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RETIREMENT OF BRO. BINCKES.

AT an adjourned meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, held on Saturday, the 10th ult., the retirement of the Secretary, with a pension of £350 per annum, was officially announced. The exact wording of the Report of the Provisional Committee—to whom the task of conferring with Bro. Binckes had been allocated—brought up by the Earl of Euston, Chairman, was :—

The Provisional Committee report that they have conferred with Bro. Binckes on the terms of his retirement, and have arranged that he shall retire from the office of Secretary at the end of the present year (1889), upon a retiring allowance of £350 per annum for life. They recommend that this arrangement be carried out, and the necessary notices given under the laws of the Institution for this purpose, and that this Committee be empowered to take the necessary steps to carry into effect the arrangement with Bro. Binckes. The Provisional Committee further recommend that the salary of any future Secretary shall not commence with a sum exceeding £300 per annum.

The adoption of this report was moved by Bro. Cumberland, and it was eventually carried, so that the second volume in the history of the unfortunate investigation, which will hang for years a dark shadow over the affairs of the Institution, is now complete. Bro. Binckes, as perhaps everybody knows, has held the Secretaryship for the past twenty-eight years, but his connection with the Institution goes back a longer period. His original position as a collector was occupied with so much success that eventually the office was amalgamated with the Secretaryship, when the latter post came to be offered to him. The financial aspect of the Institution has gradually changed since his mark was brought upon it, until at this, the completion of his long tenure of officialdom, the average yearly fund collected on behalf of the charity has reached a very long way into five figures. It is not wise, in glancing at the facts of his retirement, to recur to the painful disclosures which necessitated it. The effect of these disclosures upon the position of Bro. Binckes sinks into insignificance before the effect they have had upon the united body of Freemasons, and if the boisterous behavior of the Craft on several occasions—notably at the Freemasons' Hall and Alexandra Palace—be taken into account it becomes of very little moment indeed. The Secretary was guilty of great indiscretion. He allowed the Institution and its departments to "drift," he weaned

authority from the hands of those who should have wielded it, and he has been compelled to resign his position. But Freemasonry has made a greater loss than this. It has unearthed the dormant volcano of discord which was not known to exist, it has permitted its affairs to become the tip-cat of the enemies of the Craft, and it has disclosed an element in its ranks which is not in possession of the first attribute of gentility. These are strong words we know; but had either of our contemporaries used them instead of hiding their convictions behind their subscription-lists, it would not have been necessary for us, a *Review*, to have done so. It has come to our ears that worthy Brethren of our Order have been openly taunted by aliens with the corruption of our schools. *Truth* has thought fit to draw parallel allusions between our Institution and another, which has fallen into disgrace; and our press agencies bear testimony to the world-wide publicity with which the lamentable affair has been chronicled. All this is beyond repair. The great army of charitable Brethren who yearly open their pockets to assist—and they do it nobly—the offspring of unluckier Brothers have an undoubted right to express their disapproval at the administration of their charity. The discrimination with which they have insisted upon the resignation or retirement of various officials is to be thoroughly commended; but the expression of that determination has lost to them the greatest opportunity they ever had to demonstrate (to the world, if they wished it) the grand foundation upon which Freemasonry is erected. This is why the public investigation is the more unfortunate. We do not consider the pension granted to Bro. Binckes is a shilling too much; but to pension a retiring official with £350 a year, and appoint a successor at a salary of £300, is just one of those extraordinary pieces of foolish economy for which a feasible explanation is never to be found. The work attached to the office of Secretary is very great, and will be greater in the future than ever it has been under Bro. Binckes's rule. The right man to occupy the post can never be found by the inducement of such a salary, and as the right man, over the wrong man, would probably influence the receipts several thousand pounds, the policy of this step is again at fault. If the Provisional Committee in their wisdom had determined that the existing emoluments of Bro. Binckes should suffice for his pension and the salary of his successor, the total should have been very differently divided. On no account should the income of the office be less than £500 a year, and for that amount a man of influence, of education, and standing should be procured.

The third volume of this strange, eventful history will commence with the New Year. If the hand of retribution stretches its fingers into the work of Bro. Binckes's successor we shall not be surprised, but, perhaps, the dawn of a New Year will prove us false. We hope it may; we hope the little fellows at Wood-green will never suffer, nor their brothers who come after them, for the modern idiosyncrasy of their Masonic fathers, and that Bro. Binckes may be consoled in his retirement by the fact that the good he has done the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be remembered in the Craft centuries after this "unfortunate misfortune" has been forgotten.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS AND THE CRAFT.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC REVIEW.

SIR,—More than a passing comment must be given to the question of Lodges holding their meetings on licensed premises, and as to whether the time has not come when strenuous efforts should be made to provide proper Lodge-rooms for our Lodges and Chapters. To touch the question at all, it must be done through the subsidiary one of whether Masonic halls or other buildings erected for the various meetings of the Craft obtain sufficient support to make them financially successful. First as to the demand for Lodge-rooms. I myself am prejudiced, as you appear to be, Sir, upon the side of sentiment in Masonry. Like all secret or religious ceremonies, the working of the various degrees in the Craft impress the apprentice just so much or so little as his imagination is induced to exercise itself in favor of the soundness of the ceremony in which he is the prime figure. The holding of a Lodge, therefore, in an apartment possessing no adaptation for the purposes of a Masonic ceremony can convey no influence whatever to the mind of the Brethren. I have been engaged in Lodges, and in Lodges of repute, where the Lodge-room has done duty for the holding of a smoking concert, and to improve the fingers of the local grocer's assistant in the art of bagatelle. On the other hand, the charming Lodge-rooms that are met with in some of the minor towns so thoroughly impress initiates with the respectability of Masonry—an impression which we know is not at all unnecessary—that the difference between the two has become quite a serious matter.

During the past two years Masonic halls have grown very much in number, and it is quite possible, even against the evidence of many cases, that if the Lodges themselves work with unanimity in extending and supporting these Masonic halls, they can in every instance be made to return a fair interest to the capitalist. It may be feared that any united action in the matter would meet with serious opposition from a large section of the Masonic community, inasmuch as the Craft derives very sound support from our friends the wine-merchants. It must not be forgotten that it is in a number of cases highly convenient for country Lodges to hold their meetings upon licensed premises, because they are then upon the scene of the convivial festivities. But why is it that Masons may not hold their Lodges in the village or country churches? If it could be so, and surely the reverend members of our Order could not raise any tangible objection, what more impressive than to see the chancel occupied by the Brethren in their regalia, and carrying out the religion of their belief? Let fancy run away with us for once. Here is the great nave bathed in darkness, with the chancel brilliantly lit, and impressing us with a religious feeling as we enter the sacred precincts of the church. The organ renders its music for the entrance of the initiate, who comes attended by the Deacons through the vestry door. The Worshipful Master of the Lodge is seated upon his throne, erected at the bottom of the altar-steps; the choir-stalls are occupied by the Brethren, and the Wardens hold their respective positions upon the floor of the "Lodge." Then, when the ceremony is over, and our secrets locked in their sacred repository, we can adjourn to the "Pig and Whistle" or "The Jolly Anglers," and refresh ourselves after the labors of the day. Contrast this state of things with the one enacted in most of our suburban localities. The Brethren meet in a licensed house more or less respectable, and an appetiser is partaken of, so that it may have worked its effect when the Lodge is closed. Up the stairs that do duty for the billiard or bagatelle room you reach the apartment in which the Brethren meet. Antiquities in the shape of portraits of dead and gone fighting celebrities, a few horrible engravings covering a dirty wall-paper, and the room lined with chairs of all conceivable patterns and shapes, and you have the Lodge-room of the present day. Where is the sentiment?—where is the impression upon the mind of the initiate?—and where are the gems of our ritual in such a setting? Can it be wondered at that Brethren do not trouble to attire themselves in their proper clothing?

or that we do not secure the better-class man to join our ranks when these are the things we show him? There would be no necessity for class Lodges if all this were altered, but it becomes a very severe question to attack unless these views can be impressed upon the general body of Masons. I make these remarks, Sir, owing to a visit I recently paid by invitation to a Lodge located in a certain seaside resort. I was grievously struck, as I entered the Lodge, with the utter absence of any of that reverent feeling with which my own Lodge impresses me. I could not define the state of things in that seaside town, and I am convinced that not one of the Brethren of the Lodge that I visited could appreciate the beauties of Freemasonry.

I see by an advertisement in one of your contemporaries that a public meeting is to be held on the 6th inst., to test the opinion of local men upon the erection of a Masonic hall at New Cross. This is a step in a direction which opens up a more brilliant future for the respectability of our ranks, and if you, Sir, would endeavor to lead public opinion at such meetings as these, we should secure, as the Rev. Studholme Brownrigg says, "Lodges and Chapters which will attract into our ranks those whom otherwise we should lose."—I am, Sir, your faithful and fraternal servant,

Chelsea, Sept. 2, 1889.

HOUGHTON H. WINKLEY.

THE JUNIOR WARDEN.

REFERRED in my last article to the great importance of the selection by the W.M. of his first Principal Officer, and the present remarks may be applied with equal force to the choice of his second Warden. Indeed, there are some special circumstances which tend to increase the necessity for the exercise of even greater caution and circumspection in the selection of the Junior Warden, for in his person, there is about to be constituted as a member of Grand Lodge, a partaker in the legislative deliberations of our Masonic Parliament, and, for the first time in his Masonic career, he will be called upon to exercise his judgment in expounding those laws which it has hitherto been his bounden duty to obey, and to assist in the framing of others for the future observance of the general body of the Craft. The change from a position of subservience to one of power is not unfrequently a severe trial of human nature; for the best-disposed among us may often prove most excellent servants and assistants, but intolerably bad masters. Nevertheless, it is from the manner in which the duties of a subordinate position have been discharged, and the zeal shown in promoting its interests, that judgment can be best formed as to the propriety of promotion to the rank of ruler and law-giver. The brother who has the most fully carried out the recommendations contained in the Charge at Initiation, and more especially that "excellence of character" to which his attention has been peculiarly and forcibly directed, *Obedience*, is the Craftsman most likely to discharge the functions of a Junior Warden with credit to himself and advantage to his Lodge, and is the best qualified, in those moments when his column is in the ascendant, to communicate happiness to his fellow-workmen.

It has frequently been the subject of remark amongst veterans of the Craft that, as a rule, the most capable Junior Deacons have proved themselves best fitted for the office of Junior Warden, and have subsequently shone in the capacity of Worshipful Master. Of the respective Deacons' duties I shall treat in future chapters, but the fact may be noted now as an encouragement to brethren not to neglect the lesser work in any portion of its detail if they should desire to merit distinction. Very often the office of Senior Deacon has not to be served by the advancing Brother, whilst that of the Junior is but seldom left out of the curriculum of the Office-bearer.

As the third Great Pillar supporting a Freemason's Lodge, the Junior Warden represents that of Beauty. His prototype is Hiram Abiff, our Grand Master of ancient days, whose exquisite skill and masterly workmanship beautified and adorned King Solomon's Temple. His symbol is the Corinthian Order of Architecture,

beautiful to a degree, and acknowledged to be the richest of the Orders and a masterpiece of Art. Our Masonic tradition as to the conception of the Capital of this Order by Calimachus, at Corinth, should be well known by every Craftsman who has the opportunity to use the Corinthian Column or Pillar of Beauty on specified occasions whilst in discharge of his duties. These may be said to be, in figurative language, the adornment of the work of Masonry with all his powers of genius and active industry, and the promotion of regularity amongst the brethren by the sanction of his own good example, the persuasive eloquence of precept, and a discriminative encouragement of merit.

The observations I have already made in respect of the powers of the Senior Warden equally apply to the Junior Warden. Both alike have the same privileges as to the ruling of the Lodge under certain circumstances, and both the same prerogatives in the Grand Lodge. The distinction of Senior and Junior is but the accident of rota, and does not affect the control which both or either can exercise in the government of the Lodge. "The Master and his Wardens" is the frequent expression contained in our laws and regulations, as well as in our ritual, and to them is delegated jointly the power to rule and, in conjunction with others, to hold and make perfect our several Lodges. In these respects they are *tria juncta in uno*, and this consideration should of itself enforce on the mind of every aspirant for the chair of Hiram Abiff the necessity of a full precedent qualification for the Office, and a sense that it would be not only detrimental to the Order he professes to revere, but dishonorable in himself, to accept the position without possessing the ability to discharge its duties with that credit and advantage to which we have before alluded.

Of these qualifications there are, in addition to those which have been enumerated in connection with the Senior Warden, others relating to duties in performance of which his Junior should be an adept. To him is committed the important business of examination of Visitors, "lest through his neglect any unqualified person should gain admission," and however much it has been of recent years customary to have that duty vicariously performed, the custom would not be "more honored in the breach than in the observance" if the proper official discharged it. As matters at present stand, the examination is generally of a loose and slipshod character, and almost the slightest apparent knowledge of means of Masonic communication is allowed as sufficient for introduction. This innovation upon an ancient and important landmark should be resisted by the Junior Warden, and in all cases, when strangers seek admission, he should himself "prove and vouch." Notably it is found that on this point our brethren in the provinces are more conservative and strict than those of the metropolis. To thoroughly "prove," however, and with a certainty that attempts at imposture would be detected, the Junior Warden should himself be perfect in ritual and procedure, and that of necessity he cannot be without still further enhancing his qualifications for office.

