to preside over a Lodge so as to promote harmony and good fellowship; on the other hand a Mason may be the most genial of companions, a perfect host, and a born ruler among his fellows, yet be incapable of learning the work of the Craft, and utterly fail in effectively rendering one of our ceremonies. Which of these would be the most deserving of promotion, if merit alone were allowed to govern preferment? Some would say the one, some the other; for ourselves we would guarantee that the jovial ruler, whose nature probably precluded his shining as a Masonic worker, would do far more good for his Lodge and for Freemasonry at large, than he whose sole qualification was a perfect knowledge of the ritual and ceremonies of the Craft, without that sociability which, after all, plays the premier part in our whole system of Masonic Brotherhood.

The fairest, and, we maintain, the best method by which peace and harmony can be secured in a Lodge, is to allow promotion to go on in regular rotation. Each Brother in his turn should be offered the lowest Office at the disposal of the Worshipful Master, and he should be promoted step by step until he rises to the dignity of the chair, unless something radically wrong could be brought to his charge. It is manifestly unfair for any Worshipful Master to ruthlessly strip a Brother of his rank, and level him to the

position of a private, for no other reason than to satisfy some personal whim or caprice; and it is absolute nonsense to take shelter for such a proceeding under the flimsy subterfuge that it was done in the interests of the Antient Charge of the Craft, which lays it down that all promotion is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only. The Master of a Masonic Lodge is, it is true, invested with despotic powers; he may, if he choose, upset everyone of the Officers in the Lodge, and introduce an entirely new set to assist in the ruling and government of the Lodge during his term of Office, but long custom and practice forbids such a course, and probably such a wholesale disregard of precedent would occasion trouble of a nature which would necessitate official action, did such an event really happen. And if such a wholesale departure from the unwritten laws of the Craft is regarded as almost a Masonic crime, why should not a single instance of it be equally a departure from the principles of Freemasonry?

Unfortunately cliqueism is not entirely unknown in our midst, and it is in this matter of promotion "by merit" that it very frequently shows itself. The whole system is wrong, and the sooner it is so recognised by all who have the interests of the Craft at heart the better it will be for everyone concerned. Merit in this direction consists in the ability to act honourably, to faithfully exercise the powers that nature has given us, and to work diligently in the cause of Masonic Brotherhood. A Mason who so conducts himself, and is put aside from Office in favour of some more "meritorious" member, is the victim of circumstances—perhaps perfectly legitimate, but more likely than not of an entirely opposite character. To avoid charges of unmasonic action a Master should, therefore, shelter himself by promoting the Officers strictly in rotation, and turn a deaf ear to those who, to gratify some personal pique or quarrel, urge him to remove one of his Brethren from the roll, or introduce another over the heads of his fellows.

GRAND CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.

THE annual meeting was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 20th inst., Colonel Ivison Macadam, V.D., Depute First Grand Principal presiding in the absence, owing to a cold, of the Earl of Haddington First Grand Principal.

The Office-bearers who had been nominated at the previous meeting were elected for next year, and those present were installed. The members thereafter celebrated the festival of the Vernal Equinox, Colonel Macadam presiding.

Comp. W. A. Dinwiddie Provincial Grand Superintendent of Dumfriesshire proposed the toast of the evening, "Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland," and the Chairman replied. He mentioned that the income for the year had been £860, that eight Charters had been granted to new Chapters, that 1,115 new members had been registered, and that £170 had been added to the Benevolent Fund.

CHURCH SERVICE.

ON Sunday an interesting Masonic Service was conducted in the First Presbyterian Church by Bro. Rev. Wm. Wright, the popular and able minister of First Newtownards. Previous to the Service the Brethren assembled in the Masonic Hall, whence a procession was formed to the church.

The sermon, preached by Bro. Wright, was founded on the text—"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you"—and was exceedingly appropriate to the occasion, being listened to with rapt attention. At the conclusion he made a pathetic appeal on behalf of the Down Masonic Widows Fund, and also the Soldiers and Sailors Widows and Orphans Fund, which was generously responded to, not only by the Brethren, but also

by a large number of others present, the amount realised being £37.

The Committee beg to thank most sincerely Bro. Rev. Wm. Wright for his able and instructive sermon to the Brethren, who came at much inconvenience, and also to the collectors invited, for their generous response.

An interesting Masonic meeting is likely to take place at the Mansion House at an early date, if the necessary dispensation can be obtained from Grand Lodge to allow of the innovation. As will be seen by a reference to our report of the Alfred Newton Lodge, in another part of this issue, Bro. H. K. Newton, son of the Lord Mayor, who was on Saturday installed as W.M., announced that he hoped to hold the next meeting of the Lodge—of which the Lord Mayor was the chief founder, sponsor, and first Master—at the Mansion House. We think it is right to say that such a gathering would be unique in the annals of the Craft, as we do not remember a regular Lodge having previously been held at the home of the chief magistrate of the City of London. It would be an interesting event, and one likely to cement the already cordial relations existing between the City and the Masonic Craft.

Bro. T. J. Ralling P.A.G.D.C. Prov. G. Sec. Essex referred in feeling terms to the illness of the Prov. G.M. the Earl of Warwick, and the Dep. Prov. G.M. Col. Lockwood, when responding to the toast of the Provincial Officers, at the installation meeting of the Mistley Lodge, last week, and said he was sure the sympathies of the Brethren would extend to wishing them a speedy return to health. Referring to the suggestion of the Grand Master that each Lodge should contribute something towards the relief of the Masonic Brethren in the Transvaal, he said their sympathies should be shown in a practical manner. No doubt many had already given in some form or other, and he was glad to find that the Mistley Lodge had decided to contribute two guineas.

Regimental Lodges are very scarce on the Register of the Grand Lodge of England, and it is unusual to read of their assembling, but we notice that a meeting of the Glittering Star Lodge, the regimental Lodge of the Worcestershire Regiment, was recently held for the annual installation of Officers. There was a good attendance, and after the business was finished a banquet was held, and a very enjoyable social evening was spent. The Lodge is a very ancient one, dating back as far as 1759. Many of the most notable military men of the past and present have been members of it.

We are pleased to place on record another instance of a Provincial Grand Master attending a meeting of a Private Lodge under his rule, the Cambrian Lodge, No. 364, Neath, being honoured at its recent installation by the presence of the Prov. G. Master Lord Llangattock, and his Deputy Bro. Marmaduke Tennant. Bro. H. P. Charles, Mayor of Neath, was re-installed for a second year on the occasion, and later in the evening Lord Llangattock favoured the company with "John Peel," and also another song.—Truly a "fine old English gentleman."

The members of the Jordan Lodge, at Torquay, have decided to perpetuate the memory of the late Bro. John Lane P.A.G.D.C. Eng., by purchasing the bulk of his valuable library. Bro. W. J. Hughan P.G.D. Eng., and Bro. Lane's Masonic executor, has offered the library to the Lodge on special terms, and it will form a valuable reference library, which will enhance with age, and be inestimable in many respects. Probably no more fitting memorial could be devised.

We recently referred to the approaching meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent, under the banner of the Lodge of Freedom, No. 77, at Gravesend. The occasion will be the fortieth anniversary of Earl Amherst's installation as Provincial Grand Master of Kent, which also took place under the banner of No. 77, in 1860.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349, held at the Aldgate Distillery, Aldgate, E., on Thursday, 29th inst., commencing at 7 p.m. Bro. N. Goldman J.D. 1349 will preside.

CONSECRATION.

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THREE PILLARS LODGE.

THE Prince of Wales M.W. Grand Master has graciously been pleased to grant the Petition from a number of Brethren resident in Torquay and other parts of the county of Devon, to hold a Lodge in the Parish Room, Cockington. Its number on the roll will be 2806, and the three principal Officers, nominated and accepted, are the Rev. James Henning P.M. (vicar of Cockington) W.M., W. Pierpoint Roberts P.M. (Paignton) S.W., and Rev. W. E. Windle P.M. (vicar of Ugborough) J.W. The consecration of the new Lodge will take place as soon as possible, and will be conducted by Major George E. Davie, D.L., &c., acting Prov. Grand Master, assisted by Bro. John Stocker Prov. G. Sec., and other Brethren.

THE EDITOR'S TRIBULATION.

THE tribulation of a Masonic editor as to what will suit the fastidious Masonic palate of his readers makes his life one great whirl of unrest, says the "Orient and Sheaf." If he sees something real good in another paper, far better than he could write himself, and publishes it, then comes his best friend with the soothing advice: "Your paper has nothing in it but clippings; give us something original." The next month the editor unwinds himself in several editorials, and then another friend says: "Say, that stuff of yours is all rot; here is a fine clipping; put that in next month." The next month there is a batch of half-and-half, with a few editorial squibs about incompetence, official itch, &c. In a few days he receives curt letters to "stop your sheet; if you cannot write Masonry without being personal I won't read it." The next month he bathes every editorial in a bath of honey and molasses. It was all about loving kindness, charity, love thy neighbour, &c., and is surprised with a hearty slap on the back and "that last edition was a dandy, but why don't you rub a little capsicum into some of those Masonic fakirs? Hit 'em and hear them beef." The next month some good friend says, "Why don't you give something about the higher degrees, something about the Templar Orders and the 32nd?" To be obliging the editor devotes some space to these worthy orders, but is surprised by a Masonic jolt. "Are you editing a Masonic paper? If so, who don't you say something about the Blue Lodge?" So the merry rag-time music goes on. If he is impersonal there is always someone with a sore spot that the impersonal shaft hits right in the centre. If the editor is dull and stupid he is advised to "wake up." If he is awake and progressive he is denounced as an innovator and iconoclast—a sore head. The end must come and the poor editor becomes a hysteric, a puppet, grinding out mere sentimentality. The blooming mentality becomes a blooming idiot, and then until death he edits a paper against which no one kicks. The editor dies; his tribulations are over; but in a "land that is fairer than day," in that far away city of gold, whose walls are jasper. There we see the editor clothed again in his right mind, sitting in a box seat close to the throne, with a crown on his head and a harp in his hand, but away back on the rear seats of the uppermost gallery, rubbing their crownless pates against the silver of the rafters, he sees the fellow with the sore spot, he with the grievance, the Blue Lodge crank, the 32nd degree enthusiast, the Templar fiend, the chronic kicker, all quiet and contented except he with the official itch, who was regaling the angels with his deeds of valour and trying to persuade them to use their influence for him to some official position. —"Masonic Sun."

TRUE FRATERNITY.

WE have always contended that it is not the numbers that make a Lodge, but the fraternal warmth and good fellowship of the individuals that comprise it. To obtain this greatly desired result a Brother must be "properly made." What we mean by this expression is that he must be taught the beauties of Masonry in a manner so forcible and earnest as to convince him that it comes from an honest heart, whose sole desire is "to be serviceable to our fellow-creatures." To do this a Worshipful Master must get his life in his work. He must not "play to catch the crowd" by striking attitudes, studied gestures and stage reading, but

be circumspect and convince those present that he means and feels what he is doing. He must divest himself of that cold apathy which seems to say, "because the Brethren haven't complimented me by a large turnout I'll just finish this job in a hurry." You have no right to do anything of the kind; you have no right to use your energies for the plaudits of the crowd to the detriment of your solemn duty; you have no right to hold the position unless you give it all the honesty of purpose of your nature; you have no right to slight your work or pout at empty seats. On all occasions do the best you can, and at the conclusion of your work have a "hand shaking and a word" with all present. Make them feel glad that they were present and the next time they will come and bring someone else, and so will the candidate whom you have just raised.—Bun F. Price, in "Masonic Sun."

EXCLUSIVENESS OF FREEMASONRY.

