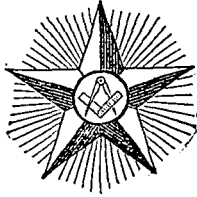


THE MASONIC STAR

A Weekly Journal and
At Home



Record of Freemasonry
and Abroad.

VOL. II.—No. 6.]

THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH, 1889.

[CURRENT NUMBER 32.]

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In the Dark.



HERE is passing through our correspondence column, a controversy in relation to certain circumstances connected with the refusal of a petition for a new Lodge at or near Sandgate, in Kent. The masonic interests of our brothers in the Army are greatly concerned in the action taken by the Provincial Grand Master of that province, and it is of much more than local masonic importance that the particulars which have justified his refusal to recommend the prayer of the petition to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, in whom alone, it is said, rests the power to grant new Lodges, should be known. There appears to be a reticence as to the communication of reasons for withholding information which to our mind is not called for. It is possible that the very best of reasons can be given for the refusal of the petition, which, being given, would satisfy the understanding of the petitioners and meet with loyal acceptance. If that be the case, why should they be kept in the dark? If otherwise, can it be wondered that perfect indifference to all appeal should occasion irritation?

We write "it is said," and we do so advisedly, for although by the Constitutions of the Order it is expressly declared that petitions for new Lodges are to be addressed to the M.W.G.M., there is no section which declares that he alone shall be the grantor of new warrants. Inferentially, but not positively, the privilege, not the prerogative, may be accorded to the Grand Master, but that is nowhere definitely stated. That it was never intended, past and present custom notwithstanding, that the grant or refusal should be personal to the "chief head and ruler," is, we take it, evidenced by the fact that every "Charter or warrant from the Grand Lodge of England," as the expression is in open Lodge, bears the countersign of others than the Grand Master, and notably that of the

official representing Grand Lodge itself, "which alone possesses the supreme superintending authority" (sec. 4), and "the power of regulating and deciding all matters relative to the Craft" (sec. 5). That it is the "supreme authority" is further established by the fact that it points out, in distinct terms, what the M.W.G.M. shall do in some cases and may do in others, and although this (sec. 18), has but reference to the appointment of Grand Officers, it nevertheless asserts a power of supreme authority which it may exercise either of itself or by such delegated authority as in its wisdom it may appoint. On this arises the question where and when, and in what direction, has it delegated an authority to grant warrants for new Lodges. We want "light" thrown on this; at present the great bulk, if not all of the English Craft, are, like ourselves, "in the dark."

Where has it been said "custom maketh the law?" We have met with the phrase and condemn the doctrine. Nevertheless, in the present instance and for the sake of the argument, let it be admitted. Then the power, privilege, or prerogative, choose whichever term we may, rests with our M.W.G.M. to make—though he cannot unmake—(note that, and see sec. 5)—new Lodges by the granting of petitions forwarded to him as the Ruler of the Craft, under constitutional law. Now, if it could be supposed possible that H.R.H. could make himself personally acquainted with all the facts and particulars set before him in such petitions, and decide thereon according to his own unbiassed judgment, we may be sure that his decisions would be at all times unreservedly accepted, not one word being uttered against their propriety and fairness. But is this the case? It cannot be; and consequently the ruling power rests with his advisers, and those advisers should be accountable to the Grand Lodge, and through it to the Craft, for the nature of their advice, when it is believed that other and more satisfactory counsel could and should have been given. To doubt their honesty of intention or desire to do justly would be most improper, probably most unwarranted, and it may be taken for granted that as a general rule the advice given is sound and fitting. Nevertheless, the possibility remains that it may not be universally so, and instances can be quoted wherein reasonable doubt exists as to the quality of the advice which may have been tendered. Something of this doubt attaches to the refusal to recommend the petition for a new Lodge at Seabrook; and it does not seem to us at all out of place that the some fifty or sixty brethren who have an interest in Freemasonry, sufficient to induce them to foregather in the manner proposed, should feel greatly disappointed by the issue, and desire to know upon what grounds such disappointment should be theirs. This they strive to obtain by respectful

request and proposed deputation, but no satisfaction is vouchsafed, and they are kept "in the dark."

We contend that this is not as it should be, and that neither they nor any other or others of our Order should be so treated. It is not in accordance with our truest principles. In common fairness they should be made acquainted with the reasons, most probably good and very sufficient, for the refusal of the R.W. Prov. G. Master for Kent to recommend their petition. The Craft, generally, cannot have much care as to whether or not another Lodge be added to the register of the Grand Lodge, but most assuredly they have, and ought to have, an abundant care that whatever may be done in the business of Freemasonry should bear the light of communication, and that what affects any portion of their body politic, and may spread to their universal detriment, should not be allowed to remain "in the dark."

A "SOLDIER MASON'S" ADDRESS

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE TEMPERANCE LODGE, NO. 739,
BIRMINGHAM.—11TH MARCH, 1889.

(See Correspondence at page 86).

WORSHIPFUL SIR,—I have great pleasure in rising to thank you for the manner in which you proposed my health, and the kind way it was received. I can assure you, Sir, it gives me very great pleasure to be among you, and to know that I am as welcome here as I have been in other parts of the world. During the last two or three years of my Indian service I used to travel from Muttra regularly every month to attend my Craft and Mark Lodges in Agra, and on several occasions I visited "Hope" Lodge at Meerut, where the scene of the first outbreak of the Sepoy war was in the year 1857. On one occasion I happened to be there when H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught was present, on the 15th March, 1884. I also visited Movar Gwalior, where the Royal Arch Degree was conferred on me in the month of March, 1883. And during the twelve months the regiment stayed in Africa on our way home from India, I visited a masonic lodge at Princetown, Natal, and I have much pleasure in stating that wherever I have been the same fraternal welcome, and the right hand of fellowship, has been stretched out to me in greeting.

It is a matter of congratulation to be able to state that "masonry" is progressing. It has progressed, brethren, not in England alone but in the world generally, for during the last 20 years the number of lodges holding their authority from the Grand Lodge of England has nearly doubled. It is very interesting to look back through the records of an old masonic lodge, and I have not the least doubt that the records of this lodge contain names of many brethren who have held high positions in the estimation of the city and country—men whose energy and perseverance have assisted in making Birmingham and its district what it now is.

It is also very interesting to look back through the old constitutions published in the early part of last century; by doing so a candid mind must come to the conclusion that to the operative masons of the middle ages is our origin due, and that those masons were banded together in a common brotherhood, and had peculiar means of communicating one with the other. To my mind an almost conclusive proof of this is given by the religious and other edifices erected by those grand old operative masons; for whether you contemplate some magnificent cathedral, or look at an obscure church in some remote village, the same harmony and suitability for the purpose for which each were intended may be observed, the period can be accurately determined, and the structures themselves show that the masons which erected the one were in communication with, and acted in concert with, those who built the other. It was undoubtedly the custom in those days to admit into the fraternity the patrons of the art, and from this we evidently get the title of speculative or accepted masons, and as these speculative masons could not use the working tools in an operative sense, they were probably directed to apply them to their morals, and it may be that this is the origin of our "peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." On the revival of the arts and sciences knowledge became more universally spread. Operative masonry as a secret society became unnecessary, but the moral teaching of the art has been preserved, and it is with this we now have to do. Looked at from this point of view, Freemasonry supplies one great requirement of mankind. Society being split up into so many varied classes, sects, and parties, masonry supplies a common platform upon which all men can meet, and teaching the grand principles of the universal fatherhood of God and the common brotherhood of man, it leads us to respect the opinions of those from whom we differ, it tones down our prejudices and softens our passions. Requiring from our members a belief in the Great Architect of the Universe, it rests its superstructure upon the volume of God's sacred writings, and refers its members to that book for the guidance and rule of their faith; and whatever may be the difference of opinion as to the doctrine, this I can safely assert, that there can be no difference of opinion as to the moral teaching of that grand old book, and whoever confines his thoughts and actions within the circle therein described, is bound to be a good Freemason, a respectable citizen, and a useful member to society.

