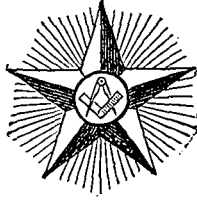


THE MASONIC STAR

A Weekly Journal and
At Home



Record of Freemasonry
and Abroad.

VOL. II.—No. 21.]

THURSDAY, JULY 11TH, 1889.

[CURRENT NUMBER 47.]

CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL: THE BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL	267
THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS	268
—STEWARDS' LISTS	269
ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE	270 & 271
OUR TRESTLE BOARD	271
NOTIFICATION	271
METROPOLITAN LODGE AND CHAPTER MEETINGS FOR THE CURRENT WEEK	272
ADVERTISEMENTS	<i>Front cover, 266, 274, 275, 276, 277</i>
PROSPECTUS OF "THE 'MASONIC STAR,' LIMITED" ...	277
SUPPLEMENT: FORM OF APPLICATION	

The Boys' School Festival.

THE hopes and fears respectively of the many thousands of craftsmen interested in the welfare of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, in relation to the results which might attend its 91st Annual Festival, were set at rest on Wednesday in last week, after a scene of disorder which hitherto has been unknown in the annals of Masonic convivial meetings. The proceedings of the evening were disturbed, and effectually interrupted, by needless and most inappropriate remarks in connection with the recent and necessary action of the Special Court of Governors and Subscribers. We had hoped that the publicity of the place selected for the Festival; the certainty that there were at table some who are not members of the order; and above all, the much esteemed presence of ladies, would have together exercised a restraining influence against the introduction of controversial matters. But they failed to do so, and excepting only for the satisfactory nature of the final announcement the Boys' School Festival of 1889 was a fiasco. Our sympathy goes out towards the worthy brother who had the courage, under all surrounding circumstances, to preside on this occasion, Brother Richard Eve, Past Grand Treasurer and Patron of the Institution; and whilst it is certain that in proposing the toast of the evening he, unfortunately, struck a chord which was not in harmony with the excited feelings of a considerable number of those present, allowances must be made for the difficulties of placing before a large and mixed gathering the past history and present position of an Institution the affairs of which are subject to unfavourable public comment. But no such allowance can be advanced as an excuse for the speech which introduced the announcement of the Stewards' lists of contributions, and which caused the collapse of the meeting and the almost simultaneous separation of the guests. It was not only in bad taste, but it, unfortunately for the speaker, imputed to

others, as anxious as he himself can possibly be for the welfare of the School, a course of action characterised by persecution and a disinclination to admit of fair play or to give a fair hearing. These are charges against the honour and probity of many brethren, more or less distinguished for their adherence to the principles of Freemasonry, which must not be allowed to pass uncontradicted. It is amazing that anyone having a good record for ability and judgment in former years, (and for services so important that even recent departures from the original mode of procedure, and the present defiance of opinion must not, or at least should not, hinder from fitting acknowledgment at a proper time), should permit himself to be carried away by an excess of personal indignation that others should seek to know in what manner the Institution has been managed. To state that fair play towards him is not possible, that he was enduring a large amount of persecution, and that the movement in relation to the enquiry lately conducted was hostile and injurious to the success of the Festival or the interests of the School, was not only unwise on his part, but not in accordance with facts. His most bitter enemies could not have desired a more injudicious exposition of his real sentiments; and his best friends must feel disheartened by the additional difficulties they will have to encounter in promoting his interests, as well present as future, and to which his statements will give rise.

It is suggested that the contributions of the brethren at this Festival should have reached some £3,000 more than the total announced. For our part we consider that such total exceeds by some £3,000 the amount which, under the circumstances, might have been expected. We think that but for the satisfaction which has been given by the constitution of a Provisional Committee of Management the gross amount would not have reached five figures, and that on all hands in respect of pecuniary result there is cause for satisfaction; whilst in regard to future management confidence has been established, and continued support of the Institution assured. And now would it not be as well to do no more than "watch and wait" for a reasonable space of time, during which the arrangements of the Provisional Committee might be matured, and their report prepared? No good whatever can accrue by further publicity in connection with the past. It is with the present and the future that the Committee, and in due time the Special Court, will have to deal, and the former cannot do its work with any amount of satisfaction to themselves, or to those who have appointed them, if their attention is to be distracted by public controversy, and suggestions as to what should be done in one direction and what left undone in another.

As to persecution, we may be sure there will be nothing which can bear so harsh a designation suggested by the Committee, and, however much it may be doubted in some quarters, fair play and a fair hearing will be given and required by the Special Court before any final decision; in respect of which decision if justice demands a certain fiat we may rest assured of the interposition of a mason's characteristic virtue before utter condemnation.