FREEMASONRY is a peculiarly unique Institution that has always kept separate from the progressive movements of the day, because our society has continually kept itself within the limitations originally laid down for its membership, one of the most important of which is that men only are admitted to its membership. The law against the commingling of the sexes cannot be evaded by any device whatever, without destroying the fabric itself.

The great advantages which have been derived from this important restriction admonish us that if we would continue to be respected in the future as we have been in the past, we must not make any innovation by which it may be changed. The welfare and increase of the Order depends much on its being kept within the bounds originally laid down, and by not in any way countenancing the introduction into our midst of the Order of the Eastern Star, as has been attempted during the past few months. The Lodges are doing well in giving no encouragement whatever to its introduction, and are amply justified in the course being adopted.—"Masonic Sun."

The annual musical social evening of the Colne Valley Lodge, No. 1645, was held on Friday, 9th inst., when forty-four couples were present. After tea had been served dancing was indulged in. The next day the children's party was held, and about 150 were present. Games and dancing were heartily enjoyed. The whole of the proceeds, amounting to £10 10s, is to be sent to the Mayor of Huddersfield's War Fund.

"A SPRIG OF AGACIA."

ON Tuesday, 20th inst., a number of the Past Masters and members of the Angel Lodge, No. 51, attended at the Colchester Cemetery, for the purpose of paying a last tribute of respect for the memory of Bro. Julius Emil Hennemeyer, P.P.S.G.W. Essex, who had been a member of the Lodge for the long period of twenty-six years, and was W.M. two years in succession, 1878 and 1879. For some time Bro. Hennemeyer had been unable to attend Lodge or Chapter, owing to the fact that from severe muscular rheumatism he could not walk without the aid of a crutch and stick, and ascending stairs was very painful to him. He was however out and about three days before he died, in his usual health. On the night of 12th March he had a seizure, and severe bronchitis followed, which proved fatal on the 15th. He leaves a widow, but no family.

MAJOR BENJAMIN J. THOMPSON, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, whose death is announced, was 86 years of age, and enjoyed the distinction, now very rare, of having been present at the naval battle of Navarino, in 1827. He was then a cabin boy on board one of Admiral Codrington's ships. He was a distinguished Freemason, passing the chair of No. 406 in the year 1853; was Provincial Grand Secretary of Northumberland for many years; also P.Prov.G.Senior Warden, and an active supporter of the Charitable Institutions of the Craft.

THE mortal remains of Alderman Charles Hoskins Low were interred at Long Ashton, in the presence of a large number of personal friends and representatives of public bodies with which the deceased was connected; several members of the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 189, of which the late Alderman Low was the senior P.M., being among the number.

MASONRY'S EMBLEMS AND SYMBOLS.

By James Byron Murray, of New York.

THE teachings of Masonry taken from the Book of Scripture and the Book of Nature find their centre and strength in God, their Author and Creator, their sure sustaining power. Like the spokes of a majestic wheel, they radiate from that centre to the circumference, symbols of the everlasting. This wheel, only less grand than that the prophet saw, is full of knowledge, of zeal, of confidence and hope. Its spokes are encircled by truth, and held steadfastly by that centre, and supported in all the ways toward which they point, leaving the wheel to turn with unerring movement and balance, and accomplishes its work by displaying those exalted principles to the world which make the Fraternity a necessary part of the higher education of society.

That wheel as it revolves shows us symbols and the service of symbols. Emblems and symbols are an unalterable form of education in Freemasonry; acted history, shrines of thought. Man has not yet passed beyond their use, even in all the greatness of his intellectual progress. It is true that many symbols have passed away, but they were only those which embodied unsightly and grotesque things, or contained no ideas which would enlarge the mind or give culture to the moral nature. Even religion, that supreme gift of God, which has changed human nature, and which points out still more marvellous attainments for humanity, uses symbols as the mode of entrance to its temples of faith, as emblems of the food which nurtures the immortal spirit. God himself communicated with man by symbols, and as out of a bush of flame spoke to him, and yet did not consume him to whom He spoke by the fires of His majesty. Minds gifted with creative power have sought utterance in emblems, symbols, figures which would impress their ideas with stupendous force upon the reason of those who could mentally hear and see. In their divine and human origin, symbols became ties which have bound mind to mind from generation to generation.

Man is surrounded by symbols, in order that he may reach forth and take their treasures for his intellectual advancement or for pleasure. The world on which he treads is strewn with them as with flowers; the worlds on which he looks are starred with them as with drops of shining silver. He is taught the truths of chemistry, mathematics, navigation, beauty, order, in the grain of sand on the shore, in the waves of the sea, in the conflicts of nature, in the calm, the image of a serene unwearied peace. Not alone the philosophy which ascends to the firmament of worlds, or descends into the depths of the earth, but the philosophy which ascends to the heights of man's being, and penetrates the profounder depths of the mind, uses symbols to express the results of its humble or splendid researches. Even art itself, whether it manifests its glory in the pillared temple, or in the marble likeness of mankind, owes to them much of its laws and its preservation. They have become almost living teachers, speaking as it were, with mute lips, pointing with still hand to the verities taken from the intellect, from recesses of the outward worlds placed there by the finger of God for man's investigation. Symbols have in them the majestic or the simple, the sweet or entrancing figures, and so have moved side by side with man in his work, and have cast their burdens of knowledge or science, of wisdom and poetry before him, and made the way of him who would search into the material, moral and the intellectual nature, beautiful as a land tranquil and golden-hazed as with the riches of summer.

Symbols are to the Mason what nature is to the poet or painter. It is not their outward form, but the spirit within them, the unheard voices which find an echo, an answer, a correspondence in the mind.

The first symbol which that majestic wheel shows us in its revolutions, is one very slowly but of intense meaning as we reach its inner, special purpose. Naturally and wisely, the trowel has been chosen by the Order as a symbol of high significance. It is not only an emblem of material labour, but it is the symbol of ever progressing mental work; because Freemasonry is the unceasing toil of the building of the unseen but most superb architecture of the faculties of man into a temple or tabernacle to merge into a temple immortal. In the familiar and constant teaching of the Order, we are told that in the great work on the Temples of Judea, it was used only by master hands. They who used it proclaimed at once that in all grand works it could only be employed by those skilled and perfect in their art. As in the building of the house of stone, it placed the substance which joined the many ashlar into one solid body, so in the inner building of man's moral nature, it is the emblem wielded by a master hand to spread that substance which unites the grander human ashlar, adjusted and squared, into one Household of fellowship, one Mansion of rich ideals and splendid thought, one Home of noble and social power.

Again that wheel shows the ladder which the patriarch saw in that nightly vision on the lonely plain. This has been so often mentioned, that familiarity may have worn the bloom from its

special teaching. And yet its teaching is really great, for that ladder in its historic meaning passes back to the distant past, and in the truths it unfolds, reaches onward to the uttermost future. As the Mason advances to ascend it, he is taught that the first step is faith in God. Belief in Jehovah elevated Israel to a high position, and made it a chosen nation. That the belief in God is the first law in Masonry—a law which elevates and glorifies the Fraternity, and leaves with each member the command, that, as a citizen of a royal kingdom, he must render personal obedience and loyalty to God, the Eternal Head and Supreme Ruler of all kingdoms.

Faith reaches forward to grasp the invisible and make it most really its own. With majestic steps, a travelled pilgrim, it ascends through all firmaments, until it attains the unalterable conviction, that there is a living, personal God. For that ladder, though it seemed to rest upon the earth, came out of the open door of the heavens, resting its top at the feet of Him who stood there in glory, to manifest to men, that as Lord of heaven and earth, He was the Author, Inspirer and the Rewarder of faith. Its mystic rounds were illumined by angels as they bore their messages to the patriarchal dreamer, foreshadowing by that vision, that they should be the bearers of the divine messages to man. And in the person of the redeeming one of Bethlehem, the ladder which joins the world above and the world below, they serve, and from the door He opened in the Heavens, they descend in sacred ministry; and then as in fulfilment of their mission, they ascend, and in their hands bear up the faith of the human spirit to its God. Doubtless, again, when the soul upborne by holy aspiration, rises to lay its burdens of trust and confidence, of love and repentance on the altar of the everlasting temple to be accepted by the Father, their choirs break forth into songs of joy, music celestial and divinely sweet.

Faith is the energy of the mind; the outgoing of tireless force; the journey of the soul to a great consummation; the stimulus to royal endeavour and the promise of recompense for every sacred deed. It has been an achieving force in all the centuries; shaped destinies; transformed governments; directed kingdoms and republics, and written history as an inspiration to man for still more triumphant work than that he has yet achieved.

The next step in the ladder is Hope. This is something more glorious than science, or letters, or invention. It has been a supreme source of comfort in the ages. In the old Grecian fable, when the ills of humanity or the gifts of the gods escaped from Pandora's box, Hope alone remained. It is the shining sunbeam which warms the heart, and keeps the weary life from falling into unutterable despair. Quickened by the Spirit of the Highest, it is an inspiring force which sends forth every power of the soul in zealous ministry to fit it for a life that never ends. It is the joyous voice which proclaims that this world is but the vestibule to another world, where the stupendous longings of man shall be satisfied, and he himself, radiant with the lustres of the heavens, shall be girt about with the immortalities of the life divine.

Faith and Hope read out the meaning of our being. Charity, with which they are combined, transfigures life with colours of richer tint than those of that covenant of promise which bridges the sunray and the rain. Charity takes within its range all the powers of the soul and makes them minister to human good. And as it came from heaven in the form of personal love to find an altar in the heart of man, and burn there in unseen fire, that so it may at length ascend as incense to the God of all, and wreath the powers of the spirit in flames of affection about the steps of His everlasting throne.

In another and beautiful sense, Charity is the service of humanity. It is the sweet and patient figure vested with the milder radiance of the heavens which moves among the army of the suffering and neglected. It lays a finger of cooling touch on the burning brow of sickness; places the cup of refreshing water to the thirsting lip; fills the outstretched hands of hunger with satisfying bread; clothes the trembling body with the warmth of its compassions; heals the wound of the sorrowing heart with gentlest healing, and says in words of uttermost kindness to every condition of need or weariness, as it bestows and blesses.

Charity, in Masonry, is the moral chivalry which goes forth to meet the wrong and redress it; the unconquerable force which, in the midst of mockery and contempt, lifts the fallen brother to manliness and joy. It is the voice of sympathy which is heard by the sad and tried, clear amid the clangour of the unheeding world, and as entrancing as the finer undertones which sound so sweetly above the triumphal notes which break from the instruments of the stateliest composers of man's most exultant music.—“American Tyler.”

The mission of the Mason is to help his Brother in all laudable undertakings, and not to let private piques interfere with his judgment.—Matthew Kyle.

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.

4 Rl. Som. Ho. & Press, F.M.H.
26 Castle Harmony, Savoy Hotel
28 Old King Arms, F.H.
79 Pythagorean, Greenwich
144 St. Luke, Anderton's
183 Unity, Ship and Turtle
222 St. Andrew, Albion
706 Florence Nightingale, W'lw'ch.
302 Burgoyne, Anderton's
905 De Grey and Ripon, F.M.H.
1017 Montefiore, Café Royal
1540 Chaucer, Southwark
1632 Stuart, Camberwell
1744 Royal Savoy, Criterion
1745 Farringdon (Without), Via. H'tl
1828 Shepherd's Bush, S'pherd's B'sh
1910 Shadwell Clerke, M'kmasons'-h.
2396 Bishopsgate, Gt. Eastern Hotel
2397 Columbia, Criterion
43 St. Paul, Birmingham
48 Industry, Gateshead
62 Social, Manchester
148 Lights, Warrington
353 Royal Sussex, Winhill
491 Royal Sussex, Jersey
1008 Roy. St. Edmund's, Bury St. E.
1110 Tyrian, Eastbourne
1177 Tenby, Tenby
1218 Prince Alfred, Mossley
1258 Kennard, Pontypool
1325 Stanley, Liverpool
1688 Buxton, Buxton
1752 Ogmores, Bridgend
1753 Obedience, Okehampton
1991 Agricola, York
2042 Apollo, Liverpool
2068 Portsmouth Temperance, L'dp't.
2257 Powell, Bristol
2279 Thornham, Thornham
2363 Minnehaha Minstrel, M'chester.
2429 Research, Leicester
2547 Llangattock, Cardiff
2553 Rufford, Nottingham
2654 Arter, Moseley
2724 St. Lawrence, Northfield
2759 Rolle, Exmouth

Tuesday.