I thank you, brethren, for the very warm welcome you have given me, and I am very sorry I did not know about the Temperance Lodge when I came to Birmingham 11 months ago.

COLONIAL CLIPPINGS.

MONTREAL.—The Grand Lodge of Quebec brought their annual communication to a close on the 30th January last. The session was taken up discussing points of interest to the craft, and the installation of the newly-elected officers, which was performed with all due solemnity by M.W. Bro. Dr. J. H. Graham, P.G.M. The M.W. Grand Master's address to the Grand Lodge contained the following in relation to the matters of difference between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the United Grand Lodge of England:— "At the last annual communication of this Grand Lodge, a resolution was passed containing the following clause, viz., 'Whenever the Grand Lodge of England shall propose an adjustment by conference or by mediation, or whenever a sister Grand Lodge shall propose to mediate between the two grand bodies, the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge are hereby empowered to consider the same, and to take such steps as may be consistent with the honour and dignity of this Grand Lodge to adjust or mediate the differences between the two Grand Bodies, subject to the approval of Grand Lodge in the premises.' The Grand Lodge of Canada (in the province of Ontario), at its last annual communication, in a kind and fraternal spirit which this Grand Lodge fully understands and appreciates, authorized its Grand Master to offer his mediation both to England and Quebec. M.W. Bro. Walkem, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, accepted the position, and under the authority of the resolution of this Grand Lodge just quoted, your Grand Master and Grand Secretary have considered the proposition just made and have accepted the mediatorial offer. That distinguished brother hopes to visit England during the present year, and from his high character as a man and a mason, his eminent position at the bar of his province, his comprehension of the points of difference, and his fraternal desire to compose those differences, it will be seen that no better mediator could have been selected. There is also the additional reason, not without its weight in such effort to terminate our disputes with England, that the Grand Lodge of Canada, as our Mother Grand Lodge, is the fittest mediator in this matter with the Grand Lodge of England, which was its Mother Grand Lodge. The selection of such an intermediary is in the highest degree judicious and appropriate. In view of this offer and with a desire to strengthen the hands of M.W. Bro. Walkem in mediating, I would suggest that the Grand Lodge at this communication should authorize and empower my successor in office, the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, to suspend or even withdraw the edicts of this Grand Lodge against the Grand Lodges of England and its lodges whenever advised or requested so to do by Grand Master Walkem. In his judgment and good will we have a sufficient guarantee that the advisory power thus given him will be judiciously employed, and this action from us may facilitate the efforts he may make to accomplish successfully his mission."

SYDNEY, N.S.W.—A new masonic hall at Young was dedicated and consecrated on January 24th by Bro. V. W. Bray, G.S., in the presence of about 500 members of the Craft, including visiting brethren from Goulburn, Forbes and other districts. The proceedings throughout were very impressive. The lodge room is 42ft. in length by 21ft. wide, and the banqueting hall 21ft. by 16ft. The cost of the entire building was about £1,400.

* * *

Under the presidency of the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, M.W. Bro. Lord Carrington, a handsome testimonial tea and coffee service has been presented, at a banquet held in his honour, to Dr. Tarrant in recognition of his valued services to the Craft in New South Wales.

NEW ZEALAND—NEW PLYMOUTH, WELLINGTON.—The festival of St. John was celebrated by a large gathering of local Freemasons at the Robe Street Lodge room on the occasion of the installation service of the Ngamotu Lodge, No. 2053 E.C. The sister lodges—Mount Egmont, No. 670 E.C., and De Burgh Adams, No. 446 I.C.—attended under their respective masters, and visitors were also present from lodges Nos. 293, 321, 450, 456, 458, 705, and 1646 E.C. Bro. Duncan McAllum was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremonies being impressively performed by Bro. Holford, P.M., assisted by W.M.'s Asher and Brooking. The proceedings in lodge having terminated, the remainder of the evening was pleasantly spent in fraternal intercourse and musical recreation.

* * *

The Rodney Lodge, No. 1711, had a grand meeting in the Masonic Hall, Warkworth, New Zealand, on the 17th January last, on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Somerville as Worshipful Master. A large number of brethren from Auckland attended. After the business of the lodge had been completed, a ball took place, to which the leading residents of the district were invited by the brethren, and which proved a most brilliant and imposing event.

* * *

The Wellington Lodge, No. 1521, held a most successful conversation and musical evening at St. Peter's School-room, Wellington, New Zealand, on the 11th January, which was attended by nearly four hundred brethren and visitors. An address by Bro. Edward Wakefield, on "The Social Side of Masonry," was greatly appreciated and applauded. Subsequently dancing was kept up until midnight, when the most enjoyable proceedings of the evening terminated.

Press Exchanges and Books Received.

Latonia; Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette; Masonic Record of Western India; Canadian Craftsman; South African Freemason; Society.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

THE anniversary meeting of the Albert Victor Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 70, was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on the 19th inst. Bro. H. J. Wright was installed W.M. for the ensuing year by the D.P.G. Mark Master, the Rev. Bro. C. J. Martyn, in a large assembly of brethren. The installation banquet was held under the presidency of the newly installed W.M. In the course of the evening Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W. and Secretary of the Mark Benevolent Fund, responded to a toast proposed in its honour, and effectively pleaded the cause of that excellent charitable institution.

At the Masonic Club, Plymouth, a series of smoking concerts has been inaugurated. Bro. D. Cross, one of the directors of the club, presided at the first of these on the 20th inst. The concert was in charge of W. Bro. W. Hearder, P.M., P.G.O. It was attended by a numerous body of Freemasons and their friends, and gave general satisfaction.

THE annual banquet of the Metham Lodge, No. 1205, was held on the 19th inst., at the Devon and Cornwall Masonic Club, Plymouth. There was a large attendance, and covers were laid for ninety. A choice musical entertainment was a great feature of the evening, in the course of which an elegant and valuable P.M. jewel was presented to W. Bro. H. E. Sitters, for his services during the past year.

At the installation meeting of the Nyanza Lodge, No. 1197, at Ilminster, Somersetshire, on the 19th inst., Bro. T. Bryant was installed W.M. by W. Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G. Master, in the presence of a large number of brethren, and subsequently the brethren dined together at the George Hotel, under the presidency of the new W.M.

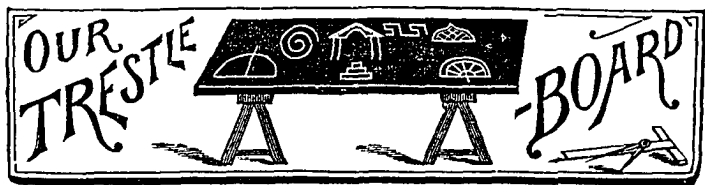
THE memorial window erected in the Parish church of Cheltenham by the Freemasons of the Province of Gloucestershire, to the memory of their late Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. John Brook-Smith, was unveiled and presented to the rector of the parish, the Rev. Canon Bell, D.D., on the 20th inst., by the Grand Master of the Province, the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., in the presence of a large number of members of the masonic craft, wearing the insignia of the order. The Rector expressed his pleasure in accepting the gift, and said the window would not only be an adornment to the venerable church, but would serve as a memento of the liberality of the Masonic Order, and of the Freemasons' love and esteem for their departed brother.