As will be seen by our report of the proceedings of the meeting of the General Committee, held on Saturday last, the Provisional Committee of Management has lost no time in fulfilling the charge deputed to it of reforming the whole arrangements of the Institution, and its members have given proof that in their hands the best interests of the School will be protected.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The 91st Anniversary Festival of this Institution was held at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill, on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., under the presidency of V.W. Bro. Richard Eve, Past Grand Treasurer, P. Prov. G.S. Warden, Hants and Isle of Wight, and a Patron of the Institution. We regret that we are unable to speak in terms of commendation of any circumstance connected with it beyond the fact that the total amount contributed by the 335 stewards whose lists were read, is, under all the circumstances of the recent agitation, much more satisfactory than might have been expected: and that to them and to the Chairman, Bro. Eve, for his high-spirited and manly support in a time of difficulty and discredit, the thanks of the Craft are eminently due. The selection of the place of gathering was in many respects most injudicious, as affording but little comfort or convenience to the large party whilst assembling; and a dining hall more deficient in those acoustic properties which are essential to the success of *post prandial* speeches and musical entertainment it would be difficult to find. Of the repast set before the visitors—it would be ridiculous to call it a dinner—the less said the better. We are certain that the “scramble” was as much against the wishes and intentions of the stewards as it was objectionable to the guests. Still, and notwithstanding these drawbacks, the Festival might have proved acceptable, but for unfortunate allusions to the deplorable circumstances which have caused so much diversity of opinion, and raised such a storm of censure during the past twelve months. In reference to those allusions we shall have something to say in other columns of this number of our paper. After grace had been sung, the chairman proposed the health of “The Queen,” remarking on the pleasure with which that toast is always received in assemblies of Englishmen, and by none more so than Freemasons, with whose beneficent order Her Majesty was intimately connected by relationship as daughter, mother and grandmother, and more particularly with the Institution itself as its Grand Patron. The customary honour was paid to this toast and the National Anthem sung. The chairman next proposed the health of “H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., M.W. Grand Master, and President of the Institution,” for whom Freemasons felt the greatest devotion, and of whom he could say that he knew of none who had a stronger affection for the Order. This toast was also received with enthusiasm. With the toast of “The Right Honourable the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro. Grand Master; the Right Honourable the Earl of Lathom, R.W. Dep. Grand Master; *ex officio* Vice-Presidents of the Institution; and the Provincial Grand Master, and Present and Past Grand Officers” the Chairman, after a brief reference to the respective valuable services to the Order of the first named, and the distinctions enjoyed by those whom the Grand Master had selected for office, coupled the name of V.W. Bro. Cama, Past Grand Treasurer. Bro. Cama in reply expressed the pleasure it gave him to return thanks on behalf of that body with which he had been associated through the interests of many of the brethren then present, and also thanked the Chairman for the honour he had personally conferred by mentioning his name in connection with so important a toast. V.W. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, then proposed the health of the Chairman, Bro. Eve, who was not only well-known and esteemed as a private gentleman but was also a highly distinguished and highly honoured Mason. For some thirty or more years he had been active, energetic and enthusiastic on behalf of the Order, and the proof of the estimation in which he was held was to be found in the fact that his election some four years ago as Grand Treasurer was welcome to the entire Craft of England. Not only was his qualification for chairmanship on this occasion consequent on his previous services, but it was strengthened by the fact that he stood in the proud position of being a Patron of each of the Masonic Charities. It reflected great honour upon Bro. Eve, that such eulogium was well merited and he hoped the toast would be enthusiastically received. After the applause with which the Grand Secretary's remarks were greeted had subsided, Bro. Eve thanked the brethren heartily for their encouragement, and assured them that he had taken his present position as Chairman with some amount of hesitation; but he felt that, after pressing invitation, he had a duty to perform towards the Institution, particularly when it was in need of energetic and prompt action. More particularly so as possibly the rumours as to the adverse character of a certain report had deterred many more distinguished brethren than himself from accepting the

Chairmanship at this Festival, and he now felt that if his acceptance of that position had been of advantage he had reason to be highly gratified, and the Institution, if it required a friend should never fail to find a friend in him. He was highly honoured in having the opportunity of acting in that capacity at this Festival. After a brief pause the Chairman again rose to propose the toast of the evening, “Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.” In a lengthy speech in the course of which Bro. Eve, was unfortunately betrayed into a reference to matters which are still *sub-judice*, and which reference was not met with general approval, he said the toast was one which he was sure the company would receive with much pleasure, and honour with enthusiasm. He approached it with some diffidence as he considered himself but a weak instrument in the advocacy of the claims which the Institution had upon them and the Craft in general. It had been in existence some 90 years, and was consequently approaching the centenary of its establishment. Consequent on the Centenary Festival of the Girls' School last year on which occasion the M.W. Grand Master presided, the large contribution of over £50,000 then made by the Craft had naturally affected the result of the Boys' School Festival which was held subsequently in 1888, on which occasion only £8,000 formed the sum total of the stewards' lists. As some £12,000 to £13,000 are required annually to support the Institution a deficit was created which made it all the more necessary that the return this year should be, as he hoped it might be, sufficient to make up the average and place the boys in a good position.