14 Tuscan, Freemasons'-hall
46 Old Union, Ship and Turtle
145 Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.
165 Hon. & Gen'sity, Inns of Co.Ho.
186 Industry, Freemasons'-hall
205 Israel, Cannon Street Hotel
259 Prince of Wales, Metropole
1158 Southern Star, Southwark
1348 Ebury, Criterion
1441 Ivy, Camberwell
1728 Temple Bar, Anderton's
2108 Empire, Criterion
2424 St. Stephen, Lewisham
2705 Playgoers, Tivoli Restaurant
253 Tyrian, Derby
299 Emulation, Dartford
310 Union, Carlisle
564 Stability, Stourbridge
597 St. Cybi, Holyhead
943 Sincerity, Norwich
1016 Elkington, Birmingham
1052 Callander, Manchester
1358 Torbay, Paignton
1390 Whitwell, Millon
1479 Halsey, St. Albans
1536 United Military, Plumstead
1566 Ellington, Maidenhead
1609 Liverpool Dramatic, Liverpool
1636 St. Cecilia, Brighton
1650 Rose of Raby, Staindrop
1675 Ancient Briton, Liverpool
1678 Medway, Tonbridge
1779 Ivanhoe, Sheffield
1834 Duke of Connaught, Landport
1896 Audley, Newport, Salop
2025 St. George, Plymouth
2328 Albert Victor, York
2339 Mistley, Manningtree
2351 Ermine, Lincoln
2358 Mona, Castletown
2404 Lord Charles Beresford, Ch't'm.
2405 Ionic, St. Helen's
2414 Wychwood, Burford
2536 Staines, Staines
2692 Hastings, Hastings
2784 Legge, West Bromwich

Wednesday.

2 Antiquity, Freemasons'-hall

201 Jordan, Freemasons'-hall
212 Euphrates, Holborn Restaurant
753 Prince Fred. Will'm., Frascati
754 High Cross, Tottenham
822 Victoria Rifles, Freemasons'-hall
898 Temperance in East, Poplar
1056 Victoria, Guildhall Tavern
1360 Royal Arthur, Wimbledon
1589 St. Dunstan, Anderton's
1718 Centurion, Inns of Court Hotel
1719 Evening Star, Freemasons'-hall
1768 Progress, Freemasons'-hall
1818 Clapham, Criterion
2332 Borough of G'n'wich, E. G'wich
2395 Avondale, Brixton
2416 Hiram, Freemasons'-hall
2455 St. Martin, Charing Cross
2650 Christ's Hospital, Newgate St

32 St. Geo. Harmony, Liverpool
76 Economy, Winchester
82 Foundation, Cheltenham
117 Salopian of Charity, Shrewsbury
163 Integrity, Manchester
220 Harmony, Garston
250 Minerva, Hull
257 Phoenix, Portsmouth
304 Philanthropic, Leeds
321 Unity, Crewe
439 Scientific, Bingley
461 Fortitude, Newton
540 Stuart, Bedford
651 Brecknock, Brecon
724 Derby, Liverpool
785 Twelve Brothers, Southampton
818 Philanthropic, Abergavenny
887 Leigh, Birmingham
996 Soudes, East Dereham
1039 St. John, Lichfield
1083 Townley Parker, Manchester
1119 St. Bede, Jarrow
1219 Strangeways, Manchester
1283 Ryburn, Sowerby Bridge
1343 Saint John, Grays
1633 Avon, Manchester
1714 Albert Edward, Yorktown
1723 St. George, Bolton
1756 Kirkdale, Liverpool
1760 Leopold, Scarborough
1775 Leopold, Church
1793 Sir Charles Bright, Teddington
1809 Fidelis, Guernsey
1868 Unity, Oldham
1953 Prudence & Industry, Chard
1967 Beacon Court, New Brompton
1989 Stirling, Cleator Moor
2019 Crook, Crook
2064 Smith Child, Tunstall
2149 Gordon, Hanley
2158 Boscombe, Boscombe
2186 Striguil, Chepstow
2216 Egerton, Swinton
2320 St. Martin, Castleton
2330 St. Lawrence, Pudsey
2373 Hardwick, Chesterfield
2385 Godson, Oldbury
2435 Wineslai, Winslow
2444 Noel, Kingston-on-Thames
2448 Bradstow, Broadstairs
2571 Holmes, Newcastle-on-Tyne
2630 Tintbury Castle, Tutbury
2701 Radcliffe, Radcliffe
2762 Lindisfarne, North Shields

Thursday.

General Committee Girls School, F.M.H., 5.
22 Neptune, Guildhall Tavern
1524 Duke of Connaught, Anderton's
2192 Highbury, Highbury
2264 Chough, Cannon Street Hotel
39 St. John Baptist, Exeter
111 Restoration, Darlington
129 Union, Kendal
475 Bed. St. John Bap., Luton
536 De Ogle, Morpeth
772 Pilgrim, Glastonbury
807 Cabbell, Norwich
966 St. Edward, Leek
1032 Townley Parker, Chorley
1097 St. Michael, Tenbury
1151 St. Andrew, Tywardreath
1166 Clarendon, Hyde
1313 Fermor, Southport
1322 Waverley, Ashton-under-Lyne
1519 Albert Edward, Clayton-le-Moors
1578 Merlin, Pontypridd

1630 St. Michael, Coventry
1884 Chine, Shanklin, Isle of Wight
1957 Grove, Hazel Grove
2269 Peace, Wigan
2418 Hedworth, South Shields

Friday.

Council Boys School, Freemason's Hall, at 4.
2766 Putney, Putney
355 R'l. S'x. Emulation, Swindon
602 North York, Middlesbrough
751 Eastnor, Ledbury
810 Craven, Skipton
1295 Gooch, New Swindon

1303 Pelham, Lewes
1386 Gladsmuir, Barnet
1391 Commercial, Leicester
1435 Annesley, Nottingham
1822 St. Quintin, Cowbridge
2431 Kingsley, Northampton

Saturday.

1706 Orpheus, Holborn Restaurant
2647 Alleyn, Dulwich
1462 Wharnccliffe, Penistone
1284 Brent, Topsham
2201 Earl of Sussex, Brighton
2609 Travellers, Chester

Sonnets of the Greek Mythology, No. 10.

TO POLYHYMNIA.

THOU "many-hymned one," thou who first didst form
The soft and tuneful, soul-enchanting lyre;
I hear thy melody above the storm
For thou it is our lyric songs inspire.
Silently sitting in a studious mood
A graceful poise about thy classic head;
Thy eyes denote sublime beatitude—
Thy face bespeaks of thoughtfulness inbred.
And, as thou riseth with thy lyre in hand
Something bewitches me, as if a potion
Sent me a glimpse of fairest fairyland.
Then know I 'tis the poetry of motion
Fresh from the region of Parnassian dews,
And which thou send'st to those who woo the muse.

Bradford.

CHAS. F. FORSHAW, M.A.

The Earls Court (No. 2765) and the Dalhousie (No. 865) Lodges of Instruction have arranged for a joint annual supper to take place on Tuesday, 27th inst., at the Greyhound Hotel, Kensington Square. The arrangements for the banquet are in the hands of the host Bro. Joel Davis, and a very successful function is anticipated. Supper will be served at 7 for 7.30 p.m., the tickets being 3s 6d each.

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The Eyre Lodge, No. 2742; and the Instruction Lodge, every Wednesday, at 8,
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of Denmark Chapter, St. Mary's Chapter and Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction,
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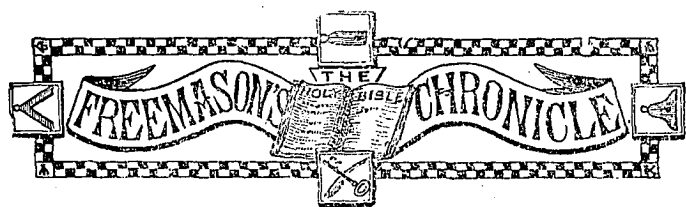
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH,

**R. W. PROV. GRAND MASTER STAFFORDSHIRE,
IN THE CHAIR.**

Brethren willing to act as Stewards are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary, as early as convenient. Stewards are much needed, and their services will be gratefully received.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

Office—5 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.



SATURDAY, 24TH MARCH 1900.

UNIQUE MASONIC MEETING.

(From the "Daily Mail" War Correspondent).

MAFERING, 26th Feb. (via Plumer's Camp, 4th March).

THE Freemason emergency meeting, on the 18th inst., was well attended, W.M. the Rev. W. H. Weeks opening the Lodge. The following Visiting Brothers were present:—Bro. H. T. Singleton, Highland Light Infantry, of St. John and St. Paul Lodge, who acted as S.W. in place of Brother Upton, killed in action at Cannon Kopje, on 21st October; Brother C. Ryan, A.S.C., Phoenix Lodge, 270, Portsmouth; Brother A. Royal, Royal Alfred Lodge, 420, Simonstown; Brother M. Cranswick, Londesborough Lodge, 734, Bridlington; Brother May, Yorkshire; Brother E. S. Wemyer, St. John's Lodge, Kilwinning, 66, Inverness; Brother A. Day, British, 334, Capetown; Brother T. Heal, Memorial Lodge, 1800, King Williamstown; Brother J. R. Algie, Prince of Wales Lodge, 1429, Newport, Mon.; Brother J. A. P. Feltham, Isaac Newton Lodge, 859, Cambridge University; Brother G. N. S. Whales, Polish National, 534, London; Brother J. McLean, St. Vincent, 553, Sandford, Over Newton, Glasgow.

The Temple shows signs of the siege, a shell having come through from the northeast.

DEVON CHARITIES.

ORGANISED by Bro. H. Moreton, a ballad concert was given in Plymouth Guildhall on the 14th inst., in aid of the Devon Masonic Aged Widows Annuity Fund. There was a fairly good audience, though the excellence of the concert and the character of its object both merited a larger measure of support. By special dispensation the Brethren present wore their Masonic clothing, and their rich regalia gave a touch of colour to the scene.

DUBLIN CHARITY.

THE Committee of Management of the Victoria Jubilee Masonic Annuity Fund have issued their tenth annual report, which states that, although the claims of other Charities have been pressing during the past year, yet the generosity of the Masonic body to this Fund has been fairly sustained, and has enabled the Committee to extend the benefits of the annuities to a larger number of distressed Brethren and Widows. There are now on the list 24 annuitants, and since the Fund was started in 1887 forty annuitants elected from all parts of Ireland have been in receipt of financial help. Of these 23 have died, and the Committee have had good grounds for believing that the last years of these deceased Brethren and Widows have been soothed by the receipt of these annual amounts which the beneficence of the Brethren under the Irish Constitution has furnished to the Fund. There has been a slight diminution in the yearly and official payments, but this can be easily accounted for when the effort of one of the charities during the year, and the great demand for donations to assist our gallant soldiers' wives and

children (whose bread-winners have been drafted to fight the nation's battles in South Africa) are taken into consideration. In such times as we are passing through, when every second family one meets has lost relatives slain in battle, the Committee are thankful that notwithstanding all the demands on their resources, the Brethren have not forgotten the claims of the Fund; and they look forward with confidence to the time when wars shall cease, and peace and plenty shall again be proclaimed in the land.