The Junior Warden is, in these days, the presumed president at refreshment. In former times there is no doubt that he was president *de facto*. The Lodge was under his charge, and his column placed perpendicular, in token of his authority, when labor had ceased at "high twelve." Then "refreshment" was taken in the Lodge itself, and the necessity for governance during the hour of rest was obvious. Now, as a rule, all work is concluded, and the Lodge closed before the "social board" is approached, and hence the office of the Junior Warden has been deprived of one of its chiefest features. Nevertheless, much opportunity yet remains in the way of preparation for supreme command; and in the South can still be found abundant opportunities for acquiring and perfecting those qualities which, exercised in a more exalted position, render a brother Mason respected and beloved. The Junior Warden's jewel of office, the plumb, whilst reminding him and those around him of the rectitude of conduct which should distinguish him and them during those hours when they are beyond the precincts of the Lodge, is also an emblem of uprightness and

integrity. The moral tendency of this beautiful symbol should be known, not only to him and to all Freemasons alone, but to all men who would "walk justly and uprightly before God and man, neither turning to the right hand nor left from the paths of virtue."

Punctuality in attendance on his Lodge is a most important responsibility on the Junior Warden. He should be present before the Lodge is opened that he may be enabled to "prove" strangers seeking to share in the ceremony of opening, and, equally with the Senior Warden, is expected to give a "full day's labor." Within the Lodge the ritual of the Order itself will instruct him as to further duties and responsibilities.

JAMES STEVENS.

THE BETTER FOR IT.

IF men dealt less in stocks and lands,
And more in bonds and deeds fraternal;
If love's work had more willing hands
To link this world to the supernal;
If men stored up love's oil and wine,
And on bruised human hearts would pour it;
If "yours" and "mine"
Would once combine,
The world would be the better for it.

If men were wise in little things,
Affecting less in all their dealings;
If hearts had fewer rusty strings
To isolate their kindly feelings;
If men, when Wrong beats down the Right,
Would strike together and restore it;
If Right made Might
In every fight,
The world would be the better for it.

W. E. W.

A meeting of the Masonic brethren of the Three Towns was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on the 23rd ult., under the banner of Lodge St. John (70), to consider the recent resolution passed by the Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys proposing to give Bro. Binckes a retiring allowance of £350 per annum. W. Bro. William King, W.M. 70, presided, and the gathering was a most representative one, there being over 100 brethren present, many of whom were past and present Prov. Grand Officers. Bro. W. Powell, P.M. 1205, was unanimously appointed secretary. Bro. Gover explained that it was proposed to give Bro. Binckes a pension for life of £350 a year. Bro. Lord read copious extracts from the report of the investigation committee of the Boys' School, of which Bro. Phillbrick, Q.C., was chairman. It behoved them, he said, to take action before the recommendation of the Provisional Committee was confirmed. In the course of discussion Bro. Gover said Bro. Binckes had already a pension of £125 per annum from the Mark Lodge, and now they proposed to give him £350 a year from the "Boys." Did they think any Mason or any Lodge represented would contribute to the Boys' School if they granted such a pension? W. Bro. T. Goodall said it would be a serious question for them to consider whether, in the event of the school having been properly managed, they should grant a pension out of funds subscribed to a charity to one who had been liberally paid for his services (loud applause). Bro. R. C. Uglow then proposed "That this meeting learns with alarm that it is the intention of the Provisional Committee to propose that a retiring allowance be granted to Bro. Binckes, notwithstanding the facts revealed by the report of the Investigation Committee, which has been published, and suggests that definite action in this matter be deferred until after the Committee have laid their reasons for this proposal before the various subscribers, and received their opinions thereon" (applause). W. Bro. W. Moysey seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried amid loud cheers. A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

Round and About.

Her Majesty has been to sedate little Wales, has met with a very sincere—if not a very boisterous—reception, and has, I firmly believe, appreciated, as I thought she would, the beautiful scenery. She has been bothered with a number of very silly addresses, has been presented with a gold-mounted walking-stick, an oil-painting, and several other extraordinary gifts, and has in return Knighted the Mayor of Wrexham.

* * *

It has often struck me as being somewhat of a pity that more of our "big" gentry do not establish seats in the Principality. I have never, in the course of my globe-trotting, come across anything more perfectly charming than the views of Llangollen. Were I anything but a compulsory resident of this city of perdition, where the "Battle of Life" is being fought by little boys off Fleet-street while their leaders are away slaughtering Scottish grouse, I would shelter myself under one of the hills in dear little Wales, and wish eventually to die without sympathy or regret.

* * *

"The Battle of Life!" What nonsense. As far as I know of it, it is a battle of gold, silver, and copper. The man who wants it and gets it is happy, and his battle is victorious. The man who wants and misses it—he, poor man, is the pessimist, or some other "mist." Life in the abstract, is the means of living and enjoying it. Some enjoy the pursuit of horse-racing, some the study of literature, some enjoy the pursuit of swindling; but all enjoy the procuration of the means to cultivate each and every enjoyment according to his special fancy. I remember reading some years ago a very excellent article in one of the morning papers. It made an extract from the letter of a famous man whose name at the moment I forget; but this is what he wrote:—"When I passed these poor fellows, on my way to and from the club, working and sweating at their daily task, I would either envy them or be sorry for them just as the condition of my pocket prompted me. If my winnings had been large, I would pity them their lot; if, on the contrary, the problem of a settling-day stared me in the face, I envied them their life of comparative monotony. But now, when I am working hard myself, and no longer afloat upon an impecunious sea, buffeted about by a tempest of fierce gambling, I neither pity them nor envy them, but trust God will always find them work to do, and strength to do it."

* * *

Here we get the keynote of the question, Is life worth living? The answering chord can be struck by every social gambler who haunts the world in pursuit of "fatty wealth." Let him but secure it, and life is to him bliss beyond compare.

* * *

The Battle of Life! Six hundred auctioneers' clerks apply for the position of secretary to the Auctioneers' Institute of Great Britain, the salary of which is £120 a year. Presumably, the selected one of the noble six hundred will be a gentleman. That is to say, he will wear a top-hat on Sundays, be able to balance himself on the door-step of the "Cri.," with his hands in his pockets, for half an hour without falling off, and be competent to behave in an impudent manner to any one who happens to accost him in his own office. Well! to the fortunate applicant who secures the post, the battle of life will be whatever he chooses to make it. With a wife and a couple of children he has no choice at all.

* * *

I must say one word on the Maybrick case. I signed a petition for the reprieve of the unfortunate woman, on the grounds of a belief that the murder was not proved. I was certain at the time, and have been perfectly convinced since, that the most unfortunate thing that could possibly happen to the criminal laws would be an interference with the sentence of Mr. Justice Stephens. As for the medical evidence given at the trial, Dr. Tidy's was ridiculous, and Dr. M'Namara possessed absurd views as to the effects of arsenic

when used for homicidal purposes after an habitual use of the poison in small doses. I am of the belief that impartial persons will side with *Truth* for once, and that hundreds like myself interested themselves on the side of mercy, without the slightest knowledge of why they did so.

* * *

Bro. Ralling was good enough to send me a special invitation to the meeting of the Essex Provincial Grand Lodge at Lord Brooke's house last month. The innovation in holding the Provincial Grand Lodge at the Prov. Grand Master's house is a very excellent one to be followed, it aids the sentiment of masonry in the effect it has upon the believer, and surrounds the official part of the science with a deal that is attractive to the senses of a refined mind. What could be more impressive than a Lodge-room lined with "musty volumes" and portraits of the departed? and what more effective than the introduction of the wife of the P.G.M. at a point in the after proceedings where a few well-timed remarks from his Lordship touched the very heart-strings of masonic feeling?

* * *

But what on earth prompted that grand official to indulge Lady Brooke and the gathering with an impromptu speech that clothed the proceedings with silliness and ungrammatical composition, and, worse still, that led many enthusiastic brethren, quite uninvited, to clutch her Ladyship's fingers in a grasp that must have shook her very frame? A gentleman who was present suggested to me that an Inquiry Committee be constituted for the purpose of inquiring how certain men have been so easily enabled to enter the portals of the Craft. The feverish desire of Worshipful Masters to procure business during their year of office has to answer for a great deal.

* * *

Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, D. Prov. G.M. of Suffolk, acting as D.P.G.M. in the absence of V.W. Bro. Philbrick, Q.C., replied to one of the toasts at the banquet in a manner that was positively entertaining. The ground over which he travelled was not that irregular weedy and stony path along which the ordinary Masonic speechifier drags us. It was a ramble amid the music of birds and the scent of sweet flowers. The happy, pleasant face of the rev. gentleman exhibited a charming accompaniment to his words, and his speech was one of the most sensible, most sound, and most free from "bunkum," I have heard at Masonic gatherings.

* * *

A certain P.M. of a certain provincial Lodge, who has been for the past twenty-five years a very regular attendant to the duties of his position, exhausted six or seven years ago his powers of replying in an original manner to the various toasts with which his name was coupled. He conceived a way out of the difficulty by printing on a very small and neat card a few words which he might read on every occasion upon which he was expected to reply. The result has been perfectly successful, for no sooner does he rise in his place and produce the little pasteboard from his waistcoat pocket—previous to delivering his thanks in a highly deliberate fashion—than the humor of the brethren is immediately tickled, and never is a "speech" received with greater approval than his. He carries the fun right through to perfection, for never a smile has been detected on his countenance. Why does not Bro. Kenning include this little card in his lists of Lodge furniture?

* * *

Francis Richard Charles Guy Greville, Lord Brooke, is the heir to the earldom of Warwick, and was born in 1853. His Parliamentary career has been a useful one to his party, but perhaps his marriage with the beautiful Miss Maynard at Westminster Abbey, in April, 1881, has been the most important public event in his life. Lady Brooke is the daughter of the late Colonel the Hon. Charles H. Maynard, only son of the third and last Viscount Maynard, who, dying in 1865, before his father, the title has become extinct. Miss Maynard became sole heiress of the extensive estates of the Maynard family; but, like the noble woman that she is, she provided her sister (the Lady Algernon Gordon

Lennox), who did not participate in the wealth, with a considerable settlement previous to her marriage.

* * *

Euston Lodge, where the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex was held, belongs to Lady Brooke. She has lived here all her life, and is the friend of every villager in the place. Her lovely face, backed up by a disposition that expresses her careful training, has a smile for man, woman, and child, no matter whom they be. I do not know whether Lord and Lady Brooke have ever claimed the Dunmow flitch of bacon, but I should think they might, for his Lordship said:—"Speaking of my dear wife, I daresay she thinks she knows all the secrets of Masonry, but she is a Mason at heart, and that is the noblest compliment I can pay her."

* * *

Our worthy Grand Secretary has been recruiting his health in the south of France, and has returned with renewed vigor for the work of the coming session.

* * *

In another column will be found the announcement of the sad death and burial of Bro. Spence Bate, F.R.S., who was a descendant of an old Plymouth family. His father for many years carried on a successful practice as a dentist at the Octagon—at that time one of the suburbs of Plymouth. He died some thirty years ago, and Bro. Spence Bate succeeded to his practice—having inherited even more than his father's skill. As a dentist Bro. Spence Bate was almost unrivalled—both as an operator, and, in his later years, as a dental mechanician. It was not only in dentistry he became celebrated. He devoted a large amount of time to the investigation of the habits of shellfish, and, in conjunction with Mr. Westwood, was the author of a work in three volumes, which soon became a standard authority on *British Sessile-eyed Crustacea*. The value of this work was fully recognised by the scientific world, and chiefly on the strength of its authorship, Mr. Bate was made a Fellow of the Royal Society, and thus was brought into companionship with some of the leading scientific men of the age. Other works by him on the same subject were a catalogue of *Amphipodous Crustacea*, and for several years he was engaged in compiling for the Government a Report on the *Crustacea Macroma*—collected in H.M.S. *Challenger* during the celebrated scientific cruise of that vessel round the world. The work was only completed a year ago, and leaves Mr. Bate the greatest authority on this branch of Natural History. He was also author of many works on Dentistry. Some of these were published separately, others in the *Lancet*, the *British Journal of Dental Science*, and the *Medical Gazette*, and in the "Transactions of the Odontological Society," to the presidency of which he was elected in 1885. Two years previously he had been President of the British Dental Association. In 1881 he was Vice-President of a section of the Medical Congress; and on more than one occasion President of a Department of the British Association. He was honorary surgeon to the Plymouth Dental Dispensary and the Devon and Cornwall Orphan Asylum.

* * *

Mr. Spence Bate was keenly interested in all scientific matters connected with his native county. As a President during one year, and as a Member of the Council for many years, of the Devonshire Association, he distinguished himself by contributions to the transactions of that body. A keen lover of Dartmoor and its wilds, he frequently wrote and spoke concerning its antiquarian remains. He was also greatly interested in art. For many years he was a working member of the Plymouth Fine Art Society, and although not eminent as a painter the products of his pencil were frequently exhibited, not only in connection with that body, but also in the art exhibitions of Messrs. Harris's fine art gallery. Three months ago he presided at the annual meeting of the Plymouth School of Art, when the Earl of Morley distributed the prizes to the successful students. Mr. Bate took a very active interest in the Art,

Science, and Technical School about to be erected as a Jubilee memorial in Plymouth. He was Chairman of the Committee, and only two or three days before being seized with his last illness he presided at a meeting of that body. Less than a week ago he showed his continued interest by a letter concerning the arrangements for the new building. Mr. Bate also formerly took an active part in the debates of the Plymouth Institution, and for one year was its President. It is needless to say that the loss of a gentleman of such varied and brilliant abilities will be widely felt.