(We heartily wish that our worthy and distinguished brother had terminated his address at this point, or had, at least, concluded with a few general remarks which would not have touched upon the “burning question.” The remainder of our report must be a reproduction of what has been elsewhere published, and is very fairly and accurately recorded.)

Bro. Eve, continuing, said, “Well, they had had another matter which had also retarded, to some extent, the movements of the Boys' School. He referred to the Inquiry—(hear, hear)—which, through the wisdom of the brethren and subscribers of the Institution, had been held. (Applause.) They desired that this inquiry should be made. The inquiry had been made: it had taken nearly twelve months to make a Report upon that inquiry. The report had been before the brethren; the brethren could best consider the report. And at a great meeting of the brethren and subscribers to the Institution, it was determined to receive the report and carry that report into effect. The brethren might depend upon it Masons never shrank from a duty—they might be mistaken in carrying it out, but they never shrank from it, and the Masons who had the conduct of this great institution—(cries of “Question”)—they had devoted their best abilities for the purpose. His object was to show—(clamour, and cries of “Chair”)—there might be differences of opinion, but he was sure that any brother who fairly considered the matter—(renewed noise). He was going to put some few figures before them; he was not saying anything against the fact that the report had been made, and that there were grounds for the report, but he was telling them that they must not forget the past of the great Institution of which they were now holding the Festival, for, until the year 1857, the Institution was simply for clothing and educating the boys of Freemasons; but in the year 1857 that was departed from, and another portion—and a very heavy portion, too—of the expenditure of this Institution was then incurred, namely, not only the clothing and education of the boys, but then was added to it the maintenance of the boys of Freemasons. Now, he asked anybody—and he was sure all the Committee of Inquiry would go with him—that they could not forget, and they would not forget, what was the state of the Institution as such in the year 1857; and he wanted to call attention to these figures in order that they might realize the true position of it. In that year maintenance was extended to them—(cries of “Question”). He was surprised the brethren should question the great increase of the Institution. His (Bro. Eve's) object was not to set brethren by the ears, but to bring them together, and to show brethren, whether they be the Committee or Special Committee for the Inquiry, he was not doubting the ability, the time, the anxiety which had been devoted by the brethren of the inquiry, and he thought a debt of gratitude was due to those brethren who undertook the inquiry. He wished to be perfectly understood—he was not saying anything against them—and he was sure that they, after knowing that their report had been adopted, would be the last to forget that, because he knew that all of them were men who had a love for Freemasonry, and would do anything for the good of this grand Institution. Notwithstanding, there might be many defects, and brethren could not shut their eyes to the fact that there were at present about 260 boys who were now educated, clothed and maintained in that Institution, and it was his object as well as theirs to do that duty faithfully, fairly and honestly. That being so, their object was to get as much as possible from the brethren, and unless they could show that it was being carried on honestly and economically, they could not expect to receive the support of the brethren; but he did believe that the brethren were satisfied with this. (Hear, hear, “No,” and confusion.) His great object was the prosperity of the Institution, and if he said one word calculated to injure the prosperity of the Institution he invited the brethren to call him in question. He was very glad of the inquiry, because it had suggested that a considerable reduction could be made in the expenses. He should only be too happy to find that that reduction could be made. He had for a long time, for many years, spoken often, year after year, of the high expense of each boy in the School, and he said if this inquiry resulted in nothing more than in reducing the expenditure a great object would have been attained, and instead of educating 260 boys they would be able to add some 60 or 70 boys to the School. Bro. Eve proceeded to say that he wanted to call their attention to the historical part of the Institution. In the year 1857 the subscriptions did not amount to £2,000 a year, but in the year 1862 the amount was doubled, as compared with the previous