NEW HALL AT ST. BUDEAUX.

MEMBERS of the Order in the Three Towns and district were attracted in very large numbers to St. Budeaux on Wednesday, 14th inst., to take part in the dedication ceremony of the spacious and well-equipped Masonic Hall, erected for the use of Queen Victoria Lodge. Bro. G. C. Davie P.A.G.D.C. England Acting Provincial Grand Master presided, and there were also present a large number of other Provincial Officers.

At the close of the ceremony, which was carried out with perfect success, a brief address was given to the Brethren by the Acting Prov.G.M., in the course of which he expressed the pleasure he felt in acceding to the invitation to perform the dedication, and his satisfaction at seeing the Lodge so early in its career in a position to provide itself with its own premises. A venture such as that always involved a considerable financial liability on the members, and it spoke well for the future of the Lodge that they had felt themselves justified in taking the responsibility upon themselves. There was nothing which tended more to ensure the comfort of the Brethren and the stability of the Lodge than that it should possess its own premises. He trusted the building would become the centre of their Masonic life, and would remind them of the duties which they owed to each other and to the Craft. Speaking of the lessons to be drawn from the application of the symbols used in the foundation and dedication of a Lodge he said that sorry as he should be to see Freemasonry degenerate into a society in which entertainments entered most strongly, he would not like to see that feature disappear altogether, because when moderately indulged in they did considerable good in bringing the Brethren together and cementing friendships.

Subsequently the Provincial and Lodge Officers and the Brethren lunched together at the Trelawney Hotel, under the chairmanship of the W.M. Colonel Edyvean.

After the Loyal toast, the Grand Lodge of England was given from the chair, and acknowledged by Bro. F. B. Westlake.

The Acting P.G.M. responded for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon, and also submitted the health of the W.M. of Lodge Queen Victoria, in terms of warm eulogy. The compliment was suitably replied to, and other speeches followed.

The following is the text of the resolution of the two Grand Lodges of Bombay, presented to Lord Sandhurst previous to his departure for England, as reported in our issue of the 10th inst.: "That this meeting of Freemasons of the English and Scottish Constitutions in Bombay desire to place on record their sense of the great services rendered to the Craft in Bombay by H. E. Worshipful Brother Lord Sandhurst, G.C.I.E., Pro District Grand Master and Grand Master of All Scottish Freemasons in India, during his term of office as Governor of Bombay, especially the assistance rendered by His Excellency which has resulted in a suitable Masonic Hall being erected and opened for the use of the Fraternity in Bombay; also to express their regret at his approaching departure from India, and, while wishing him every prosperity in the future, to assure him that his name will long be remembered in this country for the good work he has done, and that he leaves with the hearty good wishes of all Members of the Craft in Western India."

ROYAL ARCH.

—:o:—

INVICTA CHAPTER, No. 709.

THE Installation Festival of this Chapter, which boasts as its original First Principal Earl Amherst Grand Superintendent of the Province of Kent, was held at the Bank Street Hall, Ashford, on Wednesday, 14th inst., when Comp. Charles Loud was installed as M.E.Z., Comp. William Daves P.Z. as H., and Comp. Edmund Pawlett as J. The various ceremonies were admirably rendered by Comp. Benjamin Snell, M.A., P.Z. P.Prov.G.J.

The following Officers were invested:—Comps. F. Hughes Hallett P.Z. S.E., Robert Elliott P.Z. Treasurer, C. F. Hughes Hallett S.N., A. J. Burrows P.S., Bernard C. Drake and James M. A. Ponica Assistants, John Cooke Janitor.

The Companions and their numerous visitors afterwards dined together at the Kent Arms Hotel.

Books of the Day.

—: o :—

Books, Music, &c. intended for review, should be addressed to the Editor of the *Freemason's Chronicle*, at Fleet Works, New Barnet.

—: o :—

The English Church from its foundation to the Norman conquest (597-1066). By William Hunt, M.A. (7s 6d).—Macmillan and Co., Limited.

This is the first volume of a great work on a great subject. To whatever school of thought a writer may belong, the history of the church is one of the greatest subjects to which he can turn his attention. This volume, although the first of seven, may be regarded as comprising a complete history in itself—the history of the English Church from the earliest times to the Norman Conquest. The period here treated covers nearly 500 years. The stream of authentic record, so narrow at the first, rapidly gains breadth as we proceed. How full that stream becomes may be judged from the fact that while the writer confines himself almost solely to legitimate history and chronicle, he has nevertheless filled 400 closely printed octavo pages with the story of the rise and progress of Christianity in England. We wish to speak of this history very highly. There are many books upon the same subject; yet we venture to say there is hardly a serious rival to this work in the field. It is written throughout with scrupulous regard to historic truth, and with such masterly literary skill that we have found it as fascinating as a volume of Macaulay's Essays. The arrangement of material and the grouping of subordinate detail around certain epochs and persons is worthy of particular commendation. It is indeed a wonderful story which Mr. Hunt here narrates. The primitive monastery in Iona; the mission of Augustine and the rise of the church in Kent; the work of Aidan in Northumbria; the lives of Cuthbert, of Bede, and of Cædmon; the monastic revival and the growth of Benedictinism; these interesting topics are discussed with rare insight and a still rarer impartiality. It is difficult to choose where so much is worthy of praise; but we may venture the opinion that the summary of the life and influence of King Alfred is the finest chapter in this volume. Of one thing we are confident: this book, if carefully read and conscientiously meditated would silence much of the ignorant criticism so glibly uttered against the Church of England by persons whose knowledge of her history is ridiculously meagre. There is but little controversy here; but one fact is clearly brought out as the narrative proceeds: whereas many speak of the church as the child of the state it would be far safer to speak of the state as the child of the church. Mr. Hunt shows that, in England at least, the history of the preservation of learning and the history of the church are inseparably blended. *Quis Separabit?*

In Tune with the Infinite, or fullness of peace, power, and plenty. By Ralph Waldo Trine (3s 6d net).—George Bell and Sons.

To descend upon cause and effect, unseen and seen, spiritual and natural, is ever a difficult task, worthy of a born psychologist. Yet Mr. Trine has, in our judgment, handled these subjects very successfully, and so lucid is his style that we have met with no passage which at first sight does not deliver up its meaning. That the author has closely read Emerson we doubt not; indeed we are reminded in several places of the essay on the Over-soul. Mr. Trine would have all understand that within them lie the same forces, dormant and weak from non-exercise, as lay within the soul of the greatest man that ever lived. "What one has done all can do." He believes in the almost unlimited freedom and power of the will. He is no pessimist; he does not believe that man is the creature of circumstances; he must master them if he would make life a success. Never take a low standard; think something of yourself and, getting into direct contact with the Infinite Spirit of Fullness and Power work as though failure were unknown. This is Mr. Trine's Gospel, if we read him rightly. Perhaps the chapter on the "Fullness of Life, Bodily Health and Vigour" will most strongly interest most readers. Wouldst thou be healthy and strong? Then believe that thou art, is the author's advice, reminding us of Socrates' advice to Alcibiades. Many Christian teachers will hardly agree with all that is in this volume. Yet Mr. Trine is neither an infidel nor a sceptic. We are sincerely thankful to him for what is in many ways a very timely volume, and a word of praise is certainly due to Messrs. Bell for its general "get up." The printing is delightfully clear, and the wide margins would have pleased Mr. Ruskin.

In London's Heart. By George R. Sims (2s).—Chatto and Windus.

READERS of the multifarious writings of Mr. George R. Sims will find nothing here either to pleasantly surprise or to disappoint. Never very original or profound, this writer is never dull and seldom commonplace. He is perhaps the foremost of that large body of versatile writers who can produce readable copy on any subject whatever—Billiards, Horses, Pawn-brokers, Half-holidays, Life in London, or Tadmor in the Wilderness. Such writers usually pay the penalty of their versatility. They rarely give us a book marked by those qualities which Prof. Palgrave has called "distinction." Having premised this limitation we must say at once that "In London's Heart" is, throughout, a very fair specimen of "Dagonet" at his best, for it shows his habitual shrewdness, his wide knowledge of men and things, and his kindly nature without calling forth certain eccentricities of treatment and style which we have sometimes met with in his other writings. It is the work of one intimately acquainted with divers and diverse fraternities that collectively make up the tableaux of our great capital. We could wish the characters somewhat fewer, and the plot less intricate and confusing; but all the characters are entertaining. All sorts and conditions of men are called up to make sport for us, or to teach us a wholesome truth—millionaire, burglar, music-hall singer, ticket-of-leave man, money lender, "slavey." It would be well for us if all writers of prose fiction were as uniformly bright and genial as the author of this book. Some of our earliest memories are associated with his writings, and we are always glad to meet with a fresh volume from his pen.

British Policy in South Africa. By Spenser Wilkinson. Third Edition (1s).—Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., Limited.

In a multitude of councillors there is wisdom. So wrote one rather longer ago than the day before yesterday, and according to his dictum we should be wise indeed on questions of South African policy. Writers of different creeds or of no creed at all have hastened, with feverish anxiety for our enlightenment, to narrate history, to record their personal adventures, to explain the problem. Among them is Mr. Spenser Wilkinson, whose views on the future of the British Empire, on the Army and Navy, on Education and many other subjects of the day are well-known. In this little volume on British Policy in South Africa he has spoken, as he usually does, with a voice of no uncertain sound. He is a good hater, and strikes out often and in many directions. The Boers, Mr. Gladstone, and Dr. Jameson are summarily ealt with. Perhaps it is as well for the author that earnest students of story are not likely to take his book too seriously. Certain references to

the Grecian and Roman Empires suggest very obvious and pertinent replies in which we must not indulge. Moreover, we are told that "the British aristocracy of the eighteenth century had something of the Roman strength; the British democracy of to-day is not without the Athenian weakness." Both these allusions are unfortunate. We commend Mr. Charles Colbeck's introduction to Cæsar's Commentaries to Mr. Wilkinson's attention; and as to the democracy would remark that it is strange doctrine that "a democracy cannot possibly govern dependencies!" Mr. Wilkinson is certainly aware that we are at present governed by the man in the street, and have more dependencies than any other nation—and are likely to retain them, despite the democracy. The "Pro-Boer" should certainly read this book, for it is written by one who has great knowledge, and shows very clearly, at least, that much can be said on both sides.

THE Sermons preached by Bro. Archdeacon Sinclair Past Grand Chaplain at St. Paul's Cathedral, last year, will be published in numbers at short intervals by Mr. Thomas Burleigh, at 17 Cecil Court, W.C.

THE twenty-seventh annual issue of Bro. Willing's Press Guide contains a mass of useful information for those whose business brings them into touch with the newspapers of the day. The work is compiled with the same care as has marked previous issues, and the concise way in which the information is given makes it of special service to those who have but little time to spare for mastering a mass of details.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

A Fair Brigand. By George Horton. Illustrated by Edmund J. Sullivan (3s 6d).—Ward, Lock and Co., Limited.

The White Rose. By G. J. Whyte-Melville. Illustrated by S. E. Waller (3s 6d).—Ward, Lock and Co., Limited.

A Man of his Age. By Hamilton Drummond. Illustrated by J. Ambrose Walton (3s 6d).—Ward, Lock and Co., Limited.

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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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THE JUBILEE MASTERS LODGE, No. 2712.