THE installation meeting of Lodge Metham, No. 1205, was held at the Masonic Rooms, Stonehouse, Devon, on the 18th inst., when W. Bro. Archelaus Tout was installed W.M. for year ensuing. There was a large attendance of Provincial Grand Officers and brethren, and the entire proceedings were of a most satisfactory nature.

A LODGE of Royal Ark Mariners, in connection with the Albert Victor Mark Master Masons' Lodge, No. 70, was consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on the 19th inst., under the name and title of the Henniker Lodge. Bros. Lord Henniker, P.G.M.M.; the Earl of Caithness; C. F. Matier, P.G.W.; the Rev. C. J. Martyn, D.P.G.M.M.; B. R. Bryant, Robert Berridge, P.G.M.O.; N. Tracy, Rev. R. O. Davies, and other notables in the degree were present. The impressive consecration ceremony was admirably performed by Bro. Matier, and the oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn.

ON the 13th inst., a dinner, tea, and entertainment were given at Foresters' Hall, Margate, by the Union Lodge, No. 127, Bro. J. Healing, W.M. The chair was taken by Bro. the Rev. Taylor Jones, P.G.C. A very substantial repast was provided by Bro. Hume for 250 aged poor. The entertainment comprised songs and recitations and instrumental music, the last being under the direction of Bro. J. Moore. On passing out, each guest was presented with 1lb. of tea, the gift of a London brother.

BRO. THOMAS BARNES has been presented by the Coleridge Masonic Lodge, at Clevedon, with a silver goblet, in celebration of his Masonic jubilee, he having been initiated at Barnstaple in 1838.



"For the Master to lay lines and draw designs upon."

We so entirely agree with the following remarks of our contemporary, *The Freemason's Chronicle*, that we have no hesitation in submitting them to the earnest consideration of our readers. "Judging from the supply, the demand for Masonic books is on the increase, and such, no doubt, is really the case, but we cannot help thinking, when we look at the magazines and the periodical literature of years ago, that the Masons of the past must have been more liberal patrons than are their successors of to-day. Taking the older issues of the *Freemason's Review* and the *Freemason's Magazine* for instance—it matters not whether the Quarterly, Monthly, or Weekly parts are considered—we find work which compares favourably with anything that is attempted at the present time, and this notwithstanding the fact that the influence of Freemasonry and the number of individual Masons is now far in excess of what it was then. Our predecessors in the work of Masonic journalism must have been better supported than are the caterers of to-day, or they could not have continued year after year, as they did continue, the really interesting and voluminous serials of their time. It is true the present is an age of cheap literature, and many persons are apt to consider a few halfpence should be sufficient to pay for all their requirements of a literary character. They forget that class

journals cannot compare in regard to circulation with those of a cosmopolitan character, and on this account they cannot understand why a small class paper should cost more than a larger general one. But such is the case, and if those who attempt to supply the demands of the present day fail to do all that is required of them the reason is, in all probability, that the Craft does not contribute its fair share towards the undertaking; in other words the members of the Order do not support their journals as they might be expected to do."

* * * * *

The columns of other Masonic papers published in our colonies often contain reference to the above referred to requirement for support, and frequently descant unreservedly on the apathy and indifference of the great bulk of the members of our Order. The *Canadian Craftsman* thinks that a "rough ashlar" is a Mason who does not subscribe for a Masonic paper or read a Masonic book. Very crude, we should say, if not rough; and putting such men up as Master—the representative of wisdom—is, as Bro. Drummond says, "foolish, poor and simple." In other words, the last would have a simple A. B. for Master. To this cause may we not trace the want of interest in our Lodges!

* * * * *

The editor of the "Installing Master's Companion" has written to us with an extract from the report of a Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge at which the Grand Registrar said, in the course of a discussion on another topic, "It is as bad as opening a Board of Installed Masters, which is directly contrary to the mode of business authorised by the Grand Lodge at the Union in 1813, and would be an entirely new object of departure." It would, we feel assured, be interesting to many of our readers if they could possibly learn what was "the mode of business authorised, &c., in 1813," and we should ourselves be thankful to see "chapter and verse" for things which we do, as well as for what we leave undone, in respect of Masonic working.

OBITUARY.

We record with great regret the deaths of no less than five distinguished members of our order which have occurred during the present month. They are those of—

BRO. E. SIMPSON, P.P.G.P., of West Lancashire, the oldest Past-Master of Lodge Fortitude, No. 281, who died on the 12th inst., in the seventy-second year of his age, and who was interred in the presence of some forty brethren on the 15th, in Lancaster Cemetery.

BRO. JOHN WATSON, J.P., P.G.D. of England, and D.P.G.M. of Nottinghamshire, a Mason of long standing, having been initiated as far back as 1833 in the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 402, Nottingham. By the death of this distinguished brother, the craft generally loses one of the brightest and most capable exponents of its principles.

BRO. J. A. BIRCH, P.P.G.J.W., East Lancashire, and Chairman of the Charity Committee of that province, who had been a member of our order for over 24 years, having been initiated in the Stamford Lodge, No. 1069, Manchester, on the 16th January, 1865, succeeding to the chair of W.M. in 1868. He was connected also with other Manchester Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters wherein particularly his loss will be deeply felt.

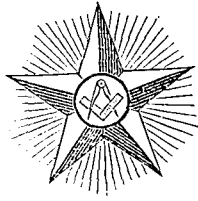
BRO. R. BROWN, P.P.G. treasurer, West Lancashire, a member of the firm of Brown, Barnes and Bell, photographers, of Liverpool, who was initiated in the Merchants Lodge, No. 241, Liverpool, about twenty years ago. In addition to his connection with several Lodges and Chapters in the craft, and also with higher degrees in Freemasonry, he was Hon. Secretary of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institute, and to his earnest services much of the success thereof is mainly due. His remains were interred in Anfield cemetery on the 18th inst. amidst general expressions of regret.

BRO. W. NOTT, P.P.G., J.W., of Wiltshire, who was initiated in the Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity, No. 663, Devizes, in 1864, and held many important offices in his province in several masonic degrees. Bro. Nott also edited the very excellent calendar for the province of Wiltshire, and outside masonic service was a prominent volunteer held in high esteem as major of the second battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment. His funeral was largely attended, there being some thousands of spectators who witnessed the assemblage of Freemasons, Volunteers, and representatives of public bodies to pay their "last sad tribute of respect to departed merit." Over his remains his comrades in arms fired three volleys, and sounded the first and last "posts;" his brethren in masonry deposited "acacia;" the Odd Fellows sprigs of thyme, as emblems of immortality, and his sorrowing relatives and friends wreaths and crosses of choice and beautiful flowers. The town of Devizes was in mourning throughout the day. The masonic burial service was read at the grave by the V.W. Bro. the Rev. J. A. Lloyd, Grand Chaplain, and there were many of the most distinguished freemasons amongst the large number of craftsmen who were present.

THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE held its monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on the 20th inst., W. Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., presiding. There was a large muster of members and brethren. An acknowledgment from a brother at New Zealand of former assistance which had enabled him to advance his prospects in life was read, and gave much satisfaction. Recommendations which had been made to the Grand Master for grants amounting to £380 were confirmed. Forty-four applications from London and the provinces for relief were considered. Of these, four were dismissed. Five others, in consequence of further necessary information being required, were deferred. Thirty-five cases were relieved, of which one was recommended to Grand Lodge for £100, and eight for £50 each; three were recommended to the M.W.G.M. for £40, and seven for £30 each; there were ten grants of £20 each, five of £10 each, and one of £5; the total of the evening's grants being £1,085.

The Masonic Star.

THURSDAY,



MARCH 28, 1889.

Edited by

W. BRO. JAMES STEVENS, P.M., P.Z., &c., &c.

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VOLUME I.

In Masonic Cloth Cover—Now Ready—Price 3s. 6d.

Original Correspondence.

Without in any way holding ourselves responsible for, or even approving of the opinions expressed, we freely throw open our columns for the proper discussion of all matters of a general character relating to Freemasonry.

Correspondents must be as brief as possible, must write plainly, only use one side of the paper, and cannot expect the return of rejected contributions.

Every contribution must be accompanied with the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I have been reading with interest about "Soldier Masons," and I wish to tell you why I am not at present a member of any lodge. The regiment to which I am attached left India in November, 1885, and instead of coming to England as intended, we went to Africa and stayed there till November, 1886, but expecting orders to leave every month. When we did come home the regiment went to Norwich. After having been there about seven months (May, 1886) we went to Colchester. We left there in April, 1887, and went to Manchester; while there I visited the Blair Lodge several times on invitation. Again in April, 1888, the regiment left and went to Leeds, and I came here to Birmingham with a detachment. On the 11th of this month I was invited by a brother to the Temperance Lodge, and received a very warm welcome. In responding to the toast of my health, etc., as a military visiting brother, I gave a short address which I send you to do what you like with.* I would willingly join the Temperance Lodge, No. 739, but unfortunately we leave here about the middle of next month for Scotland; so you see that the continual shifting about prevents me joining a lodge and do credit to it. They say we shall remain in Edinburgh two years—I hope so. I have served offices as S.D. of Star of Agra Craft Lodge, No. 1936, and M.O. of Taj Mehal Mark Masters Lodge, No. 298, East India; and am also a R.A. Mason. What I have learned I have not forgotten, and I have confidence that I can still carry out the work and duties of the offices I mention.

I am very glad that you are taking up the cause of Military Masons. It is very interesting to read about them. I was told by a civilian brother in Manchester that he was surprised to see a soldier a "Freemason."

Fraternally yours on the L,
Sergt.-Farrier W. WILLIAMS, 13th Hussars.

Birmingham, March 22nd, 1889.

* We find space for this admirable address in another column.—
ED. M.S.

SANDGATE LODGE AND SOLDIER MASONS.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

In your admirable Leader on the above subject on the 21st inst., it appears to me that the position of these Military brothers has not been put to you as clearly as it might have been.

In 1882, H.R.H. The Field Marshal Commander in Chief recorded his orders much as follows: "I have no objection to a soldier being a Freemason, but I disapprove of Military Lodges," and I have no doubt the motives of H.R.H. would be fully understood by every officer and N.C. officer of experience in the service, but as the only military warrants are 316, 352, 497, 528, 743 and 824, the order is probably

of much older date, as some of these lodges are fast approaching their centenary, hence it follows that Rules 155, 156, 157 and 188, in the "General Laws and Regulations for the Government of the Craft," do not apply to soldiers at all unless they belong to the Royal Scots, Royal Warwick, Suffolk Reg., Somerset Lt. Inf., 1st Batt. East Surrey, or the 2nd Batt. R. I. Fus., excepting so far as the general rule applies about initiating no soldier below the rank of a corporal.

Now in H.M. Service there happens to be a large body of Royal Engineers, Horse and Field Artillery, Army Service Corps, besides Departmental Corps and 173 regiments, besides the six mentioned above, and I suppose it will not be contended that Civil Lodges and these six regiments have a claim to monopolise the benefits of the Craft.

What has been applied for and refused is an ordinary warrant with a hope to get Bye Laws sanctioned that would confer the same privileges on military brothers stationed at Shorncliffe Camp as are granted at other military stations and nothing more.

Yours fraternally,

W. PERRY, I.P.M., Sandgate Lodge, No. 1436.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.

Can you give me your opinion of the following case? A brother is duly announced on the usual summons to be raised to the Third Degree, but owing to pressure of business it has to be postponed to the next ordinary lodge meeting, occurring two months later. By an oversight of the Secretary all reference is omitted in the next summons. Could the raising in this case be legally proceeded with?

Yours fraternally,

P.M.

* * Certainly.—ED. M.S.

Answers to Correspondents.

STEWART.—The address of Mdlle. Eva Norini, the vocalist, is 23, Colville Road Mansions, Notting Hill. We should have written to you but your request for information arrived too late for use.

C. H. MIDDLEY.—You can resign at any time, taking care to clear all your dues to the Lodge in the country; and you are free to join a Lodge in London, whether you resign the country Lodge or not.

We are requested to Notify that:—

—The fifteen sections will be worked in the Nelson Lodge of Instruction, No. 700, at the Royal Mortar Hotel, Beresford Square, Woolwich, on Tuesday evening next, April 2nd, at 7 p.m., Bro. J. G. Milbourn, I.P.M. 13, Section Master; Walter Martin, P.M. 879, S.W.; E. C. Talbot, 1310, J.W.; and H. Tufnell, 700, hon. sec.

—The annual supper of the Star Chapter of Instruction will take place on Friday, 5th April, when it is hoped there will be a good attendance of R.A. Masons, at the Stirling Castle, Camberwell.

—At the Clapton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1365, Hackney, on the 22nd inst., Bro. Campbell, W.M., after the business of the evening the sum of five guineas was voted to Bro. Caton's list for the Boys' School. Arrangements were made for the delivery of W. Bro. James Stevens' Lecture on "The Ritual and Ceremonial of the Symbolic Degrees in Freemasonry," on the 12th April next.

—The Windsor Castle Lodge, No. 771, Bro. W. G. Nottage, W.M., will be to-day, March 28th, engaged in the melancholy duty of paying a "last sad tribute of respect" to the late Bro. John Whitehouse, the Senior Mason of the province of Berks and Bucks., whose remains are to be interred with full masonic honours at Slough. The brethren will assemble in the Herschel Masonic Hall, Slough, at 2.30 p.m.

—The Beaudesert Lodge, No. 1087, at Leighton Buzzard, Bro. A. W. Tooley, W.M. purposes to hold on the 29th inst. (to-morrow), a Lodge of Sorrow, in tribute of respect to the late Bro. Gotto, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. Beds. and secretary of the lodge, who deceased on the 19th inst.

The Stuart Lodge, No. 1632, held a meeting at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Monday last, the 25th inst., when Bro. Edward Pettit was most ably installed in the chair of K.S., by Bro. Henry E. Vickers, I.P.M., in the presence of a large assembly of brethren.