year, that next year it was tripled, and every year after that it has been maintained, and in 1883 the enormous sum of £23,000 for one year was subscribed. They must bear in mind also that they had now got a building, and the land upon which it stood. Nearly £100,000 had been laid out. Where had that money come from? It had come from London and the provinces to maintain the Institution. It showed how open the hearts of Masons had been. They had now, through the exertions of their officers in the past, obtained that grand building. It might be defective as to cooking and raising cucumbers; it might be defective as to heating apparatus, but if the brethren would give them funds they would alter that; all those little defects could be cured, but they must have unanimity with the brethren. (Hear, hear, and uproar.) They wanted not only a Provisional Committee, who he was sure were only too happy to co-operate to obtain one object—the good of the Institution, to reduce the expenditure, to inquire into discipline, and explore the management of the Institution. The Provisional Committee would do their best, but they could not enter upon the duty without saying that the Institution and the brotherhood owe a deep debt of gratitude to those men who had been effective in bringing out this small Institution. (Cries of "Question.") If the history of the Institution was not part of the question he would like to know what was. With reference to the discipline and education of the boys, he knew they were united on that, and he was glad they were united on the question—the main question—of the education of the boys. He was pleased to say that this Institution was worthy of all the support the brethren could give. (Hear, hear.) When he considered the various reports that had been presented of the boys, who had been educated for the various examinations, he said that that showed that this Institution had held its own against other institutions, and had done wonders in the face of other institutions. Why, he was told by the Head Master, Dr. Morris, that there had been within the last twenty years as many as 255 boys who had passed the Oxford and Cambridge examinations. It showed that the money of the brethren—(uproar)—169 of those boys had passed with honours. (Continued noise.) Bro. Eve said if the brethren did not wish what he called the great accomplishments of the Institution to be passed in review before them, he had no wish to do it; but he felt this—that it ought to be known that many sons of Masons had obtained honours. There had been a great deal said about the health of the children—(noise and cries of "Order"); he had the privilege of attending last week the distribution of prizes, and he could tell them that there were not more than two boys in the infirmary. The boys were perfectly healthy: they ran their races and fulfilled their various sports as boys should do. There were boys out of that Institution who had become medical men, who had entered Her Majesty's service in the army and navy, who had become distinguished solicitors, and had obtained honours in the various universities. That showed that the education and discipline of those children had been equal to that of any body of children in the country. (Cries for "Binckes." "Lists.") And now, as there seemed to be some desire to close, he would give them with all sincerity, and with all desire for conciliation, and with all desire to bring brethren together, "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys."

Bro. Plucknett, on behalf of the Institution, returned thanks for the toast, in doing which he wished to say that the Institution was very grateful to Bro. Eve for the duty he had undertaken and the advocacy he had given for this Institution; and he would like to add, as Treasurer, that the Institution was grateful to the ladies who had come there; but was sorry they had heard the noise that had disgraced the meeting.

Bro. Binckes, before reading the results of the Stewards' lists, said that after the manifestations of feeling that had been exhibited during the address of their excellent Chairman, and as other speeches were to be made, how was it possible that he could expect to receive at the hands of what he would under other circumstances have called a glorious assemblage, a fair hearing. He was perfectly aware that there were a certain number of brethren there whose attendance was not with a view to promote the interests of the Institution, but to do what they could to condemn those who had been associated with its development. He knew that he had a simple duty to perform, but at the same time they must do him the justice to believe him when he said that he never stood before his friends the Freemasons (this being the 28th Anniversary Festival with which he had been associated) in such peculiar and dubious circumstances as those in which he had now to appear. He asked nothing more than fair play; he was very much afraid that fair play in Masonry at the present day was a thing difficult to get, but at the same time—(interruption and noise)—he had laboured hard to make this Anniversary a great success; he had received with gratitude a large amount of support; but with it he had had to contend with a large amount of persecution, and whatever might be the result of what he announced from the lists, he said without fear of contradiction that it would have been three or four thousand pounds more if it had not been for that persecution. He was on one hand told one thing, and on the other another, and he did not know which course to pursue; but he stood now before the brethren and fearlessly challenged anyone there to say one word against his honour or his honesty.

Bro. Binckes then read the totals of the Stewards' lists.

After reading the results of the Stewards' lists, Bro. Binckes said that though he accepted the result thankfully, he could say with confidence that, with the labour he had used with reference to this Festival, the result ought to have yielded £16,000, but for that hostile movement at least £3,000 more would have been realised. This might possibly be the last time he should stand there; but after all said and done, with all the antagonistic influences at work, he had the satisfaction of standing before them (with 24 lists not yet returned) to announce a total of £13,182 18s.

The result was received with applause.