THE second anniversary of the consecration of this highly successful Lodge took place on Friday, 16th inst., at the Hotel Cecil, Strand, W.C., the handsome Temple being filled with a large concourse of Brethren, including some twenty Officers of Grand Lodge, who had assembled to assist at a very pleasing function. Established in 1898 to commemorate the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign by the association of Worshipful Masters who had occupied the chair during the preceding year, the Lodge has achieved great popularity, and over 150 Masters have become joining members. The idea of thus uniting the various Lodges in the persons of the Masters is an excellent one, as there is always something to be learned individually, while the Order and the Masonic Charities must benefit by the interchange of opinions.

The Lodge was opened by Bro. Joseph David Langton P.D.G.D.C., the retiring W.M., and he was supported by his Officers: Alderman Vaughan Morgan I.P.M., Dr. Fredk. Lawrence S.W., Scott Miller J.W., Major Eustace Anderson Secretary, Harry Nicholls S.D., William Briant J.D., J. Tollworthy I.G.

Among those present were Bros. George Richards District G.M. Transvaal, Sir J. B. Monckton P.G.W., J. W. Woodall P.G.T., Edward Terry P.G.T., Edward Letchworth Grand Secretary, Alderman Sir William Treloar, Richard Clowes P.G.S.B., J. J. Thomas P.G.S.B., J. Boulton P.G.P., E. St. Clair P.A.G.D.C., Henry Neville P.A.G.D.C., W. Lake A.G.Sec., Bartley Dennis P.P.G.W. Middx., Dr. Coffin, Newton Crane, Thomas Lyon, Jack Harrison, W. Singleton Hooper, Lionel Harris, A. J. Thomas, F. W. Williams, Trebawke Davies, Dr. Gervis, A. W. H. Jones, W. W. Lee, Kemp, Hart, Recknell, Inglis, Catten, Verdier, Herbert Burns, Fennell, Woodhouse, H. J. Davis, H. T. Brickwell, Bush, A. G. and E. Pidduck, Langford, Edwards, Durrant, and several others.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed the ballot was taken and proved unanimous in favour of the following Brethren as joining members: Bros. Charles Imre Kiralfy W.M. Empress Lodge, No. 2581; Edward Roehrich W.M. Verity Lodge, No. 2739; Eugene Barnett W.M. Savage Club Lodge, No. 2190; John Woodhouse W.M. Burlington Lodge, No. 96; Henry John Homer W.M. City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563; Frederick William Golby W.M. Neptune Lodge, No. 22; Edward Nash W.M. Harmony Lodge, No. 255; Frederick Greville Kemble W.M. Panmure Lodge, No. 715; Christopher Finch-Hatton W.M. United Service Lodge, No. 1361; Thomas Mason W.M. St. Martin Lodge, No. 2455; Alfred Salmon W.M. Lodge of Faith, No. 141; and Alfred William Henry Jones W.M. Shepherds Bush Lodge, No. 1828.

The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Imre Kiralfy W.M.-elect was presented by Bro. Vaughan Morgan, and repeated, without dictation, the customary obligation. Upon its termination Bro. Maxwell sang Mendelssohn's beautiful anthem "Be thou faithful unto death." Bro. Kiralfy was then invested, and placed in the chair by Bro. Langton. At the conclusion of the ceremony Bro. Kiralfy was saluted by an assembly of Past Masters seldom, if ever, exceeded in a private Lodge.

The following Officers, who are carefully selected by the Permanent Committee, and recommended to the Master for appointment, were then invested:—Bros. Fredk. C. Van Duzer S.W., Walter Dennis J.W., Eustace Anderson Treasurer, J. D. Langton Secretary, Thomas Whitford, M.A., S.D., Thos. Jas. Bolton J.D., Col. C. H. Reid Todd D.C., John H. Milton I.G., William Hunt, Arthur E. Samuel and Constant Edward Osman Stewards, and R. F. Potter Tyler.

The Addresses were delivered by Bro. Langton, needless to say in a most perfect manner, and elicited the well merited appreciation of the assembly.

Bro. Kiralfy then rose, and said that his first official duty was to present to his predecessor, in the name of the Lodge, the Past Master's jewel that had been voted to him by the Brethren, in recognition, not only of his occupation of the chair, but of many other services to the Lodge, especially during its organisation. He trusted he might be spared for many years to wear it and be present among them.

Bro. Langton briefly returned thanks for the compliment, and stated that the previous twelve months had been one of his most pleasant years in connection with Freemasonry.

The W.M. was delegated to represent the Lodge at the next Festival of the Masonic Boys School, whereupon Bro. Kiralfy promised a donation of twenty-five guineas.

Several joining members were proposed, and two resignations were accepted with regret. The Secretary read the communication from Grand Lodge with reference to the distress of the Brethren in the Transvaal District. Bro. Kiralfy said he thought it was a privilege to help in such a cause, and hoped the members would assist to the best of their ability. Not content with his previous generosity our worthy Brother stated that he would head the list with fifty guineas, and as will be seen later on a very substantial amount was collected.

The Report of the Permanent Committee was received and adopted, and there being no further business the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the meeting adjourned.

The installation banquet was appropriately held in the magnificent Victoria Hall, the company numbering one hundred and fifty. After due justice had been rendered to the very excellent menu provided, the Worshipful Master, who was received with great enthusiasm, rose to propose the toast of the Queen. He trusted her heart might be gladdened in the future, as it must have been during the last few days, by the success of her army in South Africa. She was beyond all praise, for she had proved herself the noblest of daughters, the best of wives, and certainly the most loving of mothers, and loveable of queens. The toast was drunk with all respect and honour, and Miss Mary Glover sang the National Anthem.

With regard to the Grand Master, Bro. Kiralfy said H.R.H. had advanced Freemasonry by every means in his power, and in himself represented the good feeling of Brotherhood. One day he was found representing the Queen

at a Levée at the Palace, and the next he was seen at a poor man's restaurant, partaking of a fourpenny-halfpenny dinner.

Bro. Sir John Monckton responded for the Grand Officers, with one of his humorous little speeches which are so delightful to listen to, but to which we cannot do justice in cold print, and therefore refrain.

The W.M. said he desired to interpolate a toast not upon the list, but which he was sure would be well received by the company present. It was that of "Our Absent Brethren in South Africa, Bro. Lord Roberts, Bro. Lord Kitchener, and all the other Brethren," an announcement that called forth hearty cheers from those present. In the name of the Lodge Bro. Kiralfy said he had just sent them the following cablegram:

"From Jubilee Masters Lodge, Hotel Cecil, London, to General Roberts, Bloemfontein.

Send hearty congratulations on your great achievement—Kiralfy."

All present hoped that the war would soon cease, when he was sure the Boers would find that the English did not come as enemies, but as friends. He would call upon Bro. Richards, the District Grand Master of the Transvaal, to respond. The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Bro. Richards said he rose with great diffidence because at the present time it was difficult for him to clothe his language with proper reserve, and he felt as though skating on very thin ice. He expressed his sincere appreciation for their Fraternal greeting, and thanks to the Craft in general for the magnificent response it had made to his appeal for assistance. It was worthy of the reputation of English Freemasonry. This toast would include the name of one of England's greatest Generals, and the telegram sent to him would doubtless cheer him in his anxious duties. Lord Roberts might be likened to the Preceptor of a Lodge of Instruction to the Boers, who was doing wonderfully good work; and he hoped it would not be long before he would be able to cast off labour and enjoy a refreshment thoroughly well deserved. There was a sad side to the question, however, and as they had heard the message from the Grand Master for assistance, he could assure them the appeal was no idle one. The magnificent support of Grand Lodge, which had contributed a thousand guineas for the relief of the distressed, had been followed by the splendid generosity of Bro. Kiralfy, and he tendered him and the Lodge his deep gratitude for their charity. The District over which he presided was a lovely one, but was enveloped by the darkness of ignorance and despotism; they now looked forward to the coming dawn for which they had so long hoped and waited. There were some lessons to be given first; but the day would come when all would be united in Peace, Harmony, and Concord, and be proud to belong to the greatest Empire the world had ever seen, welded together with Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

The speech of Bro. Richards invoked loud and frequent applause, and he resumed his seat amidst the cheers of the assembly.

Space prohibits us from giving in detail the complimentary remarks of Bro. Letchworth, who proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, and the excellent reply of Bro. Kiralfy, who announced that before the termination of his year of office he would have something to propose that he thought would give them satisfaction.

An Englishman, a Frenchman, and an Italian, speaking in their various languages, returned thanks for the Visitors. It was an unique occasion, and will doubtless be long remembered as testifying to the universality of Freemasonry.

The first was Bro. Sir William Treloar, who made a most witty and amusing response, which was much enjoyed.

The second was Bro. Mondehore W.M. of La France Lodge, who said he had much pleasure to respond that evening to the toast, so pleasantly proposed by the Master of the Jubilee Masters Lodge. He was a stranger in England, yet by permission of H.R.H. the Grand Master they had been privileged to establish a Lodge of Frenchmen under the Constitution of England. He had the honour to return thanks for their kind reception. He admired the beautiful ceremony to which they had listened that evening in the Lodge; it was well done. Might he express the hope that some day the Brethren would visit his Lodge, and see how they rendered the English ritual in French. The Master was a good man, and a true Freemason. They hoped the Lodge would prosper.

The third was Bro. Gallizia, Master of the Lodge d'Italia, who, unfortunately, we were unable to follow; but he was understood to invite the Brethren to hear, in his Lodge, the ritual as he had himself translated it from the English.

Bro. Kiralfy announced that the list for Bro. Richards' Fund amounted to 135 guineas, but he hoped to raise the sum to at least £150.

The Installing Master and the Officers having been complimented, the Tyler's toast brought the very pleasant evening to a close.

Bro. James Kift, besides officiating as Organist in the Lodge, provided an excellent entertainment, in which he was assisted by Miss M. Glover, Dutch Daly, Bros. Maxwell, E. Terry, and Dr. Byrd Page; but on this occasion the speeches were the attraction of the evening.

A telegram was received from Bro. Lord Roberts, on Sunday, by Bro. Imre Kiralfy, in response to the one he sent from the Lodge, referred to above, the reply running:

"Bloemfontein, Saturday, 4.25 p.m.

I tender my sincere thanks to members Jubilee Masters Lodge for their kind and encouraging message.—Roberts."

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ALFRED NEWTON LODGE, No. 2686.