The Mawddach Lodge, No. 1988, held its anniversary festival at the Masonic Temple, Barmouth, on the 20th inst, W. Bro. H. J. Hart, W.M., presided, and there was a very large attendance; the D.P.G.M. North Wales, Col. Henry Platt, P.G.D. Eng., was present during the business of the meeting, which included installation of Bro. W. Chas. Logan, as W.M. The banquet was served at the Marine Hotel.

It is best at all times for Masons to keep the interests of the Blue Lodge nearest their hearts. The Lodge is the base of the Craft, and when that fails all else is like a rope of sand.

MASONIC OFFICERS.—The officers of Masonic bodies give character to the Fraternity, and while merit ought to be the criterion for office in every case—civic as well as Masonic—the large majority of the members of our Fraternity evidence, by their actions, that the chief requisites for office in Masonry are ability, character, and a name that is held in good repute in the community. The best and noblest representative element should be the office-bearers of our Fraternity. However exalted Freemasonry may be in its principles, it should be exemplified in practice by its members, and especially by its officers, in order to maintain its ancient and honourable prestige.—*New York Dispatch.*

Point—Left—Right.

I am rather late in the field with my appeal for funds from the readers of THE MASONIC STAR, on behalf of the wife and children of the late Rev. Bro. J. G. Wood, the prolific writer on Natural History, but better late than never. Our worthy brother was a member of Lewis' Lodge, Ramsgate, a Grand Chaplain in Mark Masonry of England, Grand Chaplain of Oxfordshire (Apollo Lodge), and a member of rank and standing of the Royal Arch, St. Paul's, and others; so says his son, whose letter is before me. Bro. Wood has done more than any other man who ever lived in modern times, to make Natural History more relishable to the million. He was an indefatigable worker among the subjects of the lower kingdom, and "the poor fellow literally died in harness."

* * *

"He was on a lecturing tour, caught a severe chill, took to his bed at Coventry on the Saturday, and died on Sunday. His last thoughts were about his wife and children. He wrote a few lines in pencil to his wife, bidding her adieu, and giving what directions he could about some works and articles he had left unfinished." Now, brethren, this is one of those cases which demands the fulfilment of the masonic creed. We give money freely, not always wisely. Let us give a little here, for here it is deserved and will be well applied.

* * *

Contributions to the fund, addressed to "THE DRUID, MASONIC STAR, 59, Moor Lane," will be acknowledged in this column, and will be forwarded direct to Messrs. Hammond & Co., the Bankers of the Fund, when the contributions have ceased. If every reader of THE MASONIC STAR sends me no more than a shilling, we shall be enabled to donate the very handsome sum of several hundred pounds to the wife and six children of the illustrious deceased.

* * *

A bucolic advertisement worth rescuing from the oblivion of a daily paper:—

MILK.—Lad wanted for small round, well schooled to business; good wages to smart boy; no duffers who cannot sell milk; must rise with the sparrows in morning, chirrup as loudly, finish the day as early, and live as they do, out.

* * *

The cast for *Calumny*, Bro. Malcolm Watson's new play, is now complete, and comprises Miss Wallis, Miss Robertha Erskine, Miss Dairrolles, Bro. William Farren and his youngest son Frank, Mr. Arthur Elwood, Bro. Fred Terry, Mr. Matthew Brodie, and others. The piece will be produced on Thursday afternoon, April 4th, at the Shaftsbury Theatre, for the benefit of Bro. W. H. Griffiths, the acting manager. The first act is laid in London, and the second and third in Paris.

* * *

John Bright is dead. He was not a mason, but the loss is ours. In the words of a daily contemporary—"We do not think of John Bright as of a champion fallen in the thick of the fight, a leader and king of men snatched from our eyes and loves, but as a grey old warrior borne peacefully to his rest in the quiet days when the cobweb stretches across the cannon's throat. Dead indeed is he with all his honors thick upon him. He was a bright example of what a man may become, and every member of our order would have welcomed their ability to have placed their sprigs of acacia on his grave. But I say again, the loss is ours.

* * *

It is not often we hear or read a respectable speech from the ordinary member of a Masonic Lodge. Replies to Toasts are usually of the "massage" order of treatment, or, you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours. The W. M. says, with a serious look upon his placid countenance, "I—think—brethren—that—when—I—say—we—have—in—brother—Johnny—a—man—and—a—mason—who—has—given—his—time—AND—fortune,—brethren,—to—his—lodge," &c., &c. And Brother Johnny swells his manly chest, and answers the brethren that he has done nothing but what his love of Freemasonry and his admiration for that excellent brother who occupies the Master's chair, &c. When, therefore, we read a speech such as that delivered to the members of the Temperance Lodge at Birmingham, on the 11th of March, we are somewhat surprised that such ideas come from the brain of "the common soldier," as a foolish fellow expresses himself in a letter to my Editor, which he wisely refuses to publish.

* * *

The "common soldier" indeed! The author of this remark has not lived in the world as long as I have. His intellect and ideas must be of a very, very "common order."

* * *

Dramatic Memo.—Hurry up for the last nights of *Dorothy*. The bewitching little maid will warble her warnings to love-sick maidens but a few nights more.

Don't miss Bro. Lonnen's benefit at the Gaiety on Monday afternoon the 1st prox. Let us give him a right-good benefit—not that I think he wants one—and try and make him weep with gratitude. The bill of fare has innumerable courses.

Advice Gratis.—Go and see *Macbeth*, *Richard III.*, *The Balloon*, and *Merry Wives of Windsor*. Instead of booking your seats, go in

the pit, have a crust of bread and cheese instead of a supper at Romano's, and send the difference between the expenditure, real and estimated, on to

THE DRUID.

WOOD FUND.—I have to acknowledge the following contributions:—A., 2s. 6d.; B., 2s. 6d.; C., 2s. 6d.; D., 2s. 6d.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.

The annual general meeting of the subscribers and friends of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held on Saturday last, the 23rd inst., at Willis's Rooms, St. James', the Right Hon. Bro. Joseph Chamberlain, P.C., M.P., in the chair.

The meeting, which was influentially attended, particularly by masons, was densely crowded, scores being unable to obtain admittance. There were present, amongst others, the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, P.C., Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Capt. Lord Charles Beresford, R.N., M.P.; General Lord de Ros, The Earl of Belmore, Sir Edward Birkbeck, Bart., M.P.; Admiral Sir John Corbett, K.C.B.; Capt. J. Sydney Webb, Deputy Master of the Trinity House; Sir Francis Outram, Bart.; Admiral Beamish, Mr. A. B. Forwood, M.P., Secretary to the Admiralty; Sir Joseph Pease, Bart., M.P.; Mr. Robert Birkbeck, Mr. R. U. Penrose Fitzgerald, M.P.; Colonel Colville, C.B.; Sir John Coode, Mr. L. T. Cave, Mr. C. G. Prideaux Brune, Admiral Ward, Mr. W. H. Lyall, Colonel FitzRoy Clayton, Admiral Robertson Macdonald, Bro. Charles Dibdin, the Secretary; Captain the Hon. H. W. Chetwynd, R.N., Chief Inspector of Life-boats, and many others.

It was announced that letters regretting their inability to attend the Meeting had been received from the Dukes of Abercorn and Norfolk, the Duchess of Buccleuch, the Marquis of Ripon, the Earls of Carnarvon, Derby and Strafford, the Earls Percy and Waldegrave, the Countess of Rosebery, Lords Robartes and Windsor, the Baroness and Mr. Burdett-Coutts, the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, M.P., and several other Members of Parliament; the Lord Mayor of London, the Lord Provost of Glasgow, the Mayors of Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester, and others.