We now again take up our own notes. From the moment at which the total of contributions was announced disorder reigned supreme. There were remaining on the programme four important toasts—the first, and by no means the least for brethren to honour with becoming propriety, that of "The Ladies,"—and four songs as part of the musical portion of the entertainment; but the former were proposed in "dumb show" amidst the confusion and noise of hurried departure such as we trust never to see and hear again in connection with any celebration, least of all with a Masonic Festival.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Edward P. Delevanti. The instrumental portion was good, and would have been much more effective but for the confusion attending the "scramble." Bro. Egbert Roberts was one of the vocalists who should have been heard, but his song was not reached. Bro. Arthur Thomas secured attention for his song "On the Zuyder Zee." As for the remainder of the vocalisation put before the company, there were "ladies in the case," and as we cannot criticise to their advantage we will adopt that excellent virtue with which our readers are necessarily acquainted. Perhaps we were "out of sorts" with the surroundings, and therefore but little consideration need be given to our private opinion.

STEWARDS' LISTS.

Lodge.	£	s.	Lodge.	£	s.
THE CHAIRMAN	120	15	1365 William H. Caton	54	12
Lodge.			1381 H. F. Foale	46	4
London.			1383 James H. de Ricci	111	6
1 Charles Belton	26	5	1425 Joseph R. Allman	36	15
1 J. C. Dimsdale	31	10	1563 Edmund B. Cox	137	2
2 C. E. Keyser	101	17	1563 Thomas H. Beach		
4 J. A. Hughes			1571 William F. Packer	48	6
5 A. C. Langdale	36	15	1608 Thomas H. Johnson	90	15
6 Robert A. Gibbons,			1613 John F. Bell	52	10
M.D.	21	0	1614 George Reynolds	157	10
8 Edward E. Pullman	10	10	1615 Lieut.-Col. G. E. E.		
12 Frank P. Telfer	47	5	Blunt	10	10
15 John J. Woolley	57	15	1623 Robt. F. Brickdale	22	1
22 W. R. Brooks	46	4	1627 Eugene Delacoste	43	1
23 George Simonds	21	0	1635 Sir George D. Harris	83	0
26 Malcolm A. Morris			1657 Alderman J. Renals	49	7
28 H. Newland	47	5	1670 William H. Duckitt	35	3
29 Thos. W. L. Emden	12	12	1671 Alfred P. Keeling	176	8
33 Thomas Fletcher			1672 W. de B. Seagrave	10	10
34 Thomas B. White	16	16	1673 Arthur Adams	15	15
49 John Turner			1579 James William Hem-		
49 Wyndham Hart	31	10	brow	18	18
55 Herbert W. Roach	33	12	1681 George Dickenson		
58 William Smithett	37	16	1704 Charles Collard	38	17
59 John W. Cluff	49	17	1716 William J. Rundell	21	0
60 Horace Slade	105	0	1719 Richard Sandell	29	12
60 Eliab Rogers			1732 Charles S. Mote	38	6
65 George Haller	157	10	1791 Edward Austin	126	0
73 Walter J. Gregory	42	0	1804 Charles J. J. Tijou	66	18
90 Henry O. Mordaunt	101	17	1820 Edward Abram	26	5
91 John T. Boulding	21	0	1928 Henry Massey	80	0
140 J. Dundas Grant,			1949 Adolphus E. Albert	26	5
M.A., M.D.	24	12	1962 James C. Tilt	73	10
141 W. J. Hakim	48	16	1962 Will. G. Lowe	36	15
145 Thomas J. Hooper			1964 William Iron	41	9
(see Bedfordshire)			1997 C. J. Williamson-		
147 George Emblin	367	10	Pimbury	40	19
157 Ernest Jones	15	15	2012 George Gardner	347	0
162 Arthur W. Peckham	31	10	2029 Thos. W. Richardson	12	1
167 Edwin Storr	65	12	2032 Edward Dare	15	15
179 Walter Hopekirk	46	4	2033 Charles Gross, M.D.	25	14
183 Herbert Hooper	159	12	2060 Henri Bué	40	0
192 George Abbott	78	4	2168 James P. Fitzgerald	130	3
193 Geo. P. Nightingale	67	4	2190 William S. Penley	37	16
198 Fredk. Orchard	18	18	2191 John J. Woolley (see		
198 Charles Lambert	10	10	L. 15)		
198 William Webber	26	5	2192 T. Hastings Miller	52	10
205 Charles F. Hogard	64	3	2206 James Thom	76	13
256 G. Titus Barham			2241 Frank Tayler, C.C.	69	6
259 Dep. Inspector-Gen.			2265 H. I. Barnato	47	5
Belgrave Ninnis,			2265 M. J. Jessop		
M.D.	10	10	2266 Robert C. Davis	37	16
534 G. E. Corrie Jackson	36	15	2310 Stanley J. Atten-		
534 Edwin Bowley	10	10	borough	10	10
548 Henry Carman	15	15	Chapter		
619 Albert E. Austin			7 George Drysdale	34	2
749 Henry John	16	4	140 Henry W. Roberts	10	10
753 J. J. Thomas	45	3	554 Charles Wakefield		
766 George F. Edwards	71	8	1185 George Powell	26	5
781 Thomas B. Daniell	89	5	1471 W. Shurmur	52	10
813 W. Pierpoint	10	10	Committee Dinner Club.		
813 F. Peel	10	10	William Maple	94	10
820 Samuel Wootton	10	10	Unattached.		
822 Edward M.A. Seaton	24	0	Asher Barfield	10	10
860 Edward Bond	10	10	John Barnett, jun.	10	10
860 Thomas Glass	10	10	W. Belchamber	10	10
871 James G. Thomas	52	10	F. Binckes	10	10
890 H. Wilkie Jones	31	10	W. H. Bolt		
902 Walter C. Smith	52	10	S. G. Bonner	15	15
933 William Smith	53	0	James Boulton		
975 Hy. Oastler Hinton	31	10	James M. Buckley	31	10
1044 Alex. C. A. Higerty	73	10	A. G. Darby	17	17
1056 A. A. Pendlebury	114	14	W. G. Fenn	15	15
1259 Charles Wakefield	40	0	R. P. Forge	10	10
1260 Samuel H. Baker	100	16	W. Klingenstein	21	0
1319 George E. Fairchild	63	0	S. Lea-Smith	68	5
1348 William C. Wigley	63	0	H. B. Marshall, J.P.	10	10
1348 Walter A. Harvey	10	10			