MASONIC Lodges are, in very many respects, but the reflex of personal dispositions, and hence it is that the famous lines of Shakespeare, that "some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them" apply with equal force to our Lodges as to individuals. The Alfred Newton Lodge may certainly be included under the first heading, inasmuch as its founder, sponsor, and first Worshipful Master is now Lord Mayor of the City of London, and it naturally follows that some of the splendour of that exalted position is reflected in the Lodge at Kensington, in which his lordship has taken so prominent a part during the two years of its existence. Whether or not the Lodge will ever win for itself the right to a place in the second category time alone can prove, although we may thus early refer to the fact that it has already achieved a certain amount of distinction—we can hardly term it greatness—in installing one of its own initiates as Worshipful Master for the third year of its existence. Of course there is nothing absolutely wrong in such rapid advancement, but we cannot believe any good purpose is served by so unusual a course of action, and we fail to see how it is possible for any member of a Lodge to rise thus rapidly to the highest position it is in the power of the Brethren to confer, without upsetting all recognised rules of procedure, unless it be that the Lodge was really established for the purpose of hatching the Masonic chicken which has so soon assumed all the glory of mature growth; and if the Founders of the

Lodge actually did combine for this purpose, we can only say they acted quite contrary to the principles of Freemasonry, and wholly at variance with the opinion of our Grand Master, and other leaders of the Craft, one and all of whom are averse to upsetting the regular laws of advancement in Masonic matters, preferring rather to "make haste slowly," than to attempt anything approaching the creating of Masons "at sight," which is regarded as such an exalted privilege by some of the Grand Masters who rule over our Brethren on the other side of the Atlantic. However this may be, the fact remains that Bro. H. Kottingham Newton, D.L., son of the Lord Mayor, who was proposed as a candidate for initiation when the Lodge was consecrated two years since, and was regularly initiated, passed, and raised at its earliest meetings, has now been installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, after having served the office of Junior Warden during the last twelve months—clearly a case entitling him to be included among those who "have greatness thrust upon them," but in making these observations we distinctly wish it understood we by no means desire to cast a reflection on the Brother who has been thus honoured, or on the Brethren who have taken this means of honouring him. The course of procedure we here object to—on principle—may be perfectly justifiable in exceptional cases; and we are ready to admit that there are good and tangible reasons that may make our criticism appear somewhat out of place in this instance, as we are aware our young Brother owes his rapid promotion, primarily, to the ability he early displayed in the Lodge of Instruction; and, later on, to the almost natural desire of the members to show him special honour during the year in which his father occupied the distinguished position of Lord Mayor of London. The principle of the thing is bad, but in this case there is much to justify the innovation, and we trust the Brother who has been thus specially honoured may so manage the affairs of his Lodge during his term of Mastership as to prove to the Masonic world that the departure from the usual routine of preferment by seniority, in favour of the system enjoined in the "Ancient Charges" of the Craft, where it is laid down that "all preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only," was fully justified, and was, in this particular case, productive of the best results, both as far as the Craft at large, and the individual Lodge, is concerned; but, even in such a case, we should be sorry to see the example held up as a pattern worthy of imitation in other directions.

This year's installation was held at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, on Saturday last, under the presidency of Bro. A. J. Naughton W.M., who was supported by most of the members of the Lodge, and a large number of visiting Brethren, among whom were several distinguished Officers of Grand Lodge, the attendance book being signed by the following Visitors: Alderman Vaughan Morgan P.G. Treasurer, R. Clowes P.G. Std. Bearer, J. M. McLeod P.G. Sword Bearer, Sir Forrest Fulton, Q.C., D.G. Registrar, Imre Kiralfy P.A.G.D.C., James Terry P.G. Sword Bearer, R. H. Williams P.P.G.J.D. Middx., F. Skinner 1891, The Hon. Chas. H. Tufton 2305, T. G. Hodges 1623, F. J. Hunt 194, E. T. Garland 2763, T. R. Sly 2763, E. J. Hurran 1107, W. Woolincroft 172, Prof. F. Driver 45, R. F. Ford 2361, S. Garcia 1402, C. Greenwood 1426, S. Tattmanti 1681, J. Gerson, J. M. Doughty 2331, J. Kingston 193, J. A. Thichthoyce 1947, E. J. Davis 2949, J. G. Doncaster 834, G. Harris 1693, E. J. Turnbull 190, R. Emanuel 1196, G. W. Turner 858, H. J. Thomas 753, W. W. Morgan 177, W. Lower 2090, F. A. Atkinson 1671, H. Hanvers 1185, J. P. Fitzgerald 2772, W. Gan 190, J. H. Stephens 529, J. T. Rowe 167, H. S. Croker 190, F. Gordon Smith 1056, C. H. Weil 1728, J. D. Webb 1314, J. H. Crellin 1319.

Members present included Bros. A. J. Naughton W.M., the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor Sir Alfred Newton, Bart., I.P.M., D. F. Norrington S.W., H. K. Newton J.W., W. B. Abbott Sec., E. J. Rix S.D., H. J. Thwaites J.D., A. Strutt D.C., W. Windsor Organist, J. W. Jupe Musical Director, W. H. Eardley, H. Burbidge, F. LeSueur and A. E. Catchpole Stewards, S. Ellis Tyler, J. J. Thomas P.G. Std. Bearer, John Brock P.P.S.G.D. Kent, B. Robinson P.P.G.P. Worcester, C. Garton P.M., R. T. Pearce P.M., C. Bonham P.M., T. Casely P.M., M. J. Jessop P.M., C. Bland, J. Richmond, H. Redgrave, A. S. Howell, F. Walton, A. Swann, L. A. Cohen, F. Pegrum, W. Skilton, W. C. Freeman, E. Davis, G. Hinds, E. Vernon, P. W. V. Brookes, W. F. Mc Neil, H. Day, H. C. Arthur, H. Johnson.

The business, apart from the chief ceremony of the year, was of a merely routine nature, and consequently Bro. Naughton early handed over his authority to Bro. J. J. Thomas Past Grand Standard Bearer of England, who acted as Installing Master, and well maintained his high reputation as a careful and brilliant exponent of the ritual of Freemasonry.

In due course the Officers for the year were appointed, the following being the Brethren on whom the different collars were bestowed: Bros. D. F. Norrington S.W., Arthur Strutt J.W., J. Bailey, M.P., Treasurer (absent), W. Banister Abbott P.M. Secretary, R. W. Burbidge Deputy Treasurer, E. J. Rix S.D., T. G. Heighington J.D., W. Windsor Organist, J. W. Jupe I.G., W. H. Eardley D.C., A. G. Howell Musical Director, H. Burbidge, G. C. E. Gelardi, H. Redgrave, and F. LeSueur Stewards, S. Ellis P.M. Tyler. Then followed the three addresses by Bro. Thomas, and the work of installation was completed.

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor was most heartily received on his entrance into the Lodge, and it was very appropriate that he should be the first to congratulate his son on his installation, when the ceremony of placing him in the chair had been finished.

The new Master was particularly pleased that his first duty in the chair was to present the Past Master's jewel to his predecessor. Pleased because it was a tangible proof that he was indeed an Installed Master in the Craft, and also because it afforded him the earliest opportunity of expressing his indebtedness to Bro. Naughton, to whom he really owed all he knew, and all he had done in Freemasonry. Bro. Naughton had worked ably and zealously on behalf of the Alfred Newton Lodge, and left the chair with the good wishes of the members, who trusted he might long live to enjoy the fruits of his labours on their behalf.

A proposal to alter the days of meeting, reducing the number to four in each year, was agreed to, and then the Lodge was closed, a noticeable feature at this part of the proceedings being the absence of any expressions of "Good wishes" on the part of the visitors, not, we are convinced, through any want of kindly feeling on the part of the numerous guests, or any lack of loyalty; but rather because several Grand Officers and other leaders in the Craft have decided to discourage the practice, averring that private members, visitors or otherwise, have no right to pledge their Lodges in such a manner, unless specially delegated to do so. Whatever the reason, or the grounds for the omission, we think it is to be regretted, as robbing our meetings of one of their most pleasing features; and we can only hope that the time honoured custom may ere long be restored to us, limited, as it certainly should be, to the visitors alone. It is the absurdity of every member of the Master's own Lodge individually tendering "Heartly good wishes" that has brought the practice into disrepute; the members of the Lodge itself seem to forget they paid their respects to the new Master when in the course of the ceremony they saluted and honoured him in the three degrees, and to offer a parrot

like expression of their feelings at the end of the day's work is so absurd as to have brought down disapproval of the practice in its entirety—it is commendable and most desirable on the part of the visitors; an abuse when repeated by the members of the Lodge likewise.

The company repaired to the Empress Rooms of the Hotel, which were probably specially arranged for the occasion to illustrate the universality of Freemasonry, combining as they did the luxurious surroundings of fashionable London, with the icy chilliness of the arctic regions, and we think the management deserve our commiseration, as it seemed quite impossible for them to do anything to throw the very necessary warmth into the atmosphere. But a dainty and tastily served dinner put a little life into some of our neighbours, and our spirits rose with the rest, so that we were enabled to enjoy the very brief speeches which followed in regular order afterwards.

The Worshipful Master made a hit in keeping with the spirit of the times when he said the Grand Officers were the heads of the army which our Grand Master commanded, and on the result of their manoeuvres depended the success of the whole Craft.

Bro. Vaughan Morgan P.G.T. responded, tendering thanks and congratulations on behalf of the Officers of the Craft, and particularly on behalf of the city contingent, for the great success of the evening. The working in the Lodge had been so good as to afford evidence of the marked success and prosperity of the Lodge in the future.

The Immediate Past Master Bro. A. J. Naughton next rose to propose what he deemed to be the toast of the evening—the health of the Worshipful Master, whom they were all delighted to have back amongst them once more, and to give him a right hearty welcome on his return from the seat of war, whither he went in company with the C.I.V.s., at the request of the Commanding Officer, Col. MacKinnon, to complete the chain of organisation so ably begun at the Mansion House, and in which Bro. Newton had taken so prominent a part. He worked very hard in seconding the efforts of his illustrious father, to get the City Battalions to the front in good time, which they had seen was most successfully accomplished; and it was no small sacrifice for the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress to have spared their only son to go to South Africa, and run the risks which he was bound to do, even though his mission was a civil one. Most of them had known the Worshipful Master since his early college days, and were proud to see him attain the chair in the Lodge to which his father had given his name; and he was sure all would join in wishing him a happy and successful year of Office.

The W.M. replied, thanking Bro. Naughton most sincerely for his kind words, and the Brethren for their reception of the toast. He felt perfectly confident he would have the support of his Officers and the other members of the Lodge. If the necessary dispensation could be secured he should propose to hold the next meeting of the Lodge at the Mansion House, where his father, the first Master of the Lodge, would be pleased to welcome them. Needless to say this announcement was most heartily received, and no doubt the members of the Lodge are looking forward to so unusual an event as the holding of a Private Lodge meeting at the home of the chief magistrate of the City of London. We hope the Grand Lodge authorities will offer no objection to the proposition, as we believe such an event would not only be gratifying to the Masons who might take part in it, but would also tend to cement the good feeling already existing between the Craft and the city authorities.

The W.M. next proposed the toast of the Installing Master. He felt all that could be urged had already been said in praise of Bro. Thomas, who was a most estimable member of the Craft.

Bro. Thomas tendered his thanks. He considered it particularly kind of the Worshipful Master to express himself so heartily as he had done in recognition of his services to the Lodge. He had the very great pleasure of initiating the present Master into Freemasonry, and it had on that account afforded him particular gratification to instal him into the chair of the Lodge.

For special reasons the W.M. now desired to alter the programme of toasts, and give them the Past Masters, Treasurer and Secretary of the Lodge. He considered that to the Secretary the members owed very many thanks, as really a great amount of the work of the Lodge depended upon him; and he performed his duties in such a way as to merit their highest approval. The Immediate Past Master he would refer to in a special toast, and there therefore remained the first Master of the Lodge, the Lord Mayor of London. The Brethren and the country at large were aware of the work the Lord Mayor had done for the cause of the Empire, and he was delighted to give him the opportunity of responding to the toast in his own Lodge—the Lodge which bore his name, and in the inauguration of which he had done so much.

The Lord Mayor replied. He was deeply sensible of the very kind way in which they had received mention of his name, but it occurred to him that matters foreign to their meeting had been introduced that night. He was not very surprised, however, because he was aware of the very kind bond of fellowship existing between him and them. The W.M. had referred to his work in the city; it was no exaggeration to say that patriotism had led to enthusiasm which had caused the pulse to beat in every hamlet and town of the kingdom, and it was only right that the greatest corporation of the land rose to its place. They felt the Great City had maintained its name and its prestige in the history of the country. He found a very pleasing duty devolved upon him, in the carrying out of a custom they had started in the Lodge, of presenting a small token to the Worshipful Master, and he was very gratified in then having the opportunity of asking the Master's acceptance of the little token of their approval; which took the form of a silver mug.

The gift was cordially accepted, and some other toasts, including those of the Immediate Past Master, the Masonic Charities, the Visitors, and the Officers of the Lodge, having been given and acknowledged, the proceedings were brought to a conclusion at a late hour.