* * *

A very excellent brother, who has forbidden me to mention his name, has just sent twenty poor little urchins into the country for a couple of weeks, entirely at his own expense. The children and their welfare will be looked after by his two daughters, who insisted upon relinquishing a portion of their own holiday so that they might spend it with them. I went to see the happy little company off from Paddington, and I could not tell which were the more pleased, the children or their elder friends, but, as the pretty little mites waved their farewells to those left upon the platform, I felt more might be done in this quiet unostentatious manner.

* * *

Some few years ago it fell to my lot to pay a long series of visits to some of the slums—not by any means the worst—in Whitechapel. I made many friends among the women and children, some of whom I have, fortunately, become enabled to assist. It is impossible for pen or pencil to describe the misery with which these poor wretches drag their weary lives along, and yet it is curious to notice the smiling faces and demeanor of the women, and the happy-go-lucky way in which the youngsters herd together. In one filthy den—a very fair specimen of hundreds of others I went into—I found stretched, full length, upon a loathsome heap of stinking rags and filth, a well-grown girl, perfectly naked, her body being as black as a nigger's. By her side were, apparently, a brother and sister, younger, but, if possible, in worse condition, and the three were eagerly searching for horrible vermin among the furry coat of a dead cat.

* * *

In another house, upon asking permission to go upstairs (there was but one room upstairs), I found the dead body of "Muver" upon the only bedstead the family possessed. The room was 9 ft. square, and for three nights the father, two daughters, and three sons had slept in the room with the corpse.

* * *

If any of my friends want reliable information whereby they may give some relief, through the medium of green fields and fresh air, to children who deserve their compassion, I shall be happy to place such information at their disposal. The direct good I do myself, of necessity, small; but I have for the past three seasons sent a quantity of wholesome fruit to several families, and I find they appreciate it. I will undertake the proper distribution of any baskets of garden produce if previous notice be given me.

* * *

Messrs. Lever have forwarded me their cheque for one guinea, as I suggested to them last month, but instead of sending it to one of the charities, as I promised I would, I have requested permission from the mistress of the Girls' School to present it to that pupil who has the highest reputation for neatness in her personal attire. If possible, I will publish the young lady's portrait.

* * *

Apropos of Sir Charles Russell's connection with the Maybrick case, and the revolting nonsense in certain evening prints about his "personal interest" and "terrible emotion" whilst delivering his final speech for the prisoner, I am told, on unimpeachable authority, that (like a wise man) he positively refused to open his brief before his retainer was forthcoming. His fees for defending Mrs. Maybrick amounted to twelve hundred guineas.

It may interest many of my readers to know that the "Eminent Mason at Home" in our issue for October will be Bro. Edward Terry, the Grand Treasurer, at Priory Lodge. The portrait accompanying the paper is an excellent reproduction.

* * *

I am going to ease the mainspring of my heart with a little oil of "pure conceit." When the destruction by fire of several theatres, and the loss of a great number of lives, had thrown the play-going public into an interesting condition of excitement, it was my lot to write for a certain weekly newspaper a series of articles upon the construction and decoration of the London houses; and I am pleased to say, for the welfare and comfort of theatre-goers, my suggestions were promptly acted upon by a great number of theatrical proprietors. When I came to visit Drury-lane I was much impressed with the great opportunity the fine hall and staircase presented for a grand scheme of color decoration, although Bro. Harris assured me the whole house had but recently been "done up." However, time worketh great marvels, for I am invited to an "At Home" at Drury-lane Theatre, "to inspect the elaborate decorations which have been in active progress during the past two months."

* * *

SEPTEMBER THE SEVENTH.

A little churchyard near a stream,
Where Memory sits awhile to dream
Of days that hide themselves in tears,
Though mellowed down through distant years
Of sadness!

A little cross of marble white,—
A name, a date, some flowers bright;
A gravel path, a grassy patch,
A church of brick with roof of thatch,—
A!l sorrow!

* * * * *

A sad regret, a world of pain,
But he will meet her once again
In broader halls, in greener fields,
Where Memory to her victim yields—
Her gladness!

THE DRUID.

On Monday, the 5th ult., the remains of Bro. Charles Sykes Sunderland, solicitor, were interred at the cemetery, Brighouse. He was a member of the firm of Messrs. Craven & Sunderland, Huddersfield and Brighouse. Among Freemasons he was generally respected, and at the time of his death held the office of P.G.R. A large number of the members of the Order were present, and wreaths were sent from several Lodges in his province, the Southowram School Board (for which he had officiated as clerk since its commencement), and the Conservative Club, of which he was an active member. Many well-known gentlemen in the district were present. The Huddersfield Incorporated Law Society, the Huddersfield Building Society, the Huddersfield Lodges (three), the Albert Edward, and Kirkburton Lodges were also represented. Mrs. Sunderland was able to be present, but did not leave the carriage. At a meeting of the members of the Huddersfield Incorporated Law Society, Mr. W. Armitage in the chair, the following resolution has been, on the motion of the President (Mr. Armitage), seconded by Mr. Mills, unanimously passed:—"That the members of the Society have heard with the greatest regret of the death of Mr. Charles S. Sunderland, and desire to convey to the relatives of the deceased gentleman their deep sympathy with them in their sad bereavement, and to express their sense of the loss the profession has sustained in the death of one whose dealing with his professional brethren was marked by courtesy and uprightness."

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Wednesday evening, the 7th ult. The companions present were Comps. Rev. H. Adair Pickard, G. Supt. Oxon, as M.E.Z.; James Glaisher, P.A.G.S., as H.; Col. Marmaduke Ramsey, G. Supt. Malta, as J.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G.S.E.; Ralph Clutton, as G.S.N.; Robert Grey, President Committee of General Purposes; Sir Bruce M. Seton, G.P.S.; Chester Cheston, as 1st A.G.S.; Baron de Ferrieres, as second A.G.S.; Charles Belton, 2nd G. Std. Br.; Frank Richardson, G.D.C.; Alfred A. Pendlebury, A.G.S.E.; Magnus Ohren, P.G.D.C.; John A. Lloyd, P.A.G.S.; Henry Maudslay, P.G.S.B., as G.S.B.; J. H. Matthews, P.G.D.C.; D. P. Cama, P.G.T.; W. M. Bywater, P.G. Std. Br.; E. Letchworth, P.G.S.B.; Charles H. Driver, P.G.S.B.; J. M. Case, P.A.G.D.C.; J. A. Farnfield, P.G. Std. Br.; Col. H. Somerville Burney, P.G.S.B.; R. Eve, P.G.T.; C. F. Matier, P.D.G.D.C.; Rudolph G. Glover, P.G. Std. Br.; C. F. Hogard, P.D.G.D.C.; J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.S.B.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.S.B.; Henry J. P. Dumas, P.G.S.B.; C. Harding, P.G. Std. Br.; Peter de Lande Long, P.G.P.S.; W. E. Steward, P.G.S.B.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.G.S.B.; E. Mallett, P.Z. 1623; S. Richardson, J. 720; George Gregory, P.Z. 1538; G. Mickle, M.D., P.Z. 63; W. H. Perryman, P.Z. 1348; W. H. Causton, P.Z. 907; T. Burne, Z. 907; J. Boulton, Z. 933; P.Z. 898; L. G. Gerdon Robbins, P.Z. 10; H. Massey, P.Z. 619 and 1928, and Z. 1928; G. L. Wingate, P.Z. 1423; Chas. E. Keyser, M.E.Z. 404; N. Green, P.Z. 1524; G. S. Recknell, P.Z. 73; M. Goodchild, P.Z. 704; H. Rose, H. 704; W. A. Scurrah, P.Z. 749; J. S. Cumberland, P.Z. 236, P.P.G. J.N. and E. Yorks; Charles Kempton, Z. 2021; George Coop, Z. 1604; and H. Sadler, Grand Janitor.

Grand Chapter having been formally opened, the minutes of the Quarterly Convocation of May last were read by Comp. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, G.S.E., and confirmed.

Comp. Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE said: Most Excellent, I have to report that Comp. Jabez Hogg, who was appointed Grand Sword Bearer at last Quarterly Convocation, but was unable to be present on that occasion, is now in attendance in order to be invested with the insignia of his office.

Comp. Dr. Jabez Hogg was then invested.

The following report of the Committee of General Purposes was, on separate motions by Comp. Robert Grey, seconded by Comp. Frank Richardson, taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes.

To the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from April 17 to July 16, 1889, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

To Balance Grand Chapter	£123	13	7	By Disbursements during		
" " Unappropriated				the Quarter.....	£304	14 0
" " Account ..	192	19	7	" Balance.....	175	3 7
" Subsequent Receipts...	358	11	6	" " Unappropriated		
				Account	195	7 1
					£675	4 8
					£675	4 8

Which balances are in the Bank of England, Western Branch.

The Committee have to report that they have received the following petitions:—

1. From Comps. Col. Henry Platt, as Z.; Donald Cameron, as H.; William Hugh Thomas, as J.; and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the St. David's Lodge, No. 384, Bangor, to be called the Star of Gwynedd Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Bangor, in the Province of North Wales.
2. From Comps. George Joseph Westbury, as Z.; Thomas Edward Lucy, as H.; Edward Arthur Hicks, as J.; and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Lodge Semper Fidelis, No. 529, Worcester, to be called the Semper Fidelis Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, High-street, in the City of Worcester.
3. From Comps. Alfred Rixon as Z.; Walter Galt Gribbon, as H.; Thomas Blanco White, as J.; and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 34, London, to be called the Moriah Chapter, and to meet at Freemasons' Hall, London.
4. From Comps. Jehanghir Kursetji Rustomji Cama, as Z.; Nathaniel John Goodchild, as H.; Ebenezer Charles Mulvey, as J.; and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Regent's Park Lodge, No. 2202, London, to be called the Regent's Park Chapter, and to meet at the York and Albany Hotel, Gloucester-gate, Regent's Park, London.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have also to report that they have received memorials, with extracts of minutes, on the removal of the following Chapters, and, being satisfied of the reasonableness of the requests, recommend that the removal of these Chapters be sanctioned, viz. :—

1. The Joppa Chapter, No. 188, from the Albion Tavern to the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, London.

2. The Westbourne Chapter, No. 733, from St. John's Wood to the Holborn Restaurant, Holborn.

3. The Phoenix Chapter of St. Ann, No. 1235, from the Court House to the Town Hall, Buxton.

The Committee have further to report that in consequence of the formation and recognition of a Grand Lodge of Victoria, there are, with the exception of the Meridian Lodge of St. John, No. 729, and the Combermere Lodge, No. 752, Melbourne, which have not yet signified their intention of joining the Grand Lodge of Victoria, no longer English Craft Lodges in that Colony to which the Chapters meeting in the District of Victoria can be attached, as required by Article 45, Royal Arch Regulations.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that the charters of the undermentioned Chapters be withdrawn and cancelled, and that the Chapters be erased from the Register of the Grand Chapter.

- No. 474, Australasian, Melbourne.
- „ 530, Victorian, Melbourne.
- „ 641, Royal Golden of Bendigo, Sandhurst.
- „ 692, Eureka, Castlemain.
- „ 713, Yarrowee, Ballarat.
- „ 727, Collingwood, Melbourne.
- „ 728, St. John, Beechworth.
- „ 747, Melbourne, Melbourne.
- „ 930, South Yarra, Melbourne.

(Signed) ROBERT GREY, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., July 17, 1889.

The several recommendations contained in the above report were adopted, on the motion of Comp. ROBERT GREY, seconded by Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON.

Comp. ROBERT GREY, in moving the recommendation with respect to the Grand Lodge of Victoria, said:—“I now move, following the precedent of our last Convocation, that the same course be adopted as in the case of the New South Wales Grand Lodge, and I move that the charters of the foregoing Chapters be withdrawn and cancelled, and that the Chapters be erased from the register of the Grand Chapter.

Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON seconded, and the motion was carried. Grand Chapter was then closed.

We record with deep regret the death of a very excellent brother, Mr. Spence Bate, of The Rock, South Brent, where he died. Bro. Bate was known as a most skilled dentist, and enjoyed the largest practice in the South of England. He was a most scientific man, and was the author of the standard authority on *British Sessile-eyed Crustacea*, which gained for him the fellowship of the Royal Society. He was a Freemason of over thirty years' standing, and was widely known and much respected among his brethren in the Province of Devon. He was a member of Lodge Sincerity (189), Stonehouse. When that Lodge was rejuvenated from a period of inertness and became one of the most influential in the Three Towns, he was one of the earliest of its new members, became its W.M. in 1863, and at his death was the oldest of its Past Masters, with the exception of the Earl of Mount-Edgcombe. At a Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting held at Plymouth, on Aug. 30, 1866, W. Bro. Bate was appointed Prov. G. Registrar by the then P.G.M., the late Rev. John Huyshe. He was also a member of the Sincerity Chapter of H. R. Arch Masons, was Z. of that Chapter in 1865, and was appointed the J. or third Grand Principal of the Province on Aug. 27, 1866. He also took an active part in Mark Masonry. Was a member of the Sincerity Mark Lodge, 35, passed the chair in 1866, and was appointed Provincial Senior Grand Warden on Aug. 27, 1866. In 1880 he became Deputy Prov. Grand Master under the late Colonel Tanner Davy, P.G.M.; was D.P.G.M. at the death of that brother, and remained in charge of the Mark Province up to his decease. At the last election for P.G.M. he was unanimously recommended by his brethren in the province for the office of Prov. G.M.M.M. Up to the present no appointment had, however, been made to that office by Grand Lodge, and at the annual provincial meeting, which was to have been held last month, but for Bro. Bate's illness, it was intended to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the omission. Bro. Bate was likewise a member of the Masonic Ark Mariners.

Provincial Grand Lodges and Chapters.

The PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL held its yearly meeting on the 27th ult., at Liskeard, in the Market Hall, and the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, the P.G.M., presided, and was supported by all the Grand Officers. No fewer than 438 brethren were present, among whom were all the local men of light and leading in the Craft.

The Provincial Grand Master did not think it wise to comply with the petition for the formation of a new Lodge at Camelford. After the fourth annual report of the Cornwall Masonic Charity Association had been read by Bro. Gilbert B. Pearce, the Past Grand Lodge adjourned, and attended church, to which they proceeded in procession, and appreciated an eloquent sermon given by Bro. the Rev. R. F. Fraser-Frizell, P.G.C. After Bro. Hughan had called attention to the twenty-five years of service as Secretary of the County Annuity and Benevolent Fund of Bro. Chirgwin, the Provincial Grand Master invested his Officers for the year:—

Bros. Sir C. B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., 330, Prov. D.G.M.; E. Milford Cock, 589, Prov. S.G.W.; J. Jose, 331, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. R. Fraser-Frizell, 893, Prov. G. Chap.; T. H. Gibbons, 1272, Prov. G. Treas.; Wellington Dale, 121, Prov. G. Reg.; T. Chirgwin, 131, Prov. G. Sec.; E. Herring, 1071, and J. de Cressy Treffry, 977, Prov. S.G.D.'s; J. Wearne, 1272, and W. H. Huddy, 510, Prov. J.G.D.'s; A. W. White, 1136, Prov. G.S. of W.; W. H. Roberts, 1785, Prov. G.D.C.; J. Best, 1529, Prov. D.G.D.C.; T. S. Bailey, 1151, Prov. A.G.D.C.; E. Edwards, 131, Prov. G.S.B.; G. T. Olver, 75, and W. Bond, 557, Prov. G. Std. Brs.; J. S. C. Simpson, 121, Prov. G. Org.; J. Rogers, 331, Prov. A.G. Sec.; G. Cassell, 1136, Prov. G. Purst.; J. Langdon, 131, Prov. A.G. Purst.; J. M. Carne, 75, B. F. Edyvean, 330, W. T. Hawking, 131, J. Duckott, 893, T. D. Deeble, 1071, and W. Wagner, 450, Prov. G. Stwds.; R. Penwarden, Prov. G. Tyler.

* * *

On Monday, the 12th ult., Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, assisted by the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge and the Brethren of the Province, held a special meeting in the Dudley-road Board Schools, and subsequently formed in procession and walked to St. Cuthbert's Church, where three memorial windows were unveiled. The windows have been subscribed for by the Sunday-schools and parishioners, in memory of the late vicar, Bro. the Rev. W. H. Tarleton, P.P.G. Chaplain. The Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge who accompanied Lord Leigh were Bros. J. T. Collins, Deputy Provincial Grand Master; G. H. Rooker, Asst. D.C.; Mears, S.B.; J. R. Jackson, D.C.; F. H. Reece, G.O.; G. Beech, G.S.; J. W. Matthews, Asst. Secretary; W. H. Wood, G.P.; W. E. Fowkes, Asst. G.P.; and W. E. Mewis, G. Stwd.

* * *

The Provincial Grand Master, the Right. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, presided at the meeting of the PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSETSHIRE at Weston-Super-Mare on the 2nd ult. A very large number of Prov. Brethren were present. The investiture of officers for the ensuing year was as follows:—

Bros. G. E. Alford, P.M. 1222, Prov. S.G.W.; A. Duckett, P.M. 291, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. F. A. Byrde, and F. W. Macdonald, W.M. 379, Prov. G. Chaps.; E. M. Fuller, P.M. 53, Prov. G. Reg.; C. L. F. Edwards, Prov. G. Treas.; J. C. Hunt, Prov. G. Sec.; F. H. Warren, P.M. 1197 and 1953, Prov. S.G.D.; L. Ashcroft, P.M. 1296, Prov. J.G.D.; G. B. Laffon, P.M. 135, Prov. G.S. of W.; S. Spill, P.M. 973, Prov. G.D.C.; S. W. Bewsey, P.M. 437, Prov. A.G.D.C.; Dr. F. S. Pearce, P.M. 261, Prov. G.S.B.; W. P. Bennett, P.M. 2038, and B. F. Wood, P.M. 1197, Prov. G. Std. Brs.; W. E. Sparrow, P.M. 906, Prov. G. Org.; T. C. Manning, P.M. 285, Prov. G. Purst.; T. E. Wilton, P.M. 41, Prov. A.G. Purst.; A. J. Salter, Tyler 53, Prov. G. Tyler; S. Bigwood, Tyler 41, Prov. A.G. Tyler.

* * *

The PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ESSEX held its meeting at Easton Lodge, the seat of the P.G.M. Lord Brooke, on Tuesday, the 6th ult. The proceedings were exceptionally successful. Some remarks on the event will be found in another column. The following Brethren were invested as officials for the ensuing year:—

Bros. Lennox Browne, W.M., 2256, Prov. S.G.W.; E. H. Baily, I.P.M., 2006, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. W. Quennell, 214, Prov. G. Chap.; Joseph Sadler, W.M. St. Peter's Lodge, Prov. G. Treas.; A. J. H. Ward, W.M., 650, Br. G. Reg.; T. J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., P.M. and Sec. 51 (13th year), Prov. G. Sec.; J. Van Essen, I.P.M. 2005, Prov. S.G.D.; Frank Sackett, P.M. 1343, Prov. J.G.D.; G. Copus, I.P.M. 1312, Prov. G.S. of W.; A. Lucking, P.G.P. Eng., P.M. and Sec. 1000 (16th year), Prov. G.D.C.; W. Burroughs, P.M. 1437, Prov. A.G.D.C.; G. J. Westfield, I.P.M. 2184, Prov. G. Swd. Br.; W. Metcalfe, I.P.M. 276, G. Thomas, I.P.M. 1817, Prov. G. Swd. Brs.; Egbert Roberts, W.M. 917, Org. 2255, Prov. G. Org.; Arthur Barritt, I.P.M. 1024, Prov. A.G. Sec.; John Ayling, I.P.M. 160, Prov. G. Purst.; Wm. Strutt, Treas. 2077, Prov. A.G. Purst.; J. G. Renshaw, W.M. 697, Heagerty, W.M. 1343, R. C. Lyle, S.W. 1543, D. Milbank, S.D. 1543, J. M. Welch, D.C. 1543; C. Bint, 1543, Prov. G. Stwds.; A. W. Martin, Prov. G. Tyler.

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Eminent Masons at Home.

No. III.—COL. SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART., AT RAMSBURY MANOR.

THE deer have clustered together amid the beeches in Squire Popham's Park, frightened by the wholesale slaughter of the fawns which has recently taken place. You almost wish, as you drive past, that the Squire was an eminent Mason himself, so that you might find an excuse for visiting his beautiful house at Littlecote, and ramble through the magnificent range of stables which has so much impressed the young coachman who tools your flat-footed mare along the lanes. But Francis William Leyborne-Popham is young, and may-be some future historian will chronicle his career, and help him to thin down the deer that roam about his hills. Further along the road from Hungerford is Chilton Church, and the luxurious vicarage of Mr. Kitson; a hamlet or two, a farm here and there, but nothing of more importance till you enter the rambling village of Ramsbury. The "Bell Hotel" commands the High-street, which, after wriggling in and out among the cottages, turns abruptly to the right, past the "Bleeding Horse Inn," and the smithy with its door ornamented with foxes' feet, and leads you eventually through a wooded lane and golden corn-field to the beautiful and secluded gates of the Manor.

It is only in the summer and early autumn of the year that Sir Francis Burdett is to be found at Ramsbury. The house itself is a large one, but cannot compare with the charming Derbyshire seat of the Burdetts near Repton—Foremark Hall—where the family usually resides during the winter months, but it is a charming place for all that, and when a nephew of Inigo Jones built the house some century and a half ago, he built one of those solid brick residences which are so creditable to the reputation of his illustrious architect relative. Sir Francis, the fifth Baronet, born in 1770, and

who was a well-known politician of his day, and had married the youngest daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Coutts, the banker, was fond of his Wiltshire estate, and occasionally resided there; but the late Baronet allowed it to drop into sad condition, so that when the present owner inherited the property from his cousin Robert, the sixth Baronet (who died some nine years ago unmarried), there was scope for an energetic reinstatement of the house and grounds.

The reception-rooms of the Manor open direct from the spacious hall, round which are arranged some of the minor specimens of weapons and things Sir Francis has collected during his military career. A few rugs and skins are scattered over the oaken floor, and a dozen or more portraits adorn the walls, but through the beautiful mahogany doors immediately opposite the entrance is the drawing-room. Here you disturb Lady Burdett diligently engaged with local parish affairs at her writing-table. The walls are entirely of oak panelling, by Grindley Gibbons, with a charming statuary marble mantel-piece by the same master; but your attention will be most attracted by the portraits of three lovely women, whom you learn were sisters of Sir F. Burdett, the fifth Baronet. From the windows of this room a magnificent view is obtained of the private lawns adjoining the house, and far out over the beautiful park, but as your host intends escorting you round the grounds during the afternoon, he gives you but little time to lose yourself in admiration. Into his own special study, hung with hand-painted Japanese paper in extraordinary design, Sir Francis will take you to discuss the many features of his Masonic career, and the formidable collection of certificates and numerous official and private communications connected with his various positions in the Craft will be carefully gone through and detailed for your especial satisfaction.

It was in India, whilst a cornet in the 13th Light Dragoons, that he was initiated into Freemasonry, on January 18, 1837, and his certificate, which is engraved on vellum, is signed "J. Fitzgerald, Master." Having duly qualified for and obtained the rank of a Master Mason, a period of inaction set in, owing to the travelling duties of the regiment and the difficulty in those days of a soldier Mason obtaining the benefit of visiting civic lodges. But in 1841 we find him joining the Fidelity Lodge (6th Dragoon Guards), and on May 28 in the same year being instructed in the mysteries of the Holy Royal Arch under the R. A. Chapter of Scotland. Also in this year, on December 27, he was admitted a member of the Celtic Lodge of Edinburgh and Leith. In 1848 he was back in Ireland, and seems to have devoted the whole of his leisure time in continuing his Masonic work and qualifying himself for all the attainable positions he could find. On May 3 he was raised to the Mark degree.

On the same day, "Brother F. Burdett, Major, 17th Lancers, Kilwilling Encampment, has been duly and regularly admitted, instructed, and registered in the books of the Supreme Grand Encampment of Ireland as a Knight of the Sword, Knight of the East and King of the East and West, of the Royal and Mysterious Order of the High Knights Templars and Masonic Knights of Malta." On November 10 he joined the Eureka Lodge (47), Dundalk, and, just one month later, he was voted the Honorary Membership of the Clanwilliam (55), Tipperary, and the Triune (333), Limerick, "in testimony of the high esteem in which the members of these Lodges hold your Masonic zeal and worth."

In the following year, in which he attended various Masonic meetings no fewer than 148 times, he founded two Lodges, accepted the Honorary Membership of three others, and added several posts to his long list of Stewardships. Plodding onward, as men do when the doctrines of Freemasonry have eaten into their souls, we find Lieut.-Col. Burdett, 17th Lancers, in 1858, admitted a Sovereign of Grand Rose Croix. In 1862 Lord Zetland, the Grand Master, invested him as Senior Grand Warden of England, since which time he has represented the Grand Lodge of Ireland at Grand Lodge, with the rank of S.G.W. (Ireland). Five years later he joined the Harmony Lodge (255). In 1869 he was elected and installed as First Prov. Grand

Master of Middlesex—a position he still retains. The following year he was admitted to the 33°, and installed as the First Prov. Grand Master of Mark Masonry for Middlesex and Surrey, the honors of which he also retains. In '76 he was presented with the Honorary Membership of the Burdett Royal Arch Chapter, 1293; and in the succeeding year he was appointed the representative of the United States at the Grand Council of the Red Cross of Constantine in Scotland. In 1879 he was appointed Sov. Grand Inspector-General of the 33°, Inspector-General of the Southern District of England, and First Grand Sov. of the Red Cross Order in Scotland. In 1888, on April 6, Sir Francis was admitted to the Order of the Secret Monitor, which for the present completes one of the brightest records in Masonry it is possible to chronicle; and among the numerous proofs he has received of the esteem with which his life-long effort to serve Masonry and his own particular Province have been met, he values none so highly as the iron-bound oak chest containing that beautiful service of plate which the Brethren of the Province of Middlesex presented him in 1876.

Sir Francis has much to say in explanation of the deep interest he has taken in the art. He believes no better Mason ever lived than the late Duke of Leinster, whose signature is appended to many of the certificates granted to him. But the Duke was very careful not to permit Masonry to weigh with him in his business relations with his tenants or others; and that unfortunate man who weighted an application to his Grace with any reference to his membership of the Craft, got nothing but a sound lecture for his

pains. It is gratifying to hear from Sir Francis of the perfect success and harmony with which military Lodges are worked. The association of non-commissioned officers with their superior officers has a most beneficial result, and he knows of no instance within his memory in which this association was presumed upon outside the walls of the Lodge-room.

Outside of Masonry, Sir Francis Burdett occupies his time by his magistral duties—he is a Justice of the Peace for four counties—following the hounds, and attending to his estates. As a magistrate he is never severe, but he seldom lets the practised thief or the professional cadger leave him insufficiently punished. As for the

hounds, he admits, with a smile, that his best days are over; but he often gets a run with the Meynell Pack when he stays in Derbyshire, and frequently attends any local meets when residing at Ramsbury. For fifteen years, he tells you with pride, he hunted in Kildare County, and if the afternoon was not so far advancing, you would have had related some of those stirring adventures in the field his enthusiasm for the sport seems bursting to tell you.