(Continued on page 272).

The Masonic Star.

THURSDAY,



JULY 11, 1889.

Edited by

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

Published every Thursday Morning, price ONE PENNY, and may be had from all Newsagents through the Publishers, 123 to 125, Fleet Street, E.C.

Subscribers to THE MASONIC STAR residing in London and the Suburbs will receive their copies by the first post on THURSDAY MORNING. Copies for Country Subscribers will be forwarded by the NIGHT Mail on Wednesday.

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All other communications, letters, &c., to be addressed "Editor of THE MASONIC STAR, 59, Moor Lane, Fore Street, London, E.C."

Publishing Offices: 123 to 125, FLEET STREET, E.C.

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.

A QUESTION OF PRECEDENCE.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I wish to ask the following question through the MASONIC STAR, of which I am a subscriber, if you will be good enough to answer, as I am a young mason, and want to have the reply from a disinterested brother. There is a little trouble between the W.M. and other brethren of our lodge. We had a pic-nic on July 4th, and it was arranged that all brethren who gave in their names on or before the 24th, should have the preference in respect of accommodation. Sixty brethren made application, and thirteen others turned up afterwards, one of whom was the immediate Past Master. When we arrived at our destination, the W.M. and Secretary laid tickets on the table bearing the names of the brethren who had to sit there. The I.P.M. was placed amongst other brethren at one of the side tables; there was plenty of room at the top next to the W.M. I wish you to understand that our W.M. and Secretary are just, upright and worthy masons; was it wrong for the W.M. to place the I.P.M. at the side table, or should he have been in his proper place next to the W.M.? Yours fraternally,

A MASTER MASON.

* * It is unfortunate that in many instances no regard is paid to the reasonable request of a W.M. or secretary, that intimation should be given as to intended presence at, or probable absence from, any special gathering of a lodge, whether the same be for business or pleasure. Any position of precedence lost to a brother on such occasions should not reflect upon the executive. It might have been politic as well as courteous on the part of the W.M., if a re-arrangement of seats was at the last moment practicable, to place his predecessor at his left hand, but he has a justification for not having done so in the discourtesy of the brother in not attending to the request which had been made. This may be considered a small matter upon which to raise a question, but we are with the poet who says—

"Think naught a trifle, though it small appear;
Small sands the mountain, moments make the year,
And trifles life." ED. M.S.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

In common with the other stewards who attended the Festival on Wednesday last, I received a statement of accounts for the year 1888, which at first glance would seem to be more complete than those of previous years, but a closer examination reveals some extraordinary book-keeping and amateur auditing.

The balance at the bank, January, 1888, agrees with the figures

given at the close of the year 1887, but according to a foot-note on page 2, a sum of £70 has got into the hands of the steward and matron without any entry in the year's accounts. How can the auditors account for this?

By a singular coincidence, it would appear that the petty expenditure (£205 5s.) is, to a penny, the same as the outlay under that head last year. Can this be so?