DORIC LODGE, No. 933.

IT was arranged that the members should have an opportunity of inviting their wives, daughters, and lady friends to a special celebration, and consequently Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, was made particularly lively on Tuesday of last week.

Of course the Lodge was conducted in due form in the first instance, with closed doors, but when the W.M. Bro. Harry J. Seal took the chair there was little to do but to read the minutes and correspondence.

Something like a hundred did the company number of "fair women and brave men," as Byron might have called them, and after an enjoyable repast a brief toast list was gone through, an enjoyable entertainment filling the intervals.

CITY OF LONDON LODGE, No. 901.

THE Annual Festival of this well known Lodge took place on Monday, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street, E.C., when the W.M. Bro.

Joseph Hutton was supported by Bros. R. W. Dobing I.P.M., William H. Haylock W.M.-elect S.W., Edward Beadle J.W., Henry Harbord P.M. Treas., W. R. Haylock P.M. Sec., W. Reeve S.D., W. Grant J.D., Th. Leete acting I.G., James Haskins P.P.G.O. E. and H. Org., H. Carpenter and Geo. Smith Stewards; Past Masters George Inglish, Fred Eade, R. Gillard, A. H. Smith, G. Gross, and several others; with George A. Bolland, C. A. Harrison, A. Lidgate, G. Ralling, W. Quinton, W. Chandler, W. Bridgen, A. R. Rome, W. J. Jeffries, A. Cooper, C. Riley, W. H. White, T. Dally, F. Uffelmann, F. C. Dearling, F. Hall, B. Cohen, W. Whittenbury, A. Britton, Moss B. Cohen, Dr. Owen, A. T. Yardley, A. A. Stewart, Jas. G. West, W. E. Goodchild, D. Mills, A. Lang, W. C. Hobbs, T. London, James Knope, G. R. Murrell, T. J. Lingley, J. Lunn, W. L. Quin.

Among the Visitors were Bros. J. R. Casey 2417, W. Prichard 1507, A. E. Purkis W.M. 1314, A. Payne P.M. 1314, A. Bench 1512, A. H. Hickman P.M. 228, J. Markham S.W. 169, G. Herbert Burns W.M. 1607, G. Vears P.M. 145, Jos. Gunn 145, A. Wood P.M. 1185, T. Davies I.P.M. 1381, R. Brett 1558, R. West 1744, R. Griffiths 1677, J. D. Moncrieff 2696, J. Wynman, &c.

The Lodge being formed the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, as also was the Report of the Auditors.

Bros. W. J. Jeffries and W. Chandler, who had been regularly initiated at the previous meeting, answered the questions in a very satisfactory manner. They were entrusted and retired, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and they were in due course passed as Fellow Crafts.

This work being ended the W.M. read the letter from Grand Lodge as to support for South African Brethren, and urged the members to give the matter their best consideration. As a result, Bro. Harbord P.M. Treasurer proposed that the sum of twenty guineas be voted from the Lodge funds, which was seconded and unanimously agreed to.

The W.M. declared all offices vacant and proceeded with the work of installation, Bro. R. Gillard P.M. presenting Bro. Haylock as W.M.-elect.

Bro. Hatton addressed the incoming Master on the duties of the high office to which he had been elected, to which Bro. Haylock signified his assent and took the obligation.

A Board of Installed Masters was declared, and Bro. Haylock, according to ancient rule and custom, was conducted to the chair.

The Brethren were re-admitted, and the new Worshipful Master was proclaimed and saluted, the inner and outer working of the Installation being wholly worked by Bro. Hatton, and we may add we have seldom heard it done in a more faultless or impressive manner.

The new Master proceeded to invest and appoint his Officers, as follow: Bros. E. Beadle S.W., W. Reeves J.W., H. Harbord P.M. Treas., W. R. Haylock P.M. Sec., W. Grant S.D., T. Leete J.D., G. Smith I.G., H. Carpenter D.C., J. F. Haskins P.P.G.O. Org., E. Venner, F. Uffelmann, G. W. Wharton, A. Lidgate, and Dr. S. Walshe Owen Stewards, T. C. Edmonds P.M. Tyler.

The agenda showed two candidates for initiation, but illness prevented their attendance. Two gentlemen were proposed for admission at the next meeting, and after a few communications had been dealt with the Lodge was closed.

The Brethren now adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent dinner was provided, which reflected great credit on the famous old establishment, and on Bro. S. J. Wells the manager, whilst Bro. Marshall, as usual, also looked after the comfort of the company.

The W.M. in very becoming terms presented the toast of the Queen and the Craft, the National Anthem being sung by Miss Claribel Hyde, in excellent style.

The toast of the M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales followed, Bro. William Clifford singing the National Song, in which the Brethren most heartily joined.

The W.M. asked Bro. Harbord P.M. Treasurer of the Lodge to give the toast of the Grand Officers present and past, which was followed with an excellent song by Miss Emily Foxcroft, who was in excellent voice.

Bro. Hatton I.P.M. submitted the toast of the Worshipful Master. It was unfortunate the candidates they had expected had not been able to attend, as otherwise the Brethren would have had the opportunity of judging for themselves as to the capabilities of the new Master. The toast was most heartily received, and was followed by an excellent song by Miss Claribel Hyde, "There's a land."

The W.M. replied, thanking Bro. Hatton for his remarks, and the Brethren for having received the toast in so cordial a manner. He also was sorry the candidates were not present, as he would have liked to perform the work of initiation; in fact, the more work they gave him to do the better he would like it. He hoped to give all the satisfaction that was expected of him.

In proposing the toast of the I.P.M. the W.M. said Bro. Hatton had concluded his year of Office in a really faultless manner. From the time their Brother had joined the Lodge he had worked zealously and systematically, and he had gradually risen until he had reached the top of the tree. His year of Mastership had been a credit, both to himself and to the Lodge over which he had presided. He had the especial pleasure of presenting him with the Past Master's jewel of the Lodge, which he had well earned, and he hoped that Bro. Hatton would live to wear it for many, many years, in health and prosperity. The elegant jewel, which was worked by the well-known firm of Bro. A. H. Hickman (83 St. John Street Road, E.C.), bore the following inscription:

Presented
to Bro. JOSEPH HATTON

W.M. City of London Lodge, No. 901,
in appreciation of the admirable manner in which he discharged the duties
of W.M.

March 1900.

The I.P.M. was most cordially toasted, and met a hearty reception on rising to respond. He thanked the W.M. for his very kind remarks, and the Brethren for the very handsome jewel they had been good enough to award him, and of which he was really most proud. He hoped to wear it among them for many years to come. He had endeavoured to give satisfaction during his term of Mastership, and was very pleased indeed to hear that he had done so.

The next toast was that of the Visitors, and it afforded the W.M. much pleasure to propose it. The members of the City of London Lodge were always pleased to see guests among them, and any Brethren who might favour them with a visit might rely on receiving a most hearty welcome.

Bro. A. Purkis W.M. 1314 thanked the Master and Brethren for their very kind reception. He was pleased to have seen Bro. Haylock installed to his present proud position, congratulated him on his preferment, and hoped he might have a successful year of office.

Bro. G. Herbert Burns also returned thanks. He felt it would be unjust to withhold any part of the tribute he considered due to the Immediate Past

Master, for the perfect way in which he had carried out his duties that day, and accordingly, on behalf of the visitors, he tendered hearty congratulations.

Bro. Wood next responded, and then Bro. R. M. H. Griffiths, of the Crusaders Lodge, followed. He congratulated the W.M. on the position he occupied at the moment, as ruler of the City of London Lodge. He well remembered some years ago having the pleasure of also congratulating the Secretary of the Lodge—father of the W.M.—on the advent into the world of the present chief of the Lodge. Our Bro. Griffiths made a touching reference to the war, where one of his sons is serving his country.

Bro. Gillard next responded. He also had a son at the front, and he was particularly glad that the Lodge had voted the handsome sum of twenty guineas for the Transvaal Brethren who were in distress. The grant was most certainly further proof of the Fraternal Brotherly Love of Freemasonry.

The health of the Past Masters and Wardens was next proposed.

Bro. A. Ginger P.M. said he had been a member of the Lodge for thirty-seven years. Whatever assistance he could render he would be pleased to give them.

Bro. F. Eade congratulated the W.M. on his Mastership. He knew him to be a worthy son of a worthy father, and one who would do credit to his exalted position.

Bro. W. Reeve J.W. responded on behalf of the Officers, and other toasts having been honoured the proceedings were shortly afterwards brought to a conclusion.

NEW CONCORD LODGE, No. 813.

THE installation meeting was held at the Guildhall Tavern, on Thursday evening, 15th inst. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, and the Lodge was opened by Bro. R. Clarke W.M. The balance sheet, alike of the Lodge accounts and the Benevolent Fund, showed substantial balances in the hands of the Treasurer.

The chief business of the evening was the installation of Bro. W. M. Johnson, the Installing Master being Bro. C. Weeden F.M., assisted by Bro. J. I. Moar P.M. as D.C. The ceremony was impressively carried out in the presence of a full board of Installed Masters, and the new W.M. was subsequently saluted in the several degrees.

After the Lodge had been closed the Brethren adjourned to banquet, and the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured. Bro. R. Clarke was presented by the Lodge with a handsome Past Master's jewel.

INSTRUCTION.

EARL'S COURT LODGE, No. 2765.

ON Wednesday, at Bro. T. Davis's, the Greyhound, Kensington, W., Bros. T. Nichols W.M., J. H. King S.W., J. Cox P.M. J.W., J. Worth P.M. Prec., J. W. Facey P.M. Treas., Albert J. Taylor Sec., H. G. Cox S.D., H. Holley J.D., R. Dixon I.G., R. K. Young, C. G. Hatt P.M., &c., W. James, J. Wynman.

The Lodge was opened to the second degree, when Bro. Young answering the questions was entrusted, and subsequently raised. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree and called off and on. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed.

Bro. F. Stovold (who was initiated at the Mother Lodge at last week's regular meeting) was accepted as a member, and the compliment was acknowledged. Bro. Ring will preside on Wednesday.

Bro. Worth in short but eloquent terms proposed that a hearty vote of compliment be recorded on the minutes for the able manner in which the W.M. had fulfilled the duties of the chair for the first time, which was acknowledged, being highly appreciated.

ROYAL VICTORIAN JUBILEE LODGE, No. 2184.

(LATE TERRIERS.)

ON Wednesday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, an exceptionally good meeting was held at the Dover Castle Hotel, Westminster Bridge Road, those present including Bros. T. F. Strutt W.M. 2664 in the chair, Dr. F. J. Allen S.W., W. Wilsnare J.W., A. Darch P.M. Prec., T. Holden Treasurer, J. Newstead Secretary, F. Holmes S.D., H. W. Page J.D., Percy Gayer I.G., E. Sinclair P.M., W. Dillon P.M., W. Newton, P. Page, J. C. Cox, Fenwick, T. Shaw, B. Cohen, J. Wyman, W. Parkinson.

Bro. Newton answered the questions leading to the second degree and was entrusted. The Lodge was advanced to the second degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. This being ended Bro. Cox answered the questions leading to the third degree, was entrusted, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The excellent working of Bro. Strutt, who was recently installed Master of his Lodge, was manifest on this occasion.

Bro. J. C. Cox 1984 and G. Fenwick 1319 were elected members, and Bro. Dr. Allen W.M. for the first Wednesday in April. Next Wednesday Bro. Darch Preceptor will preside, and by desire Bro. Wetton P.M. Deputy Prec. will work the installation ceremony.

Bro. Holden gave a notice of motion that the sum of two guineas be voted from the funds of the Lodge in the cause of Masonic Charity.

BROMLEY ST. LEONARD LODGE, No. 1805.