Reports of Lodge & Chapter Meetings.

METROPOLITAN.

THE CLAPTON LODGE—No. 1365.—W. H. Caton, W.M. A regular meeting was held at St. Botolph Chambers, Bishopsgate Street Without, E.C., on Thursday last, the 21st inst. Present: Bros. W. H. Caton, W.M.; J. Tucker, S.W.; W. D. Church, J.W.; W. Blackburn, P.M. and Treas.; W. Lutwyche, P.M. and Sec.; D. Campbell, acting as S.D.; G. Quirk, J.D.; C. E. Luker, I.G.; W. W. Fletcher, D.C.; J. H. Thompson, Wine Steward; W. Finch, H. Oldham, J. Badkin, P.M.s.; C. Stanger, R. E. Fairclough, E. C. Robinson, J. D. Geddes, W. Cathrow, G. Kett, E. J. Farries. Visitors—J. Stevenson, 1579; R. G. Keston, 2077; W. A. Finch, 2256; James Stevens, 1216, P.M.; H. W. Garrod, 749; W. F. Cathrow, 1733; E. Brooks, 766, J.W.; S. A. Stanger, 12, J.D.; J. Bunker, 1158, P.M. The work of the evening comprised the raising of Bro. E. C. Robinson, the passing of Bro. John David Geddes, and the initiation of Mr. Ernest Toller Mursell Norcutt, each ceremony being well performed by W.M. and officers. After the dispatch of routine business and the closing of the lodge, supper was served in the large dining-hall of the Great Eastern Hotel Restaurant. It was announced in course of the evening that the W.M. Bro. Caton intended to represent the lodge at the ensuing festival of the Boy's School, and his list was made up to some forty or fifty guineas as a commencement of his Stewardship. The visitors expressed themselves highly delighted with the whole proceedings of the evening, which, after abundant harmony, terminated at a reasonable hour with the Tyler's toast. A pleasing episode in the proceedings arose from an incidental remark made by one of the visitors in returning thanks, that the W.M.'s regard for Masonry had induced him to sacrifice his pleasure in sharing the home enjoyments of the evening, which was the anniversary of the birth of his wife, Mrs. Caton. This called forth much enthusiasm amongst the brethren, and "health and long life to Mrs. Caton" became "the toast of the evening" to which the W.M. responded with much feeling and in admirable terms.

EMBLEMATIC LODGE—No. 1321.—Held at the Bridge House Hotel, on Thursday, 21st inst.—W. Bro. Henry Esling, W.M.—Bros. J. Price, S.W.; E. J. Potter, J.W.; W. B. Fendick, P.M., treas.; T. G. Cooper, P.M., sec.; W. Kent, S.D.; R. H. Davies, J.D.; W. J. Harris, I.G.; J. Wheatcroft, steward; E. Beeson, A.D.C.; Theis-Boydell, I.P.M.; Hunter, P.M.; Kirkaldy, P.M.; Edgington, P.M.; Englefeld, P.M.; T. Merton Clarke, org.; Marshall, Andrews, Bannell, Salisbury, W. O. Welford, G. Hartley, J. Howell, F. W. Chowles, J. H. Evans, E. L. Berry, H. Matthews, J. H. Muggridge, G. E. Grimes, and Walter Monk. Visitors: W. Bro. J. A. Fitzgerald, W.M. 2165; J. Darby Allcroft; N. Ruffin, La France, 2069; G. H. Cantle, 1538, org., MASONIC STAR. The lodge was opened in the three degrees, and Bro. Andrews was raised to the rank of an M.M. The lodge was resumed in the first degree, and Bros. Merton Clarke and Muggridge were elected members of the lodge. After the lodge business the brethren adjourned to banquet, served in Bro. Pearce's well-known style. The toasts of "The Queen," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and "The Grand Officers, Past and Present," were proposed by the W.M., and met with a true emblematic response. The "Visitors" toast was then proposed, coupled with the names of Bro. Fitzgerald, P.M., and Bro. Cantle. Bro. Fitzgerald thanked the W.M. and brethren on behalf of the visitors, with his usual eloquence. The joining members—"Treasurer and Secretary"—toasts followed. Bro. Boydell, I.P.M., then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," which was received with *clat*. W. Bro. Esling briefly replied, and said the way in which the compliments had showered on him proved his labour was not in vain. The officers' toast was proposed and responded to by all the officers. It fell to Bro. E. Beeson, A.D.C., to make the humorous speech of the evening. He said in his capacity (A.D.C.), he had little to do with the welfare of the brethren while in the lodge. His task seemed to be to criticize and test the men, and in this he thought he had done his duty. After many witty remarks, which convulsed the brethren, he wound up by thanking the W.M. for coupling his name with the toast. The "Tyler's" toast was then given as a final. During the evening Bros. Davies, Harris, Kirkaldy, E. Beeson, Fendick, and others, acted as vocalists. Bro. Merton Clarke presided at the piano.

LEY SPRING No. 1598.—The election meeting was held on Thursday, 21st inst., at Anderson's Hotel. Present:—Bros. Robert Stevens Walker, W.M.; Turner, S.W.; Arber, J.W.; Allaway, treas.; Buseall, P.M., sec.; Roberts, S.D.; Dipple, D.C.; Graves, org.; Pughier, P.M.; Roberts, P.M.; Lewis, P.M.; Brown, P.M.; Langdon; Margett; Plenderleith; Smyth, P.M. 929; Smith, Hipkins, Thomas, Galloway, and Lawtree. Visitors: Bros. Larns, 1071, and Charlie Woods, 1869. The lodge was in mourning through the lamented death of Bro. Sampson, I.P.M., to whose widow and family a vote of deep sympathy was ordered to be conveyed. Bro. Turner was elected W.M., and Bro. Allaway re-elected treasurer. Bros. Langdon, Plenderleith, and How, were elected the audit committee. A P.M.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. Walker on his retirement from the chair of K.S. At the social board the usual loyal and masonic toasts were received with enthusiasm. Bro. Buseall, P.M., sec., proposed the toast of the W.M. Bro. Walker,

expressing regret for his illness during the year of office. Bro. Walker, W.M., responded, thanking the brethren for their kindness. He had never had such a long period of illness before. The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors," to which toast Bro. Burns, 1071, thanked the brethren for their kind reception and masonic welcome. Bro. Woods, 1869, also responded. He considered masonry a grand reality, and would remember this visit as a *red* letter day. The other customary toasts were duly honoured. The harmony of the evening was increased by some capital songs from several members, Bro. Graves, org., presiding very ably at the piano.