During the year 1888, a sum (I believe) of £75 15s. was paid to the servants at Wood Green as for beer money, of which no entry whatever appears in the accounts. Where was this money obtained from?

On page 9, an analysis is made showing the cost per boy to have been £47 5s. 8³/₄d., but from that analysis is omitted £841 9s. 3d. repairs and renewals, £125 18s. 9d. farm and garden produce, £75 15s. beer money, so that if these items are (as they ought to be) included, it will bring the cost per head to £51 5s., irrespective of any charge for interest on the capital of £94,650, which if taken at 4 per cent. brings the total cost per boy to £65 14s.

On page 2 appears the following item under the head of receipts:—"Charles Greenwood memorial prize fund £103 13s.," which would appear to be a sum of money intended to be invested for a specific object, but like Bro. W. Winn's prize gift, and Bro. Edward Cox's gift, it has been absorbed into the general funds of the Institution, instead of having been invested as a separate and distinct fund, thus perpetuating the error of former years with respect to money given for a defined object. A careful comparison of the 1888 with the 1887 accounts will show that many of the items of expenditure have increased in an extraordinary manner, totally inexplicable by the variation in the number of boys provided for.

The alteration in the form of accounts shows that the Finance and Audit Committee thought some change needful, and it is to be regretted that they did not make it thorough and effective, so as to present at a glance an accurate statement of affairs.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

STEWARD.

R. M. I. B.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I refrain from giving A VICE-PRESIDENT the full reasons why I consider the 5 MUSTS are necessary, because:—1. I am not sure whether his letter is a covert attack upon the secretary; or, 2. Whether he acts upon the well-known advice, "When you have no case, &c.;" or, 3. Whether he is trying to be sarcastic.

At any rate, I fancy he will rejoice with all lovers of the orphan, when he hears of the result of the festival. Yours fraternally,

MASTER MASON.

BOARD OF INSTALLED MASTERS.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

Referring to my letter to you of the 25th ult., in reference to this matter, and which I thank you for inserting. I had hoped that the subject might have been further discussed in your paper of the 4th inst. I trust, however, that the appointment of Instructors will not be allowed to drop. I would suggest that every Instructor who is for the time being assigned to a Province, should not in any way be connected with such Province or any of the neighbouring provinces, for reasons which I think will be apparent to most masons.

Yours fraternally,

Cheadle, July 9, 1889.

WALTER H. VAUGHAN, P.M., 1030.

POLITICAL LODGES.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I read in to-day's *Morning Advertiser* that "Viscount Oxenbridge will be invited to become the first W. M. of the 'Whitehall Lodge,' which it is proposed to form from amongst the Masonic members of the National Liberal Club." This is encouraging to myself and many members of a suburban political club who have long desired to be able to connect a Masonic lodge with the other attractions of our capital house and grounds; and we may yet hope to see our grand old leader's name handed down to posterity in connection with the Craft. What do you think?

Yours fraternally,

July 9th, 1889.

SUBURBAN.

* * We THINK you will be disappointed; and, to be candid, shall be pleased if the encouragement you anticipate is never afforded. Notwithstanding newspaper rumours we cannot believe our chief head and ruler will ever grant the prayer of the suggested petition.—ED. M.S.

"PRUDENTLY AND WITH TEMPERANCE."

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

Your correspondent "Vice-President" tenders me his thanks, and apologizes for "his rash use of an un-masonic term." Good! I don't know whether he will be grateful for what I am about to present to his notice, but I do hope he will appreciate and amend his "forms of expression."

Should a report of a meeting be truthful, or a record of what an individual "considered" it? If the latter, no end of different versions might be published and yet none of them be statements of absolute fact. I point this out to "Vice-President" for future observance. In a long paragraph, "Vice-President" treats your readers to a long philological discourse, quite beyond the main question. I think a little application to the rules of composition and a better dictionary would prove of use to him in future literary efforts. I can recommend Hyde Clarke's dictionary of the English language, published by Lockwood and Co. The words "sweep them all away" in no way or sense can be construed into "crucify him"

—why does he turn the plural into the singular? The sweeping away process was to be applied to the *whole* of the officials, and not to one alone.

“Vice-President” tells us that he “does not know of any country. Christian or Jewish, where crucifixion, &c.” I am not in a position to say whether such a punishment is practised anywhere, at the present time; but I must point out that there *is no* Jewish country, and if prophesy be true, will not be until the Millennium.

The selection of the word formula (plural, mark) as applying to the words, “Crucify him,” is not a good one. I repeat, consult a better dictionary.