From the steps of the Manor you can see the stabling arranged as a quadrangle, and growing up out of a cluster of foliage which hides the entrance to it. As far as the eye can reach on the one hand is a beautiful expanse of park ground, timbered as only

an enthusiast can regulate the growth. On the right creeps along the river Kennet, widened out as it passes the house into a respectable river. Over the opposite bank, which is fringed with magnificent beeches, elms, and willows, you catch sight of the haymakers, providing just that evidence of life which makes the picture perfect; and far beyond is a range of timbered hills that run right across the landscape and lose themselves at either end with the horizon.

As Sir Francis wanders with you through this beautiful scene, it requires but little notice to find where his rural passion lies. It is with his trees. He is too jealous of them to allow cattle to graze upon his land. On either side he will point out his favorite specimens, which he has carefully nurtured into their present condition, and will take you a long detour through shady walks and cool plantations to show you "the finest stick of Spanish chestnut in the kingdom." The noble "stick" towers above

its neighbors as straight as an arrow, and when you tell him how proud he is of it, he will turn away with a smile to show you something more.

The kitchen gardens must not be missed. There are two, perfectly square, with high old walls surrounding them. The paths are of grass, beautifully kept—Sir Francis loves grass, he says—and well trimmed. Standard pear and apple railings wall them in on either side. There are the beekeepers attending to their hives, and beautiful flowers make the borders even here gay with bloom. Further onward is the miniature farm-yard, with its hay-ricks peeping up over the red walls covered with the growth of a couple



From a photograph by Byrne, of Richmond.

COL. SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART.

of centuries. In the grounds is hid an old bath-house, on the headstone of the entrance of which is this curious inscription:—

© you that bathe in courtley bliss,
Or toyle in fortune's giddy sphere,
Doo not too rashly deeme anysse
Of him who bydes contented here.

The door leading to the ancient dressing-room has been taken from the farm-house at Oxford, the remains of an old Monastery. The door is fitted with a beautiful pair of wrought-iron hinges and escutcheons, much spoiled with paint and distemper, but it forms a fitting entrance to the dungeon-like bath-room, through which the water rushes with a curious sound; whilst from a solitary crevice in the walls struggles through a branch of ivy, bringing with it a gleam of light, which makes the place more awful than it otherwise would be. In the adjoining room is an interesting specimen of an old man-trap, found some years ago in the park.

By the banks of the Kennet Sir Francis will give you some charming information on the art of trout-fishing. He possesses six miles of the river, and often lands a couple of brace of this splendid fish, for which the Kennet is famed. Lower down the stream, under a beautiful oak that grows up out of the bank, floats the flat bottom skiff and Canadian canoe, the special property of the daughters of the house. A mile and a half across the park to the eastward you first catch glimpses of the main road skirting the domain of the manor. This road in one part mounted a terribly steep hill, which has been a source of great danger and trouble to the country folk for centuries; but Sir Francis has altered all this, and almost entirely at his own expense has dug away the crown of the hill to a depth of 40 ft., and rendered an inestimable service to the county.

It is time now to saunter back to the house, and bid your host good-bye, for Sir Francis, with his son and daughter, are to ride this afternoon. The last you hear from him is a wish that you should look at a couple of beeches near the gates; and, as you turn your head from Ramsbury Manor, you see its owner spring to the back of his favorite horse with the agility of a man forty years his junior, and canter off, attended on either side by a gay young lad and his pretty sister. At the lodge you stop to ask of the beeches the master wishes you to see. "Ah! and they be fine 'uns, too, sir," says the veteran pensioner, who doffs his cap, and you drive away.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their regular meeting at Freemasons' Hall last month. Bro. C. J. Perceval, Vice-President, was in the chair, and there were present Bros. W. A. Scurrah, A. H. Tattershall, Hugh Cotter, C. H. Webb, S. C. Haslip, Charles Kempton, W. B. Daniell, Charles Daniel, J. J. Berry, W. H. Hulbert, S. Brooks, David D. Mercer, A. Mullard, Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; R. Berridge, P.G.D.C.; H. Driver, P.G.S. of W.; C. H. Bevir, J. S. Cumberland, Hugh M. Hobbs, and John Mason (Acting Secretary). The Acting Secretary reported the death of an accepted widow candidate. A letter was read from Bro. the Earl of Euston, P.G.M. Norths and Hunts, who presided at the last Anniversary Festival in February, in which his lordship expressed his very cordial acknowledgments for the illuminated address of thanks presented to him in recognition of his services as Chairman. The Warden's Report for the past month was read, and a vote of thanks passed to the Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Rite, for the renewal of their gifts to the inmates of the Institution at Croydon. The applications from two widows to be allowed the half of their late husband's annuities were acceded to, and two petitions (one Brother and one widow) were examined and accepted, and the names ordered to be entered on the lists of candidates for the election in May, 1890.

Masonic News.

The efforts to form a new Lodge for the convenience of the craftsmen resident at Horwich have for a time been suspended, pending the settlement of the debatable point as to whether Horwich is in the Masonic division of East Lancashire or that of West Lancashire. The matter is, however, now set at rest, and West Lancashire will have the honor of including the Horwich Lodge on its register roll. The Brethren who have given in their adhesion to the scheme will be called together forthwith, and all preliminaries speedily settled.

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Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has forwarded a cheque for fifty guineas to the Lord Mayor's fund for the further equipment of the Volunteers, with a sincere wish that the whole of the required sum may be speedily collected.

* * *

In reply to the loyal and congratulatory address to the Prince and Princess of Wales, adopted at the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk, held at Beccles, the Right Hon. Lord Henniker, Provincial Grand Master, has received the following:—

Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.,
July 30th, 1889.

MY LORD,—I am directed by the Prince of Wales to acknowledge the receipt of the loyal and fraternal address from the Freemasons of the "Province of Suffolk," and in reply to convey to the Brethren His Royal Highness's best thanks for the kind and generous congratulations contained therein upon the marriage of the Princess Louise, Duchess of Fife.—
DIGHTON PROBYN,
General Comptroller and Treasurer.

* * *

The Lodge Journeyman (8) made its annual visitation on the 8th ult., according to ancient custom, to the tombs of the deceased Masters and other Officers of the Lodge, in West Church, Grange, Calton, and Restalrig burying-grounds. The Right Worshipful Master George Coutts Douglas was accompanied by Bros. David Blake, Junior Warden; William B. Lyons, Senior Deacon; and other members of the Lodge.

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The result of the recent examination of students of the R.M.I. for Girls in science and art at the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, was that out of thirty girls submitted for examination, nine passed in the first class and twenty in the second.

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The Secretary of Lodge 683, Anahilt True Blues, Hillsborough, has received from Bro. W. Tennent Henry, C.E., J.P., the sum of £16. 16s. 3d., being the amount of a collection in the Hillsborough Presbyterian Church on the occasion of a Masonic festival, and subscriptions before and since received, towards founding two official governorships for the Lodge in connection with the Masonic Orphan Schools in Dublin.

* * *

Bro. William A. Davis, secretary of the bazaar being organised in aid of the Annuity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, has issued a circular to Lodges holding under the Scottish Constitution, in which he states that he is directed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Colonel Sir Archibald C. Campbell, of Blythswood, Bart., M.P., to make the following communication to them:—You will recollect that it has been decided to hold a grand bazaar for the purpose of raising a sum of about £10,000 to aid the Annuity Fund of the extended scheme of Scottish Masonic benevolence for the benefit of indigent Scottish Masons, their widows, or children. Arrangements have now been practically completed to hold the bazaar at the end of 1890 in Edinburgh, as being the headquarters of Scottish Masonry; and the Most Worshipful Grand Master earnestly asks all the Provincial and District Grand Lodges and

Daughter Lodges under the Scottish Constitution to co-operate with the committee appointed by Grand Lodge to carry out this object, and to do their utmost in collecting donations either in money or materials for the various stalls. I would suggest that a committee of your Lodge should be appointed for the purpose of working your special district and friends. It must be kept in view that it is only by personal effort and energetic action the required sum can be raised, and all Masons who are desirous of seeing such a laudable scheme as the Annuity Fund prosper will, I am sure, without further appeal, do everything in their power to make the bazaar an undoubted financial success. There is no doubt that contributions in "kind" from the Scottish Holding Lodges in India, the Colonies, and foreign parts will be highly valued by the committee, as from the favour in which such goods are held in this country they will tend to very materially increase the revenue of the bazaar.

* * *

The Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton, Provincial Grand Master of Cheshire, has summoned the Officers and Brethren of the Province to the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, to be held at Hyde, on the 18th of this month. There will be the usual investiture of Officers for the ensuing year, and there will be a motion to grant 50 guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in London.

* * *

The Brethren of St. Andrews' Lodge, Falkirk, met on Saturday, the 4th ult., and presented Past Master James Neilson with a Masonic apron and jewel in appreciation of his services to the Lodge and to Masonry generally. Bro. Rev. Alexander Falconer, Chaplain of the Lodge, made the presentation, and, in doing so, delivered an impressive address on the principles of the Craft, in the course of which he said their ritual any church in Christendom might accept; and the Brother they met to honor could go through it with unflinching tongue. Their Order recognised no social, political, or religious distinctions; and, therefore, a humble miner, if a good Mason, was as noble in their eyes as a prince of the proudest realm on earth. The form of recognition the services of their worthy Brother had assumed embraced the territorial boundaries of their system, extending from the Apron of the Apprentice to the Golden Star of the Right Worshipful Master in the Lodge. In conventional common parlance, the Mason's Apron simply signified the lambskin of innocence; but, in more accurate significance, it meant protection from the dust and the defilement of the daily drudgery of life; and that their brother had kept his garments all undefiled and unspotted from the world. They therefore rose to a climax in doing him honor, and only regretted that they had no higher or more substantial honors to bestow on one who was worthy of reaching, were it attainable, the proud position of being the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the ancient kingdom of Caledonia (loud applause). Brother Neilson acknowledged the badges of distinction conferred upon him by his Lodge, stating that he had never been able to reach the standard he had chalked out for himself as a brother Mason, but in expressing the hope that he might in time to come serve them in a manner not unworthy of the handsome gifts wherewith they had recognised his humble services in the past.

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The members of the Union Band Lodge (556), Moneyrea, have met and presented Bro. W. Gibson, P.M., with a gold chronometer, and his wife with a valuable diamond brooch, as a mark of the affection in which they are held by the brethren of the Lodge.

* * *

We regret to hear that Bro. Gerard Ford, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, who, some weeks ago, was ordered to Switzerland for the benefit of his health, has met with a most unfortunate accident while staying at Berne. He and Mrs. Ford were walking one afternoon in the Spitalgasse, one of the galleried streets

when a heavy thunder-shower began. There was a rush of roughs for the shelter of the colonnade, one of whom pushed violently against Bro. Ford, who slipped on the wet pavement, and fell heavily to the ground, breaking his arm just below the shoulder. The shock to his system is very great, more especially as he was just recovering from a recent illness. He is attended by a very skilful surgeon, and will, it is hoped, soon be able to begin a journey, by slow stages, to England. This accident is the more regrettable, as the 27th of next month has been fixed as the date of Bro. Ford's installation as Prov. Grand Master of Mark Masons for Sussex, in succession to Lord Arthur Hill, who resigns his office. It is hoped he will be able to go through the ceremony, though, of course, debarred from taking any active part in Masonry until quite recovered from the results of this unfortunate accident.

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Captain W. B. Williamson has been elected W.M. of the Metropolitan Council of Masons.

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The annual Glasgow bowling-match which decides the holders of the Pearce and Jubilee cups for the next twelve months has been held. There were fourteen Lodges competing, represented by nineteen rinks. Play began at 4.30 at eleven different greens, and as the scores were made the returns were sent to Brother David Reid, Provincial Grand Secretary, who was in waiting at St. Mark's Hall, Bucharan-street. Brother Charles Wilson (102), president of the Bowling Committee, was not able to announce the result till a little before ten o'clock. Before handing over the prizes, Brother Wilson hoped that next year bowlers would send in their results earlier. As this was the first meeting of bowlers since the death of Sir William Pearce, he could not let the occasion pass without making reference to their loss. He was glad that this year there had been an increase in the number competing for the cups, and he hoped that next year would show a still larger increase. He might remark that it was a strange thing that Glasgow was so far behind Edinburgh in bowling facilities. In Edinburgh there were ten public greens, while Glasgow could not boast of one. He hoped the Glasgow Council would see their way to take up the matter soon. The prizes were then presented as follows:—1st prize, "Pearce" Cup and £6. Won by Lodge Clydesdale, No. 556, with an average of fifteen shots. 2nd prize, £3. Won by Lodge Maryhill, No. 510, with an average of twelve and a half shots. 3rd prize, £2. Won by Lodge Athole, No. 413, with an average of eleven shots. The "Jubilee" Cup, which goes to the highest-up rink, also goes to the Lodge Clydesdale, Bro. George C. H. M'Naught being twenty-three up. Three cheers were given for Bros. Wilson, Reid, and Halket in acknowledgment of their labors in connection with the competition.