BROMLEY SAINT LEONARD LODGE—No. 1805.—Meeting at the Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow Road, on Tuesday last. Present:—Bros. H. Johnson, W.M.; R. Toole, S.W.; Ben Johnson, J.W.; J. Collier, treas.; W. M. Mead, sec.; Tom Green, S.D.; G. E. Warn, J.D.; C. Lewsey, I.G.; W. J. Roberts, S.S.; W. T. Potts, J.S.; J. Bailey, I.P.M.; J. Peterken, and J. E. McLaren, P.M.'s; Bros. Captain Sir John Colomb, K.C.M.G., M.P.; Speiro, Selby, Barnes, Fennell, Griffith, Davis, Howard, Wingfield, Flynn, Gales, Donaghy, Hankey, Bussey, Bird, Mitchell, Humbridge and Hutcheson. Visitors:—Bros. G. Brown, P.M. 169; J. W. Gibbs, org.; C. J. Tigon, P.M., and Alex. Paterson, S.D., all of the Coborn Lodge, 1804; James Evans, 1260; Davison, 1382; Stewart, 1716, and W. Blackwood, Cumberland Kilwinning 217. Bros. Capt. Sir John Colomb, K.C.M.G., M.P. (of Lodge No. 13, Limerick I.C.), was elected a joining member, and Mr. A. S. Bird was duly initiated. Bros. W. Griffith and G. Hutcheson were passed to the second degree; and Bro. G. H. Fennell was raised to the degree of M.M. Propositions were made for election of member, and of four candidates for initiation at the next meeting. The lodge is to be congratulated on its continued increase of strength. A very agreeable evening was spent after labour had been completed.

PROVINCIAL.

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT—VENTNOR.—THE YARBOROUGH LODGE—No. 551.—Held its regular meeting at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., when the following brethren were present:—Bro. Fredk. P. Anslie, W.M.—Bros. T. H. Clough, I.P.M.; A. Houston, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. J. Webber, P.M., as S.W.; J. S. Ineson, J.W.; F. H. Sheppard, S.D.; W. D. Bidgood, J.D.; W. Cole Norman, I.G.; Wetherick and Tuddenham, stewards; E. A. Swane, sec.; C. Small, tyler, Tolman, Longmuir, and other brethren. Visitor: W. H. Millett, St. Ambrose Lodge, No. 1891. The minutes of the preceding meeting having been confirmed, the ballot was successively taken for two gentlemen proposed at the last regular lodge, and having proved satisfactory, they were initiated into the Order by the W.M. in his usual impressive manner. The charge was ably given by Bro. Sheppard. Bro. Millett was proposed and elected a joining member. The charity box was circulated, and the lodge then closed in due form. The brethren adjourned to Bro. Tolman's for supper, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. Several songs and recitations were given; amongst others the W.M. recited the "Masons' Vows," and the "Working Tools" in a most touching and feeling manner. Bro. Sheppard also recited the "Ancient Bro. of Damascus," all three of which appeared in the MASONIC STAR.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

RAVENSBORNE—No. 1601.—On the 20th inst., at the George Hotel, Catford. —Bro. D. O. Scott, W.M.—Bros. C. H. Sharman, S.W.; H. Visger, J.W.; C. Blanchard, S.D.; G. Pickering, J.D.; J. Clark, I.G.; H. Shaw, P.M., preceptor; Walter Smith, treas.; C. Atkins, sec.; A. A. Drew, P.M.; James Stevens, P.M.; J. T. Axford, W.M. 890; Hardy Smith, A. Norris, P. McCarthy, W. Robin, C. Thomas, J. Noyes, J. A. Sheldon, H. G. Walker, &c. The lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Hardy Smith as candidate. The W.M. delivered the traditional history in a most able manner. The lodge was lowered and called "off and on." In M.M. degree the brethren practised entry drill, and the respective lodges were closed in due order. Bro. C. H. Sharman was elected W.M. for ensuing week.

STAR—No. 1275.—On the 23rd inst., at the Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, S.E. This meeting was of a most interesting and instructive character. On the invitation of the lodge, through its preceptor, Bro. Walter Martin, the entire work of the evening was left in the hands of the members of the Ravensbourne Lodge of Instruction, No. 1275, who attended in goodly number, and by their appointed officers gave their hosts an opportunity for judging how closely the workings of the respective lodges assimilate. Bro. G. Pickering, of the Ravensbourne Lodge of Instruction, opened the lodge and presided during E.A. degree. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Noyes being candidate, and the work was ably performed by the Ravensbourne members. Bro. McCarthy, P.M., presided in the F.C. degree, and rehearsed the ceremony of passing, Bro. Faulkner acting as candidate. Bro. A. A. Drew presided in the M.M. lodge and rehearsed the third ceremony, Bro. E. C. Percy-Stevens being candidate. In each degree the officers were advanced in rota to their several positions, and the proceedings throughout were characterised by the utmost regularity. The musical service, conducted by Bro. Newell, the organist to the receiving lodge, was perfect. At the conclusion of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was recorded to the Ravensbourne Lodge of Instruction for their attendance and admirably smart working, which was heartily acknowledged. Several new members were accepted, and the meeting adjourned. The following, amongst other brethren, were present, in addition to those above named:—Bros. Skelton; Visger; Blanchard; J. D. Wilkinson, sec.; Newell, org.; Dale, P.M.; Skudder, P.M.; Tilling, P.M.; Waterman, P.M.; Carey, P.M.; Goode, P.M.; Jas. Stevens, P.M.; Eedle, P.M.; Turpin, Morley, Kemble, Clark, Bird, Mullis, Morgan, Thomas, Ashby, Sandford, Clark, Noyes, Vonberger, Faulkner, Ray, Nightingale, Stevens, Black, Lazarus, Smith, Talbot, Taylor, Flood, Penrose, and Best.

TEMPERANCE—No. 169.—On the 22nd inst., at the Railway Tavern, New Cross Road, S.E.—Bro. Turpin, W.M.—Bros. Dale, S.W.; Speight, J.W.; Robeson, S.D.; Laphard, J.D.; Davis, I.G.; Milbourn, preceptor; Vellenoweth, sec.; Stevens, P.M., P.Z.; Smith, and Penny. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Laphard, candidate. The 2nd section of lecture was worked by Bro. Milbourn, preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Laphard, 147, and Smith, 33, were elected members, and Bro. Dale, P.M. 169, was elected W.M. for the 1st Friday in April.

PROSPERITY—No. 65.—At the City Arms Restaurant, St. Mary Axe, E.C., on Tuesday, March 19th. Present:—Bros. D. Moss, P.M. 1275, W.M.; Talbot, 65, S.W.; A. Valentine, J.W.; L. Da Costa, 1349, S.D.; Fisher, 192, J.D.; Sarson, 192, I.G.; B. Da Costa, 1349, Deputy Preceptor. Also, Bros. Haller, W.M. elect 65; Roberts, P.M. 65; Dyson, P.M. 65; Cary, 1625, sec., and about 20 other brethren. The third degree was worked, Bro. Freyer, candidate. The lodge was called "off and on." Bro. Dyson, P.M. 65, proposed, and Bro. Roberts, P.M. 65, seconded, that a vote of thanks should be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Moss for his past services as Preceptor. Both these brethren made eloquent speeches recognizing Bro. Moss's worth, and the resolution was carried unanimously. Bro. Moss thanked the brethren and traced the lodge history from the time when he was first elected preceptor, and expressed his sorrow at leaving the lodge after a preceptorship of close upon ten years. A testimonial was presented to Bro. Moss on his leaving for South Africa, which consisted of a sum of nearly 60 guineas. Bro. Moss again thanked the brethren, and bade farewell to the lodge, the brethren, in accordance with ancient custom, giving him for the last time "Hearty Good Wishes." A Masonic Benevolent Association was afterwards formed, and the first meeting appointed for the 26th inst.