THE annual dinner of this Lodge of Instruction was held on Wednesday evening, 14th inst., at the Bow Bells Hotel, Bow Road, when Bro. F. Thornton W.M. of the Mother Lodge, who presided, had the gratification of meeting a goodly number of his helpers, a few being absent in consequence of the dance at the adjoining Bromley Hall.

The arrangements made for the dinner were excellent, and Bro. J. Gibbs showed that, as far as the customary comforts were concerned, there could be no need to travel beyond the sound of Bow Bells. The provision made for the maintenance of the Brethren proved ample in every respect, and due time having been given for the disposal of the numerous items on the menu, the customary forms were observed, and the usual toasts properly honoured.

Bro. Frank Thornton was accorded a most hearty congratulation, and with a few words in reply expressed his gratification at the presence of so many friends and workers, adding that while in his capacity as principal he desired to do all that he could for the Charities of Masonry. He also suggested that a collection should be made for the assistance of those in trouble in consequence of the war in South Africa, and as a result of this it was arranged that a contribution should be sent to the "Daily Telegraph" War Fund,

KING'S CROSS LODGE, No. 1732.

REMINDED that the ritual of the Craft is perfectly rendered at the King's Cross Lodge of Instruction was paid it a visit on Sunday evening, at 7 o'clock, at the house of Bro. James Hemming P.M. 1287.2398 P.Z., &c., the Prince of Wales, 119 Hampstead Road, N.W., and were then agreeably impressed with the comfortable accommodation and the excellent working we witnessed.

The chair was occupied by Bro. J. Beedle, with Bros. G. Lacey S.W., A. George (W.M. 1744) J.W., J. Hemming P.M. Prec., J. Goldstein W.M. acting Prec., A. Peterson S.D., E. Klug J.D., B. Harris I.G., J. Thom P.M., F. W. Kerswell, A. Zacke, T. Lenten, C. Ransford P.M., G. Lister, J. Wynman.

Bro. Goldstein, with the assistance of the Brethren, worked the first section of the lecture. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the W.M. proposed to rehearse the third degree, for which Bro. Kerswell offered himself candidate. Having answered the questions he was entrusted, the Lodge was opened up, and the ceremony was rendered. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the second section was worked by Bro. C. Ransford; Bro. T. Lenten answered the questions leading to the second degree. Bro. Lacey was elected W.M. for to-morrow (Sunday). The Lodge meets every Sunday at 7 o'clock, the Proprietor of the Hotel (Bro. Hemming P.M.) being the Preceptor.

WOODROW LODGE, No. 1708.

ON Monday, at 24 Pantou Street, Haymarket, S.W., Bros. G. Yeowell W.M., W. West S.W., H. T. Rose J.W., C. Woodrow P.M. Preceptor, C. E. Wetton P.M. Assistant Preceptor, J. W. Simeons Secretary, J. G. Lobb S.D., H. W. Page J.D., Thos. Burgess I.G., W. H. G. Rudderforth P.M. Treasurer, W. H. Making P.M., T. E. Culverhouse, F. T. Strutt W.M. 1679, G. T. Baker, A. Pion, S. E. Firminger, P. Gayer, Thomas McIntire.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. T. F. Strutt as candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. W. H. G. Rudderforth, who opened in the second and rehearsed the ceremony of installation, Bro. Wetton P.M. acting as D.C., and Bro. Yeowell as M.E. The ceremony was most excellently rehearsed by Bro. Rudderforth, and the addresses given with his well known eloquence. The Lodge was resumed to the third degree, and closed down.

Bro. Thos. J. McIntire, of the Covent Garden Lodge, and Bro. Percy Gayer, of the Henry Muggerridge Lodge, were made members. Bro. W. West was elected to the chair for the next meeting.

FINSBURY PARK LODGE, No. 1288.

ON Saturday, at Bro. Evans's, the Old Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., Bros. T. Henderson W.M., Edwd. Parker S.W., J. Hume J.W., H. Hill P.M. Prec., W. Sycklemore P.M. Treas., John Thom Sec., G. Grant S.D., Graham Foster J.D., A. J. Davis I.G., T. Elven, H. Coley, J. W. Key, W. Pocklington P.M., J. E. Paine, T. Edmonds P.M., G. Wish, T. A. Key, E. Rawlinson, J. Wynman.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Coley candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. J. E. Paine. The Lodge was advanced to the second degree, Bro. G. Wish was entrusted. The Lodge was further advanced, and the ceremony of raising was gone through. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree. We cannot let the opportunity pass without complimenting Bro. Paine on his excellent working, which was highly appreciated by the Brethren.

Bro. Henderson resumed the chair. Bro. Hill in well deserved terms proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the able manner the W.M. had rehearsed the ceremony of initiation for the first time in the Lodge, which proposition was unanimously supported, and the compliment acknowledged. It was proposed that a ballot be taken at the next meeting for the sum of five guineas, to be placed to the credit of one of the Masonic Institutions.

Bro. Edward Parker was elected W.M. for Saturday, 31st inst.

ROYAL ALFRED LODGE, No. 780.

AT the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, on Thursday, 22nd inst., Bro. Dowling W.M., E. C. St. Auban S.W., E. H. Wilcox J.W., R. H. Williams P.M. Prec., Justin Allen W.M. Dep. Prec., A. H. A. Bridger Sec., Worth S.D., Ridley J.D., Larkman P.M. I.G., Goff Steward, Langdon P.M., Jones, H. T. Johnson, and Town.

The Lodge was opened in due form with solemn prayer, and advanced to the third degree. Then resumed to the first, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Allen as candidate.

Bro. St. Auban was elected to fill the chair for the next meeting.

CONFIDENCE LODGE, No. 193.

THE Instruction meeting held at the Bunch of Grapes, Lime Street, on Wednesday evening, was as usual very well attended, and among the Brethren and Visitors we noticed many Present and Past Masters.

The Officers were:—Bros. Simeons W.M., Hattersley S.W., Done J.W., Goodchild S.D., Cooke J.D., Bushell I.G., Pitt Secretary, Spice I.P.M. Preceptor.

The ceremony of raising was rehearsed in a most perfect manner by the W.M., Bro. Webb being candidate. The Lodge was then reduced to the first degree, and Bro. Latham having answered the questions leading onward was entrusted and retired. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Latham being candidate. Lodge was then resumed to the first degree. The first section of the lecture was magnificently worked by that grand old corner-stone Bro. Past Master Pitt, and Lodge was closed with many hearty good wishes.

PROVINCIAL.

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MISTLEY LODGE, No. 2339.

THE annual meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 15th inst., at Manningtree, when Bro. W. G. Synnot P.M. 255 was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. J. R. Butler P.M. P.P.A.G.D.C.

The W.M. was unanimously elected to represent the Lodge on the Essex

Provincial Charity Committee, and a hearty vote of thanks having been passed to the Installing Master, the proceedings closed.

Between thirty and forty Brethren afterwards dined together at the White Hart Hotel, under the presidency of the new W.M. The visitors present included the Provincial Grand Secretary Bro. T. J. Ralling P.G.A.D.C.

LADIES NIGHT OF THE LEBANON LODGE, No. 1326.

THE first Ladies night of this flourishing Provincial Lodge was held on Saturday, at the Holborn Restaurant, in the Gordon Chamber.

Bro. Gordon Lerner W.M. presided, accompanied by his wife, and supported by Bros. Burton and Holland Wardens, and a goodly number of Brethren and their lady friends. We noticed Bro. and Mrs. F. Dunstan, Bro. and Mrs. and Miss T. W. Alderman, Bro. and Mrs. Gunn, Bro. and Mrs. Russell, Mr. and Master Russell, Bro. and Mrs. Burton, Bro. and Mrs. Brooke, Bro. and Mrs. Holland and friends, Bro. Wyatt, Bro. Scargill, Bro. and Mrs. H. Willsmer, Bro. and Mrs. Michel, Bro. and Miss Terry, and many others.

An exceedingly enjoyable evening was spent. Speeches were short and interesting, the harmony excellent, and congratulations to Bro. Lerner for the successful evening's enjoyment innumerable.

LODGE OF INTEGRITY, No. 163.

THE regular meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, Manchester, on Wednesday, 28th ult., Bro. J. Herbert Studd, Worshipful Master.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Brother James Albert Sinclair was duly passed to the degree of F.C.

The usual festive board followed, a pleasant evening being spent.

Entertainment Notes.

Criterion.—The amusing farce, "His Excellency the Governor," has achieved a new life by its transfer to this theatre, to the temperature of which it is entirely suited. Mr. Arthur Broughier is simply grand as the amiable old bachelor, quickly falling a victim to the allurements of an artful woman, though his fall is not to be wondered at seeing that the Countess is represented by the delightful Miss Ellis Jeffreys. There is a very enjoyable evening's entertainment to be obtained here, which is secured with the able assistance of Mesd. Gertrude Elliott and Fanny Coleman, and Messrs. Eric Lewis, Marsh Allen, and Aubrey Fitzgerald.

Lyric.—The cast of the lively "Florodora" has recently been strengthened by the return of Miss Ada Reeve, and the appearance of Mr. Louis Bradfield and Miss Kate Outler. The gentleman who provides entertainment at Masonic Lodges by phrenological lectures—as well as others—may be recommended to pay a visit here to see Mr. Willie Edouin as the wily Professor of that cult.

Garrick.—"Bootle's Baby" will soon give place to Mr. Frohman's Company, with "Zaza," of which great things are spoken.

MR. LOUIS PARKER has been commissioned to translate M. Rostand's play "L'Aiglon," in which Madame Sarah Bernhardt has made so great a success.

The Theatres, &c.

Adelphi.—8, Bonnie Dundee. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.
Avenue.—8, An Old Admirer. 8.45, A Message from Mars. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
Criterion.—8.20, A Pair of Knickerbockers. 9, His Excellency the Governor. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Daly's.—8.15, San Toy. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Duke of York's.—8, A Bad Penny. 8.30, Miss Hobbs. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Gaiety.—8, The Messenger Boy. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Garrick.—8.15, Bootle's Baby. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
Globe.—8.15, A broken Halo. 9, Nurse. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
Haymarket.—Tuesday, 27th March, The Rivals.
Her Majesty's.—8, A Midsummer Night's Dream. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Lyceum.—8, Twelfth Night.
Lyric.—8, Florodora. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Prince of Wales's.—8, Don Juan's Last Wager.
Princess's.—8, It's never too late to mend.
Royalty.—8.15, Mrs. Jordan. 9, Magda. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
Savoy.—8.15, The Rose of Persia. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Shaftesbury.—Monday, 26th March, Society's Verdict.
St. James's.—Wednesday, 28th March, A Man of forty.
Strand.—8.15, The Lady Bookie. 9, Facing the Music. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
Wyndham's.—8.30, Dandy Dick. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
Alexandra.—Next week, 7.45, Hearts are Trumps. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.
Opera House, Crouch End.—Next week, 8, The Square.
Surrey.—Next week, 7.45, The Great World of London.
Alhambra.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. Napoli, &c.
Aquarium.—The World's great Show. Varied Performances, daily.
Empire.—7.50, Variety Entertainment. Round the Town Again, &c.
London Pavilion.—8, Variety Entertainment. A dream of fair women, &c.
Oxford.—7.30, Variety Entertainment, &c. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Palace.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. New American Biograph, &c. Saturday, 1.45 also.
Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2.30 also.
Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2.15 also.
Agricultural Hall.—8, Mohawk Minstrels.
Crystal Palace.—Café Chantant. Varied attractions daily.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
London Hippodrome.—2 and 8, Varied attractions, &c.
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.
Polytechnic.—3, Our Navy, &c. Saturdays, 3 and 8.