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At the last examination for the Degree of Doctor of Science at the University of London only one candidate passed in Mixed Mathematics, Mr. Richard Bryant, an old pupil of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, who is the only man in England who has taken the D.Sc. in this branch of the Doctorate. On leaving the Institution Mr. Bryant was placed by Dr. Morris under a "Wrangler" for two years. At the end of this time he gained an exhibition at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. But the funds at Dr. Morris's disposal were exhausted, and the youthful aspirant for mathematical honours at Cambridge had to give up the idea of a University career and take to private teaching. In 1881 he matriculated at the London University, and two or three years afterwards graduated as B.A., B.Sc. In June, 1889, he took the Degree of D.Sc., and sent in as his thesis a work on the "Orbit of the Comet Sappho." Dr. Bryant is a fellow of the Astronomical Society, and has read several valuable papers at its customary meetings.

The *Freemason*, under date August 10, says:—"Bro. Ermilo G. Canton, director and proprietor of the *Boletín Masonico*, the "official" organ of the "Del. Sup. Gr. Or. de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos," has printed the complete text of the lecture on "The Great Pyramid and Freemasonry," delivered by Bro. John Chapman in Philadelphia and in several Lodges in this country. The text has been carefully printed in Spanish from a translation by his son, Mr. John Henry Chapman. The circulation of the lecture through Spain by our Bro. E. Contreras, in the *El Taller*, and now in Mexico by Bro. E. G. Canton, will give it considerably more publicity.

* * *

Mr. Robert Toy having secured the contract for the new Masonic hall for Tregenna Lodge (1272) has commenced operations. This Lodge will have a magnificent suite of rooms, and from the healthy state of the Order at St. Ives great benefits are expected by the removal of several Lodges from the present places of meeting.

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An interesting Masonic service was attended by the brethren of Lodge St. Andrew's (199), Cumbernauld, in the parish church, a few Sundays ago. The brethren mustered in their Lodge-room, under Bro. Stark, R.W.M., while deputations from Lodge St. John, No. 16, Falkirk, under Bro. M'Beth; Lodge Denny and Loanhead, No. 176, under Bro. Frew; No. 431, under Bro. O'Brien; No. 588, Callendar, Falkirk, under Bro. Gray, also joined. The brethren formed into order and marched to the church, accompanied by the esteemed and reverend chaplain of the Lodge, Bro. Park, parish minister, along with the Rev. Bro. Somerville, of Blackfriars Church, Glasgow, Grand Lodge Chaplain, who conducted the services, which were of a most interesting and impressive nature. In a most eloquent discourse, during which the reverend brother referred to the exquisite beauty of design and excellent character of the workmanship that so justly entitled the glorious temple of Solomon to the pre-eminent distinction of being unequalled—the wonder of the world until now—he made some very interesting and lucid remarks on several of the ancient Masonic symbolisms met with, and forcibly and tersely pointed out their probable moral reference. The chief aim of his discourse was, however, directed to modern Freemasonry, "which significantly means that every brother ought to rear up as magnificent a temple as he can construct, a character as faultless as can be borne, live a life of doing good, and strive to obtain in the end an entrance into the Grand Lodge above." The discourse was listened to with marked attention and appreciation by a very large congregation, the church being filled in every part. An excellent choir, under the leadership of Bro. Fleming, assisted materially in the services.

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As some bricklayers were piercing the wall of the old Parochial School at Mauchline, the other day, they came upon the memorial stone of the additions built in 1865. The chisel passed through a glass bottle, in which were found a list of the members of Mauchline St. Mungo's Lodge, No. 179, the names of the teachers in the parish school and the New Educational Institute, as well as the names of the ministers of Mauchline. There were fourteen photos in good preservation, a few coins, and two newspapers, the *Glasgow Herald* and the *Ayrshire Express*, of August 25, 1865.

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The *Liberal Freemason* records the death of Bro. Benjamin Curran, D.C.L., a Past G.H.P. of the Grand R.A. Chapter, and a Past S.G. Warden, and G. Secretary for the last eighteen years of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. Our late brother, who died on the 31st March last, at the age of sixty-three years, was a man of liberal education, and exercised very great influence in Masonry in the jurisdiction of Nova Scotia.

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The remains of the late Bro. William Green, who died on the 14th ult., at the age of fifty, were interred at St. Anne's Hill

Cemetery, Gosport, on Monday, the 19th ult. The deceased brother was late Serjeant-Major on the staff of the Royal Engineers, Gosport, in which corps he was very highly respected. He was also a prominent Mason in the Province of Hampshire, being a founder and first S.W., and subsequently a P.M. of the Hope Lodge, No. 2153, P.Z. 903, P.M. and P.P.G. Officer in the Mark Degree, P.M.W.S. in the A. and A. Rite, Royal Naval Chapter (Rose Croix); also a member of the Royal Naval Preceptory and Priory, Portsmouth, and a Knight of the Red Cross Rome and Constantine. The deceased was buried in the robes of a Knight Templar.

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A most interesting ceremony took place on Wednesday evening, the 21st ult., in connection with the Lodge of Friendship (277), at the Masonic Hall, Oldham, the occasion being to celebrate the centenary of the Lodge, which has had an uninterrupted course since the 22nd of August, 1789, the warrant for the formation of the Lodge bearing that date. About seventy members and visitors attended. Amongst those present were Bros. J. Greaves, W.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works; J. Braddock, S.W., P.M.; B. C. Mattinson, I.P.M.; Abram Clegg, J.W., P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; J. O. Jelly, M.A., Chaplain; C. Watson, Treasurer, P.M.; John Buckley, S.D.P.M.; Ralph Holden, J.D., P.M.; H. L. Hollingworth, D.C., P.M., P.P.G.T.; T. Bailey, Secretary; and the rest of the officers. The visitors included Bros. J. H. Shillitoe, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Chadwick, P.M., P.G. Secretary; W. Bagnall, P.M.; and the W.M.'s of the other Oldham and neighbouring Lodges. The Lodge being opened, Bro. P.M. Greaves, W.M., called upon Bro. Jelly to read a history of the Lodge from the time of formation to the present, compiled by Bro. Jelly from the minute-books. After the reading of this interesting record, Bro. Chadwick, Provincial Grand Secretary, presented to the Lodge the centenary warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of England. Bro. Chadwick, in making the presentation, said:—As a preface, I may say that you might have obtained the services of brethren higher in rank than I for so interesting a duty, but I will say this, brethren, none more earnest or more desirous of fulfilling the duties required of me. I congratulate the Friendship Lodge on possessing such a history as that just given by our good Brother Jelly, and on its stability and prosperity, and I rejoice to visit it to-day, and present to you, my dear friends and brethren, the centenary warrant granted by the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The aspirations of the Provincial Grand Lodge, of which I am its humble exponent, are that all the brethren under its jurisdiction—especially you of this Friendship Lodge, 277—may be worthy of the obligations they have severally taken, may work in love and unity, and may be in the future, as in the past, a contented, prosperous, and harmonious community of Freemasons, the pride of our estimable and worthy chief, Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, and the envy of the world outside the mystic circle. I desire, W.M. and brethren, in presenting this centenary warrant, to declare to you the progress the Craft has made in this province of Lancashire since its institution, but especially since this Lodge was consecrated, August 22, 1789. The number then was 554, and now it is 277. Bro. Edward Entwistle was our first P.G.M., appointed in 1734, with three Lodges under his jurisdiction. In 1789 Bro. John Allen was P.G.M., with twenty-two lodges, and there were also thirteen others under Athol Constitution, called Antients. Bro. F. D. Astley was P.G.M. at the Union, in 1813, with fifty-seven lodges under his jurisdiction. Division of Lancashire, 1826, Bro. Le Gendre N. Starkie appointed G.P.M. of E. D., with forty-one lodges (the number of members I have no means of ascertaining). Colonel Starkie appointed P.G.M. in 1870, with seventy-four lodges and 3,400 members. Now, in 1889, we have 100 lodges and upwards of 4,400 members. This is a record, I venture to say, not surpassed by any province. I would, before concluding, remind you of the charges that every true Mason should keep, for our grand Craft is a science worthy to be kept and engraven upon the heart of every true Mason. It is a virtuous science, for it

teacheth man to speak and write truly, and to discern truth from falsehood. I might, before sitting down, congratulate the lodges meeting in this hall on their efficiency and the prudence with which they are usually governed. I should much like to see all the lodges in our towns housed in a central hall, actuated and animated by one spirit, the spirit of harmony and brotherly love. This, I am positive, would be most conducive to their prosperity, as well as Masonic harmony. Bro. Hollingworth was subsequently presented with an address on vellum from his fellow Craftsmen, accompanied with a jewel, and a silver cruet for his wife, as a mark of their sincere appreciation of his work on behalf of his lodge.

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On Wednesday, the 21st ult., the foundation-stone of a new Town Hall—including a suite of rooms for Masonic purposes—was laid with Masonic honors at Bakewell, and the ceremony created great excitement in the neighborhood. The stone was laid by the Deputy P.G.M. of Derbyshire, R.W.M. H. C. Okeover, P.J.G.W. Eng. The Dorothy Vernon Lodge subsequently entertained the Brethren and a few invited guests at luncheon, at which the D.P.G.M. presided, and was supported by Lord Denman, Sir Julian Smith, Mr. S. Taylor Whitehead, and others. The Prov. Grand Chaplain, the Rev. E. E. Morris, delivered a most excellent address during the proceedings. We hope to find occasion to publish it.

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During the past month quite a large number of provincial Lodges have indulged in their annual picnic, entertaining their lady friends and families in hospitable fashion. We hear it is the intention of a very popular Prov. G.M. to invite the whole of the Lodges in his province to take advantage of the beauties of his house and grounds, and hold their summer holiday *en masse*, so that the attractions of a properly-arranged programme may be enjoyed.

Colonial and Foreign.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin has just resolved that hereafter no person who is engaged in keeping a saloon or selling intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage shall be initiated into any subordinate Lodge in that jurisdiction, nor shall any Mason who is so engaged be received in any Lodge by affiliation. It was also resolved that it was the imperative duty of all Lodges in that jurisdiction to exclude from Lodge and ante-rooms all intoxicating liquors.

* * *

From Cedar Rapids, Ia., comes the news that on July 29 an action was begun in the District Court at Marion that will startle Masonic circles more than anything else, perhaps, of late years. Judge Preston, of the Eighteenth Judicial District on the petition of C. F. Barnes, of Burlington, J. C. Graves, and Henry Bennett, plaintiffs and Grand Officers of the Iowa consistory of that branch of Scottish Rite Masonry commonly known as the Cerneau, ordered a temporary injunction against the Grand Lodge of Iowa Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, restraining them from putting into effect the legislation of the last session of the Grand Lodge referring to the Cerneau bodies, and which commanded Master Masons to leave the consistory of Iowa of that Rite under penalty of expulsion. The petition states that as the body represented by the plaintiffs does not confer the Blue Lodge degrees, and the Grand Lodge or its subordinate Lodges do not confer the twenty-nine higher degrees, the Grand Lodge has no jurisdiction whatever, and its action is illegal, arbitrary, oppressive, proscriptive of their individual consciences and Masonic relations, and hurtful to their standing as good and reputable citizens. This is the first time a Masonic body has appealed to the State Courts, and the action of the Supreme Court, to which it will finally go, will be a precedent for other States. The time for hearing the argument for a perpetual injunction will be in the October term of Court at Marion.

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In recognition of the valuable services rendered by Bro. John James, P.M., P.D.G.M., as Chairman of the Executive Committee formed for the amalgamation of the three Masonic constitutions, an address was presented to that gentleman at a dinner given by Bro. G. Baker, D.G.M., early last month. We understand, also, that in response to the desire of the Committee and the prominent members of the Craft, Bro. James is at present giving sittings to Mr. J. C. Waite, the well-known portrait painter, for a life-size painting, which, it is

intended, shall be hung upon the walls of the Masonic Hall as a companion picture to the Grand Master of the Order. The following is a copy of the address presented to Bro. James:—"Right Worshipful Sir and Brother.—We, the Executive Committee elected by the Craft to carry out their resolution to establish a Grand Lodge of Victoria, having successfully completed the work entrusted to us, take the opportunity of acknowledging with sincere thanks the very valuable services rendered by you as Chairman of our Committee. We are convinced that the complete success which has crowned our efforts is largely attributable to the fact that your name was prominently connected with the movement. Your urbanity and steadfastness of purpose frequently softened the rigor of debate, greatly facilitated the solution of many difficult problems with which the Committee had to deal, and the more readily achieved the acceptance by the various Lodges of the articles of union. As a token of our appreciation of the zeal, ability, and courtesy with which you presided over our deliberations, we purpose, with your permission, to take steps to have a permanent memento of your connection with Freemasonry, with which object we request you to sit for your portrait as a companion picture to those of the Grand Masters already adorning the Masonic Hall. We fervently trust that the Great Architect of the Universe may long spare you to witness the successful results of your Masonic work in Victoria, and subscribe ourselves,—Your Faithful Brethren. Presented by W. J. Clarke, Grand Master, Melbourne, May 8, 1889." And then followed the twenty-six names of the members of the Executive Committee.

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St. Paul's Church, Twenty-third-street, Washington, looked as if several Lodge meetings were being held there simultaneously a few weeks ago, the occasion being the marriage of Worshipful Bro. John M. McKinney to Miss Manette Lansing Smith, of Georgetown, D.C., which accounted for the large number of Masons present. Lafayette, Harmony, B. B. French and Hiram Lodges were especially well represented, as were Mount Vernon Chapter and Washington Commandery. Bro. McKinney is Worshipful Master of Lafayette Lodge, Excellent King of Mount Vernon Chapter, and a Sir Knight of Washington Commandery (1). The only incident that marred the festivity of the occasion was the sorrowful gloom which settled over the countenances of the contingent of bachelor Brethren from Lafayette Lodge as the bridal party descended the aisle.