STAR CHAPTER—No. 1275.—On Friday, 22nd inst., at the Stirling Castle, Camberwell. Present:—Comps. F. Hilton, P.Z., M.E.Z., and Preceptor; V. T. Murche H.; Benedetti, J.; Stone, S.E.; Oldfield, S.N.; C. H. Stone, P.S.; Addington, Wicks, Briant, R. C. Davis, H. Martin, G. L. Moore, C. Wilson, and Neeld, P.Z. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Addington, candidate. A vote of thanks was accorded Comp. Benedetti for his able work as "J" for the first time. Comp. Murche was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting.

Metropolitan Lodge and Chapter Meetings for the Current Week.

"All Lodges held within Ten Miles of FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, are LONDON LODGES."—General Laws and Regulations.

No. of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE AND CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE AND CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.
THIS DAY (Last) THURSDAY, MARCH 28th.			(1st) TUESDAY, APRIL 2nd—continued.		
34	Mount Moriah	F. M. H.	1159	Marquis of Dalhousie	33, Golden Square, W.
45	Prosperity	Guildhall Tav., Gresham Street, E.C.	1259	Duke of Edinburgh	Cape of Good Hope Tav., Comrel. Rd., E.
66	Grenadiers	F. M. H.	1261	Golden Rule	Caté Royal, Regent Street, W.
99	Shakespeare	Albion Tav., Aldersgate Street, E.C.	1472	Henley	Three Crowns, North Woolwich
507	United Pilgrims	Bridge House Hotel, London Bdg., S.E.	1693	Kingsland	Railway Hot., Highbury, N.
766	William Preston	Cannon Street Hot., E.C.	2190	Savage Club	F. M. H.
861	Pinbury	St. Botolph Chmbrs., 191, Bishpsgte St.	R.A.C.		
871	Royal Oak	White Swan Tav., Deptford	1	Grand Masters	Willis's Rooms, King St., St. James's, W.
1421	Langthorne	Angel Hotel, Ilford	169	Temperance	White Swan, High Street, Deptford, E.
1608	Kilburn	Queen's Arms Hot., Kilburn Gate	Mark.		
1623	West Smithfield	F. M. H.	236	Clapton	191, Bishopsgate St., E.C.
1658	Skelmersdale	Surrey M. H., Camberwell	350	Temperance-in-the-East	Assembly Rooms, 6, Newby Place, Poplar
1816	Victoria Park	London Tav., Fenchurch St., E.C.	355	Royal Savoy	Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
R.A.C.					
5	St. George's	F. M. H.	(1st) WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3rd.		
177	Domestic	Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.	511	Zetland	Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
Mark.			1298	Royal Standard	Cock Tav., Highbury, N.
13	Hiram	Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey	1491	Athenaeum	Athenaeum, Camden Road, N.
118	Northumberland	M. H. Tav., Basinghall Street, E.C.	1687	Rothesay	St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, W.
(Last) FRIDAY, MARCH 29th.			R.A.C.		
134	Caledonian	Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall St., E.C.	1196	Urban	F. M. H.
K.T.			1328	Granite	Holborn Restaurant, W.C.
26	Faith and Fidelity	Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.	1471	Isington	Cock Tav., Highbury, N.
(Last) SATURDAY, MARCH 30th.			Mark.		
1706	Orpheus	Holborn Restaurant, W.C.	K.T.		
			129	Holy Palestine	33, Golden Square, W.
(1st) MONDAY, APRIL 1st.			(1st) THURSDAY, APRIL 4th.		
12	Fortitude & Old Cumberland	Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall St., E.C.	10	Westminster and Keystone	F. M. H.
25	Robert Burns	F. M. H.	27	Egyptian	Anderton's Hotel, E.C.
69	Unity	Inns of Court Hotel, W.C.	45	Strong Man	M. H. Tav., Basinghall Street, E.C.
83	United Lodge of Prudence	Albion Tav., Aldersgate Street, E.C.	227	Ionic	Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall St., E.C.
144	St. Luke's	Anderton's Hot., Fleet Street, E.C.	554	Yarborough	Green Dragon, Stepney.
188	Joppa	F. M. T.	822	Victoria Rifles	F. M. H.
256	Unions	F. M. H.	1155	Excelsior	White Swan, Deptford.
1305	St. Marylebone	Criterion, Piccadilly, W.	1178	Perfect Ashlar	Bridge House Hot., S.E.
1319	Asaph	F. M. H.	1672	Mornington	Imperial Hot., Holborn Viaduct, E.C.
1625	Tredegar	Royal Hotel, Mile End Road, E.	1707	Eleanor	Great Eastern Hot., Liverpool St., E.C.
1669	Royal Leopold	Surrey M. H., Camberwell	1772	Pimlico	Victoria Mans. Rest., Victoria St., S.W.
1883	Caxton	F. M. H.	1790	Old England	M. H., New Thornton H'th, nr. Croydon
2020	St. Botolph's	Albion Tav., Aldersgate Street, E.C.	1801	Coborn (? April 11th)	Vestry Hall, Bow
R.A.C.			R.A.C.		
28	Old King's Arms	F. M. T.	2	St. James's	F. M. H.
1704	Cable	Cannon Street Hot., E.C.	181	Universal	Ditto
Mark.			1381	Kennington	Horns Tav., Kennington, S.E.
5	Mallett and Chisel	8a, Red Lion Square	1716	All Saints (? April 14th)	Vestry Hall, Fairfield Road, Bow
K.T.			Mark.		
127	Bard of Avon & Drury Lane	8a, Red Lion Square	197	Stndholme	33, Golden Square, W.
			244	Trinity College	13, Mandeville Place, W.
(1st) TUESDAY, APRIL 2nd.					
7	Royal York of Perseverance	Albion Tav., Aldersgate Street, E.C.			
18	Old Dundee	Cannon Street Hot., E.C.			
101	Temple	Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall St., E.C.			
217	Stability	Anderton's Hot., Fleet Street, E.C.			

N.B.—We will insert hours of meeting of London Lodges, if summonses are sent to us in sufficient time.—ED. M.S.

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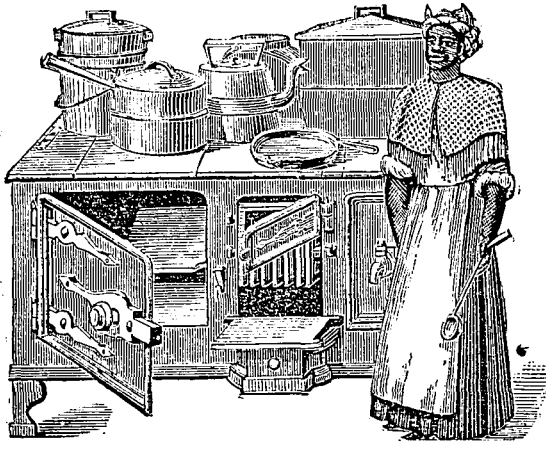
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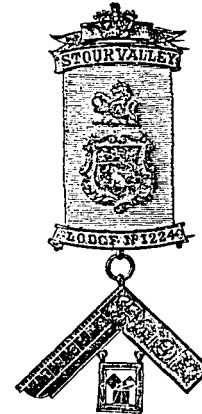
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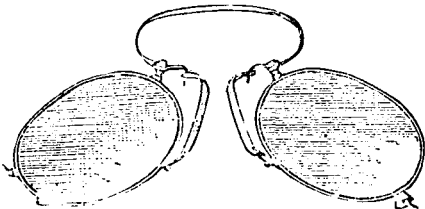
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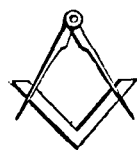
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