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The installation of Bro. Max Andresen as W.M. of the Concordia Lodge (28), S.A.C., took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Flinders-street, before a large and representative gathering of Freemasons, among whom were the W.M., the Grand Master (Bro. the Hon. S. J. Way, Chief Justice), Bro. H. C. E. Muecke, P.G.M., and a large number of Grand Lodge officers. The installation ceremony was performed in an able and impressive manner by the I.P.M., Bro. C. L. Meyer, assisted by the R.W., Bro. Philip Sansom, P.S.G.W.

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A large and representative gathering of the Masonic Fraternity in the Southern portion of Tasmania has been held for the purpose of reconsidering the question of the desirableness of establishing a Grand Lodge of Freemasonry for Tasmania. It will be recollected that at a meeting held in the early part of April, in a vote taken wherein some thirty odd members of the Craft recorded their opinions, a majority of one was obtained against the proposal. The Northern Brethren, who have been most active in the direction of the movement, and who are unanimous in their desire to see its successful culmination, have preferred a request that a conference should take place on the matter, they feeling sure they could convince their Southern Brethren that their objections to the proposals were fallacious, the meeting in question was held. Representatives from the country Lodges in the North arrived by express to swell the number of members of the Craft who had already reached Hobart on this errand, and were present during the proceedings. Bro. C. F. Davis, P.M., was voted to the Chair, and briefly stated the reasons given above for the reopening of the question, following which Bro. Hogg explained the position occupied by the representative of the Northern Craftsmen. Subsequently Bro. Steele proposed, and Bro. Ivey seconded, "That the time has arrived for the establishment of a United Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Tasmania." Bro. F. H. Wise, P.M., moved an amendment, "That it is desirable that the whole of the Masonic Lodges in Tasmania unite under the English Constitution, with a view of ultimately establishing a Grand Lodge of Tasmania; details of amalgamation to be decided by a majority in conference assembled of the Worshipful Masters of the various Lodges and of two members chosen therefrom." This was seconded by Bro. Lewis, and the amendment being negatived, the original proposition was carried by 46 votes to 16.

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The first quarterly communication of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria was held in the Masonic Hall, Melbourne, on Monday, June 17 last. Bro. Sir W. J. Clarke, Bart., M.W.G.M., presided, and there was a numerous attendance of Grand Officers and Brethren, among the former being Bros. George Baker, D.G.M.; A. Aitken, S.G.W.; and Paul Joske, J.G.W. The minutes of the meeting of the Grand Lodge on March 20 and 21 last having been read and confirmed, and the roll of Lodges called, the Grand

Secretary, Bro. T. H. Lempriere, read the report of the Board of Benevolence, from which it appeared that forty-nine petitioners had been relieved with sums amounting altogether to £247. 13s. It was further stated that £100 had been received from the M.W.G.M. as a donation to the Benevolent Fund, and £300 from the late Dist. G. Lodge, E.C. It was also announced that the Board had determined on holding their meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday in each month. This report, on the motion of Bro. P. Blashki, President of the Board, was adopted. The fees payable to the Board of General Purposes were arranged as follows:—Warrant for a new Lodge, £10. 10.; for a dispensation, 10s. 6d.; registration, including Grand Lodge certificate, £1; duplicate Grand Lodge certificate, 6s. 6d.; joining a Lodge, 5s.; and if a Grand Lodge certificate required, 7s. 6d.; Lodge payment per member annually, 1s.; certificate Past Grand Officers or Past Masters, 10s. 6d.; and for perusing and certifying by-laws, 10s. 6d. The salaries were fixed as follows:—Grand Secretary, per annum, £500; Grand Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, per annum, £100; Assistant Grand Secretary, per annum, £200; Grand Tyler, £1. 10s. for each meeting of Grand Lodge. Forms of warrants, patents for G. Officers, and Master Masons' certificates were recommended for approval of G. Lodge; and it was also recommended that G. Lodge should not recognise the Past G. rank conferred by the M.W.G. Master of the late Victorian Constitution immediately prior to the opening of the G. Lodge on March 20. The Grand Secretary reported that, as regards the question of appointing or electing the Grand Officers, seventy-one Lodges had voted for appointment, forty-three for election, and six for the election of some and the appointment of others. The Grand Master ruled that the decision of the seventy-one Lodges, which was a clear majority, settled the question in favor of appointment, and Grand Lodge was subsequently closed in form.

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The metropolitan Lodges under the Scottish Constitution held a joint installation ceremony on Monday, June 24, at the Masonic Hall, Alice-street, Brisbane, when the various Masters and officers for the ensuing twelve months were installed. The ceremony was conducted by Bro. J. G. W. Barnes, P.M. (455), D.D.G.M., Acting Dist. G.M., assisted by Bro. C. W. Thurlby, P.M. (455), D.J.G.W., and R. Leftwich, P.M. (504), D.C. There was a large number of visiting brethren present, among whom were Bros. E. McDonnell, D.P.G.M. (I.C.); Baldwin, P.G.R. Worcestershire; and several Past Masters of metropolitan and other Lodges.

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The consecration and constitution of a new Lodge at Red Hill, to be named the Theodore Unmack Lodge, working under the Irish Constitution, took place on May 31. The ceremony of constitution was performed in the Foresters' Hall, Paddington, Brisbane, which will be used as a temporary place of meeting pending the erection of a new Lodge-room at Red Hill. The work of the evening began shortly after 8 o'clock, the ceremony of dedication and constitution being performed by the Prov. Grand Master of the Irish Constitution, Bro. Theodore Unmack, assisted by a large number of the Prov. Grand Lodge Officers, namely, Bros. E. MacDonnell, Dep. P.G.M.; J. P. Furey, P.S.G.W.; Jas. Young, P.J.G.W.; G. S. Hutton, P.G. Sec.; A. E. Harris, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; W. H. Mullens, P.S.G.D.; A. Mayfield, P.J.G.D.; and R. B. Howard, P.G. Purst.

Among the Bohemians.

Mr. Charles Capper, the clever young whistler who delighted the Essex Masons so much at the Provincial Grand Lodge at Dunmow last month, is a brother of Bro. Alfred Capper, well known as a "light" entertainer of repute. He holds an appointment in one of the City insurance offices, and refuses to relinquish it in favor of his whistle, for fear the latter should get out of fashion. A curious gift with him is his ability to whistle without the aid of his lips or teeth, and to produce an echo effect positively charming. Mr. Capper is engaged at Her Majesty's during the present season, and lives with his people at Bedford Park.

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From the *Pall Mall Gazette*:—"Happy are the lines of the successful dramatist. At least I thought so as I looked round the luxurious library in which the dyspeptic dramatist (Mr. G. R. Sims) was writing at a window, overlooking a rather dull court-yard. Fill this chamber with Chippendale bookcases, tables covered with curios, easy chairs, and cover the walls with pictures, some of them relating to Mr. Sims's plays. One of the curios which Mr. Sims treasures is a cast of Napoleon I's face, and signs of his belligerent leanings are a pair of duelling pistols. But they are under a glass case. So I suppose they are only ornaments now."

* * *

"Next door is the chamber of the faithful Mr. Armfelt, who was once Gordon's private secretary, I believe, and is master of a dozen languages. His room is also full of books, piled up to the ceiling, and your eye also catches rows of letter files, memoranda-books, and ledgers which suggest

an extensive business connection. I don't know how many thousands a year the famous and popular playwright makes out of his various literary and dramatic ventures."

* * *

"Mr. Sims does most of his work in a delightfully bright and cheerful chamber upstairs which overlooks the Regent's Park and the lake. But little luxury here, for it is 'made up' to resemble the poor author's garret. That is what the facetious Sims says, but you musn't believe him. He likes to play at Bohemianism, and he thinks bare boards and a table littered with MSS. and pipes are suggestive of Bohemia. In one corner is the author's bed, so that he can turn in when the midnight oil is low. 'The Battle of Life,' groans the dyspepsia-ridden one sententiously—"Life's a Failure if you have a liver."

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"Round the corner are the stables which are Mr. Sims's delight. Here he has four or five spanking horses, and I don't know how many nice new traps."

* * *

Mr. Sims frequents all the racing fixtures held near London, but he is only a small investor. He was at Kempton the other day, and met William Terriss and Miss Millward there. He went down with the expressed intention of backing Wishing Gate for the Breeders' Foal Stakes, but George Everett had lunched with the owner, who had no fancy for his horse, so that when the animal galloped in the easiest of winners there was weeping and gnashing of teeth in the camp of Bohemia. Miss Millward had half-a-sovereign on the winner, just on account of its name, and was very much pleased the rest of the day. How she did laugh at the losers!

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Bro. Lawrance, the owner of Wishing Gate, is a member of the Domestic Lodge, and was introduced by George Everett.

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Mr. E. W. Gardiner is a lucky man in having secured the affections of such a womanly woman as Miss Kate Rorke, whose portrait I have borrowed from the *Penny Illustrated Paper*, in case any one of my readers knows her not. The English stage possesses but few honest, painstaking workers such as she. Her performance in "The Profligate" was sincere, as, in fact, all her characters are, and she adds to her professional repute the highest virtues of a dutiful daughter and a sincere friend.

* * *

Bro. Fleming, whose tall, smart figure so long adorned the vestibule of Drury-lane, has departed for the fresh fields and pastures of the Haymarket. He is Scotch to the backbone, and one glance of his eagle eye was understood to be sufficient for the hundreds of deadheads who nightly impressed their importance upon him. He is an ardent and original member of the Drury-lane Lodge, and can manufacture a balance-sheet with any man living.

* * *

William Terriss will not be seen at the Adelphi in "London Day by Day," as he goes on a tour to America. I am very much afraid there is very little money to be brought back. The Yankees are funny people, and have a knack of not appreciating melodrama of the English school.

* * *

Archibald Groves, the young editor of the *New Review*, is contesting West Ham, or going to contest it when there is a vacancy. He is a man of eight or nine-and-twenty, but looks younger. His career has been fashioned out of his own love of work, for he sacrificed—so says an evening contemporary—a vast fortune because he would not fall in with the wishes of an uncle and adopt the Church as a profession. He was for some time on the staff of the *Daily News*, which he left to associate himself with Mr. Austin, the head of the National Press Agency and secretary to Bro. Henry Irving. Then came the *New Review*, with its marvellous success; and now the best-dressed young man of Fleet-street wants to become a Member of Parliament and get married.

* * *

Bro. George Grossmith has severed for a while his long connection with the Savoy, and is going to qualify himself during the next few months as a "Society Clown," for which his body and manner are eminently suited. George is much respected in the "hupper suckles," but he made a terrible mistake in writing those very funny recollections of his some little while ago. He forgot that all men who have any pretensions to be leading men in a profession have "recollections" which could be written up into the shape of a shilling book; but leading men, as a rule, don't recollect for the benefit of an unappreciative public. I hear that another favored actor is preparing his views upon people he has met, and that he is going to print them. What a pity!

Poor Bro. James Albery died too soon, for he should have given us his views upon "The Battle of Life." His answer to the question, "Is life worth living?" would have been highly instructive. He had written one or two successful plays in his time, but he was ever the friend of misfortune, and the past two years he had been forgotten. He died within the sound of those beautiful bells of St. Martin's, and many who had known him best covered his grave with ivy and his coffin with flowers. Poor old fellow! I wonder if a bud of his favourite rose was with him when he died. I am afraid not.

* * *

If you want to interest Bro. Darmstatter at all, ask him to partake of a bottle of lager, and how Wiesbaden was looking when he was last there.

* * *

The great bread king is dead. Mr. Neville early in life hit upon a certain mode of mixing dough that, combined with careful baking, produced a loaf better in quality than is turned out by the ordinary baker. His estate is nominally worth considerably over a million, but he had lost in quite recent years enormous sums in building speculations. Four daughters survive him. One is married to Mr. Brinley Richards, son of the composer of "God bless the Prince of Wales," and who is a somewhat passive member of an eminent firm of auctioneers in the city. Mr. Richards is not a Mason, but he possesses all the attributes that should suggest him becoming one. He is a well-known man of Bohemia, however, and some of his little dinners, I am told, are very much enjoyed.

* * *

A certain blackguard named Raymond, a guest of her Majesty at Holloway Castle, boasts of defrauding Bro. Henry Irving of £100 by pretending to be the nephew of an American gentleman well known to the great actor. Commenting upon his case, an evening contemporary says:—

"There is no public man out of whom the begging-letter writer makes such an annual haul. But the most astonishing case is that of an American playwright, who was commissioned by Mr. Irving to write a drama. He was a promising young man, about to be married, and to encourage him the tragedian advanced £500 as an instalment. That was several years ago, and Mr. Irving has never seen a line of the play."

* * *

Mr. Irving is one of the kindest men living, and will leave his calling far more illustrious than when he entered it. I know that many playgoers—some of them judges—are divided in their opinions as to the effect his manner upon the stage will have with the younger school of tragedians. Personally, I see in him a genius, and that is enough for me. He has a knack—and it does not seem to be a cultivated one—of happily surmounting any difficulty that gets in his way. His popularity with the public is very interesting, and his tact in retaining it a masterpiece of common-sense. He is a primary light in the Actors' Benevolent Fund, a member of all sorts of societies and institutions, and was elected some time back to the Athenæum, which is an honor indeed. He is a member of the Savage Club Lodge, in which he has held the post of Treasurer.

* * *

I saw him on one occasion walking through Covent Garden Market, when a little urchin, pursued by some of his fellows, cannoned up against the legs of "Louis XI." and fell headlong into the mud. His Majesty stopped to raise the little chap, and, taking his handkerchief from his own pocket, proceeded to wipe the mud from the urchin's face, smiling and talking the while words of kindness and advice. Ascertaining that "something to eat" would not be unacceptable at that particular moment to his young friend and mates who were lurking in the rear, he divided some silver among them, and went on his way rejoicing. I saw him look back once and smile as he caught sight of the youngsters making their way to the ham and beef shop at the corner of Bow-street as fast as their astonishment would allow them.

* * *

The sale of Sir John Bennett's effects at "Glen Druid" is a puzzle to most people. It is but a few months ago he converted his Cheapside business into a Limited Company, with a capital of £90,000, which was subscribed for twice over. His place at Chislehurst was but small, but it had three or four acres of beautiful gardens, and possessed a very decent collection of books, of which, curiously to relate, the Cheapside watchmaker was passionately fond. His wife is "pious," so he told me once, inferring, I presume, that he was not. His daughter is married to a fashionable doctor with a large practice in the West-end.

* * *

I lunched one day at the round table at the City Liberal Club. There was Lumley—fresh from the Langworthy case, Smith—of Morden pen fame, Sir John, and two astute bill-brokers from Throgmorton-street. The conversation turned upon the watchmakers own "works,"—not his *watch* works.

* * *

"I suppose you have read my little book upon —?" queried Sir John of the great solicitor. "Yes, I think I have, but may have forgotten in what was its point!" "Point! sir! point!" bellowed the offended author. "Why, it's like the back of the porcupine, sir—it's all points!"

After lunch Sir John was anxious I should show him the pictures at the Academy. His velvet een coat, light bowler, and cauliflowery locks, simply staggered the company at Burlington House. Those who happened to know him said "How d'ye do?" or whispered, with a suppressed laugh, "That's Sir John Bennett!" Those who didn't, stared in blank amazement, and made way for him, until I am afraid I blushed with embarrassment, to the roots of my hair. "Now that's what I call a nice gal—don't you?" he said very loud, stopping in front of one of Long's canvasses. "She looks as if she wanted to be kissed!" That settled me. I have never "shown the Academy" since.

* * *

This suggests my asking if any one has heard during the past two years of a young artist, J. E. Homerville Hague. He had a couple of landscapes at Piccadilly two seasons back, and used to live in the Holland-road, Kensington. Perhaps Mr. Solomon J. Solomons has heard of him. I should like to hear if any one has.

* * *

The history of the early days of Miss Florence St. John, published in an evening paper, is romance, or gammon and spinach, as a distinguished relative of mine used to say. The coffee-stall and the fur-cloak episode is very touching, but very silly. Madame Marius would never have been known but for her voice; therefore by her voice let us know her. This raking about the dust-holes of people's early life is a highly reprehensible trait of modern journalism. But who can be worse than the scavenger?

* * *

As an evidence of our Parisian inclination, witness the Savoy Hotel and Restaurant. Anything more in the way of luxury and comfort (as the prospectus says) has certainly never been attempted in this mundane metropolis. The whole building is a perfect dream of beauty, and in my opinion is wisely situate where the clash and rattle of busy traffic cannot disturb one's peace of mind. One may question the beauty of the River Thames; but the foreground of well-kept gardens, and that beautiful promenade which is so little appreciated by us Londoners, help to make up a view which is certainly the best the big village can show. As for the cooking, has it not been chronicled in the chronicles of Bohemia that King François has risen to the throne! and is not the name of D'Olyly Carte sufficient to pronounce a perfect administration of the resources of such an enterprise? My own advice to those who want good food well cooked, and a proper habitation at a reasonable expense, is go to the Savoy and see what Mr. W. Hardwicke, the manager, can do for you.

* * *

One little fact in the lighting arrangement pleased me much. A portable electric lamp is in each bedroom, so that weary brain-workers who find it necessary to coax themselves to sleep by the aid of reading in bed, may do so without the attendant danger of candles or lamps. What a clever woman Mrs. D. C. must be.

* * *

"The Middleman," at the Shaftesbury, is a very healthy play, and it is splendidly acted. Its superiority to "Wealth" is not apparent to me; but then I am not a grumbling pit or a dissatisfied gallery. I am tired of writing notices in its favor, so go and see it.

* * *

Like most other people, I may have something to say about the Maybrick case; but my say is simply this, that the horrible photographs of that unfortunate woman in mourning, which fill the windows of all the West-end shops, are not copies of a photograph taken from life, but from the wax figure at Madame Tussaud's. *Ars est celare artem.*

KING MOB.

Gathered Chips.

This, then, is held to be the duty of the man of wealth: First, to set an example of modest, unostentatious living, shunning display or extravagance; to provide moderately for the legitimate wants of those dependent upon him; and after doing so to consider all surplus revenues which come to him simply as trust funds, which he is called upon to administer, and strictly bound as a matter of duty to administer in the manner which, in his judgment, is best calculated to produce the most beneficial results for the community—the man of wealth thus becoming the mere agent and trustee for his poorer brethren, bringing to their service his superior wisdom, experience, and ability to administer, doing for them better than they would or could do for themselves.

In bestowing charity, the main consideration should be to help those who will help themselves; to provide part of the means by which those who desire to improve may do so; to give those who desire to rise the aids by which they may rise; to assist, but rarely or never to do all. Neither the individual nor the race is improved by almsgiving. Those worthy of assistance, except in rare cases, seldom require assistance. The really valuable men of the race never do, except in case of accident or sudden change. Every one has, of

course, cases of individuals brought to his own knowledge where temporary assistance can do genuine good, and these he will not overlook. But the amount which can be wisely given by the individual for individuals is necessarily limited by his lack of knowledge of the circumstances connected with each. He is the only true reformer who is as careful and as anxious not to aid the unworthy as he is to aid the worthy, and perhaps, even more so, for in almsgiving more injury is probably done by rewarding vice than by relieving virtue. The rich man is thus almost restricted to following the examples of Peter Cooper, Enoch Pratt of Baltimore, Mr. Pratt of Brooklyn, Senator Stanford, and others, who know that the best means of benefiting the community is to place within its reach the ladders upon which the aspiring can rise—parks, and means of recreation, by which men are helped in body and mind; works of art, certain to give pleasure and improve the public taste; and public institutions of various kinds, which will improve the general condition of the people; in this manner returning their surplus wealth to the mass of their fellows in the forms best calculated to do them lasting good. Thus is the problem of Rich and Poor to be solved. The laws of accumulation will be left free; the laws of distribution free. Individualism will continue, but the millionaire will be but a trustee for the poor; entrusted for a season with a great part of the increased wealth of the community, but administering it for the community far better than it could or would have done for itself. The best minds will thus have reached a stage in the development of the race in which it is clearly seen that there is no mode of disposing of surplus wealth creditable to thoughtful and earnest men into whose hands it flows save by using it year by year for the general good. This day already dawns. But a little while, and although, without incurring the pity of their fellows, men may die sharers in great business enterprises from which their capital cannot be or has not been withdrawn, and is left chiefly at death for public uses, yet the man who dies leaving behind him millions of available wealth which was his to administer during life, will pass away “unwept, unhonored, and unsung,” no matter to what uses he leaves the dross which he cannot take with him. Of such as these the public verdict will then be: “The man who dies thus rich dies disgraced.” Such, in my opinion, is the true Gospel concerning Wealth, obedience to which is destined some day to solve the problem of the Rich and the Poor, and to bring “Peace on earth, among men Good-Will.”—*Andrew Carnegie.*

* * *

Freemasonry has grown to its present stature from feeble-minded infancy and raw boyhood. It has made progress as the world of which it is a part has. To live at all a man or an Order must do that. Life consists in progress. If Masonry had stood still while the world moved onward, it would now have been like nothing so much as the skeleton of a ship high and dry upon the sandy shore of the sea. It has made progress, and is of larger stature. But, as in the modern progress of civil affairs and society and religion, there has been deprivation as well as reformation, so the progress of Freemasonry in this country during the last forty years has not been wholly to its moral or intellectual advantage. Some of the ancient landmarks have been removed, the real meanings of the most important symbols have been lost by the Blue Lodges, and have only been rediscovered by the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite; but these are only in part given in our books, because it is not permissible for some to be taught otherwise than orally, as, anciently, the meanings of all symbols were. The symbolism of Masonry is the soul of Masonry. Every symbol of the Blue Lodge is a religious teacher, the mute teacher, also, of morals and philosophy. It is in its ancient symbols and in the knowledge of their true meanings that the pre-eminence of Freemasonry over all other Orders consists. In other respects some of them may compete with it, rival it, perhaps even excel it; but, by its symbolism, it will reign without a peer when it learns again what its symbols mean, and that each is the embodiment of some great, old, rare truth. Degrees are the steps of Masonic progress, when they have that in them which makes them in reality degrees. A degree that teaches nothing whereby a man may become wiser or better is a degree in name only. It is not a degree even in the sense in which the rounds of a ladder are degrees, or the steps of a stairway—the mere means of ascension to an apartment above. A series of so-called degrees with which an unfortunate individual may be “invested,” by receiving a letter and a patent, or by the stretching forth of a hand and the utterance of the magical words “By virtue of the authority in me vested,” or in half an hour or less by a short recital of fact and falsehood, and a brief obligation upon the payment of five, ten, or fifteen dollars, cannot be other than the stock-in-trade of impostors, of men capable of approaching an honorary member of a regular Supreme Council, supposed to be needy, and proposing to him to follow, in a lower and baser way, the example of Faust, by engaging in the work of vending their degrees and establishing their consistories, because “there is money in it.” Our degrees are lessons. They require of those who receive them thought and study; and to those who rarely think and never study they cannot much commend themselves. Men will never come in crowds to the doors of our temples seeking initiation. We need not be disappointed if our Bodies grow slowly, and if our Rite does not become popular. That which becomes so is always tending to deterioration, and in too many cases popularity is proof of demerit. We must be content with slow accretion and gradual accession of members. There is, indeed, always more

danger to the moral and spiritual welfare of a man or Order in prosperity than in adversity; and nothing so beneficial could happen to Freemasonry now as a vigorous persecution. I leave it to the Grand Masters to lament, as they have long lamented, the ill practices, in the indiscriminate admission of Apprentices forthwith to become Masters, the seeking of office and otherwise, that have found their way into the sanctuaries, lowering the dignity and lessening the honorable repute of the Order. One purpose is paramount in every one of our degrees—to bind those who receive them more closely together, by inculcating the prompt and habitual performance of one's duties to others—not merely those duties performance of which is commanded by law or custom, but those that live in a higher sphere, and find their sanction in a higher code of ethics—the duties of forgiveness of injuries, forbearance under provocation, toleration, lenient judgment, generosity, a liberal charity, encouragement of those struggling to maintain their foothold in business and life, and of the disheartened; encouragement of the erring endeavoring to amend, kind words for those fallen into evil ways, and helpful sympathy for the suffering and sorrowful.—*Albert Pike.*

Reviews.

Metham's Masonic Orations. Edited by JOHN CHAPMAN, P.P.G.D. (London: George Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.)

A NEATLY bound collection of the orations delivered by Bro. L. P. Metham, P.G.D., in Devon and Cornwall since 1866, with an introduction by Bro. Hughan. The little volume is well worth reading, and is published on behalf of the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum at Stoke.

By Paths and Cross Roads. By MRS. J. PATON. (London: Messrs. Ward & Downey.)

THIS is one of those sweet little bits of interesting descriptive chatter that characterises all this author's works. She talks of sparrows and jackdaws in a way quite different to other people, and converts them into peacocks and pheasants in a charming manner. The book is a perfect little gem.

How I Lost £250,000 in Two Years. By ERNEST BENZON. (London: Trischler & Co., 18, New Bridge-street, E.C.)

A BOOK without any literary merit whatever. It is interesting to read how a young man possessed of great wealth contrived to filter it away among the sharps of this gay city, and it is instructive; but if Mr. Bazon had really wished to benefit his fellow-men, he should have placed the facts of his marvellous career in the hands of a writer who could have made something out of them. As it is, the pages of this book will never be opened by any one who refuses to be bored by the vagaries of a youth who has the impudence to lay odds of £20,000 to £16,000 upon the winning of a racehorse.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS RECEIVED.

Men and Women of the Day (London: Richard Bentley & Sons). *The New Review* for September (Longmans, Green, & Co.). *The Freemason* (Great Queen-street). *Masonic Star*. *The Keystone*. *Freemasons' Chronicle* (Sydney).

Answers to Correspondents.

A SOMERSET MASON.—Make your grievance known before the proper tribunal—the Provincial Grand Lodge—through your own Lodge.

209.—It is not our fault. Bro. W. Nottage, of your Royal town, gets his copy from a local newsagent; he, therefore, receives it *flat*, and at a cost of sixpence. We are making inquiries with a view—in conjunction with other monthly periodicals—of appealing to the Postal authorities.

GEORGE FISK, P.M.—Yes, he was a Mason, but he had not held any office six months before his death. We have no reference later than this.

DRURY-LANE LODGE.—We can't pledge ourselves of our intention twelve months hence; we have not given the affair a thought. Such a word as you use has no place in our vocabulary. There is no antagonism between us and our contemporary. Why should there be? Of course, we saw it; but why should not better paper and new type, or even an imitation of our ink, be used? These are the surest proofs that we were wanted.

P. M.—It comes no nearer our standard than before. We did not pledge ourselves to publish letters that bore signatures; we merely refused to publish any that did not.

BROS. W. H. LOVELACE, H. J. MORGAN, M. NAVONI, and HERBERT TILLIER (or SILLIER) have been answered through the post.

TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years' standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICTOLSON, 21, Bedford Square, London, W.C.