What on earth the trial of Christ before Pilate has to do with the R. M. I. B., I am at a loss to understand; but, quoting you (in reference to the Secretary), “it seemed a cruel and unkind thing that he should have been required to read his own indictment.” Vice-President is guilty of gross blasphemy when he comments, “I don’t know that it is not even worse than its counterpart in the mock trial of Christ.”

Some people who were present at the Special Court, brethren well known to yourself, Sir, considered Bro. B. Baker’s suggestion anything but sensible, prudent, or just. “Vice-President” is at liberty to form his own, but not other people’s opinions, as to that suggestion; but he should not state, as a fact, that it *was* this, that, or the other.

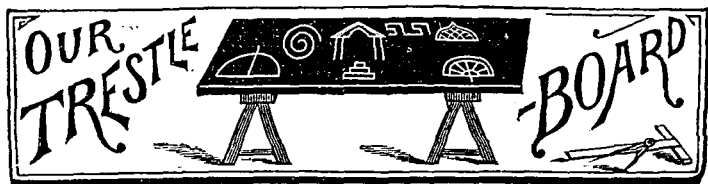
What does “Vice-President” mean when he says, in reference to the chairman, Bro. W. W. Beach, “who *conveniently*, and I think *prudently*, though *unavoidably*, did not catch the motion for a vote of thanks to the investigation committee?” If unavoidably, where do the prudently and conveniently come in?

I am sorry “Vice-President” finds it “difficult to select a suitable phrase.” I fancy he would do better to abstain from criticism altogether if he can perpetrate nothing better than appears over his *nom de plume* in your Nos. 18 and 20. I do not see how “fraternally” is accentuated by the use of the word “very,” so merely subscribe myself,
Yours fraternally,
IGNOTUS.

P.S.—I should like next week to break a lance with your other correspondent who talks about the “temperature of the atmosphere!”

Answers to Correspondents.

H. S. FOREST HILL.—Certainly; the Secretary to the Company will receive, if more convenient to you, the application and deposit, and obtain and forward to you the Bankers’ Receipt. Address to Mr. Lancaster, MASONIC STAR, LIMITED, 13 and 14, King Street, Cheapside, E.C.



“For the Master to lay lines and draw designs upon.”

We are again compelled to ask the indulgence of our correspondents and readers in connection with several matters of interest, the particulars of which are in type. The absorbing interest which has been and still is taken in the affairs of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys must be our apology, if any be needed, for devoting so much of our present number to reports and correspondence in connection therewith. We have Provincial and Colonial communications which must stand over, together with enquiries from several brethren. These shall have priority in our next week’s issue. Meanwhile, brethren, let us have the opportunity of knowing how far you are disposed to support the efforts being made for the increase of our size and circulation. The opportunity is before you, and you can, by a very trifling assistance, make your MASONIC STAR still further useful to the Craft.

The *St. James’s Gazette* of Tuesday last announces the resignation by the Earl of Jersey of the Provincial Grand Mastership of Mark Master Masons of Berks and Oxon, a position he has held for some years; and that Lord Valentia will probably be his successor as Grand Mark Master of that province.

We welcome our old friend and contemporary, *The Freemason*, in its new garb of highly finished paper, new type and general arrangement, by which it signalises its entrance upon the year of its majority. We contrast it with its first number, published in March, 1869, and now before us. “Time is fleeting,” says the poet. It is indeed! for it seems but as yesterday that our pen inscribed the very first column of general matter which appeared in our predecessor’s pages. The contrast we refer to is encouraging at the present moment to ourselves as a modest attempt to vie with the masonic journals of England in the spread of interesting instruction and general information upon all things affecting the welfare of the Craft. Very steadily and very firmly did our contemporary pursue the even tenor of its way, and it has set us an example which, perseveringly followed, will, we hope and believe, at no distant date, be rewarded by an increase as much beyond the expectations we originally formed of our own venture, as the present number of *The Freemason* must be beyond those which actuated its spirited proprietor twenty years ago. We wish it and him every success. There is room for us both!

And for yet another! In these days, when the rage for *editions de luxe* is constantly inviting authors and publishers to produce books and papers which might be presentable in the *salons* of the higher classes of society, it is not to be wondered at that an attempt

should be made to introduce the literature of Freemasonry into the drawing rooms of the *élite* of our Order. Such an attempt is *The Masonic Review*, “a Monthly Journal of Masonic and Social Events for Freemasons,” the first (July) number of which has been issued. It is a coincidence more or less worthy of remark that, in its turn, our successor, as did our predecessor, utilises our pen for its first column of general matter, and elsewhere distinguishes us by the reproduction of one of our early articles which appeared in the pages of this journal. In so far we are interested in this new “review,” but no further. Honest criticism compels us to admit that for style, get-up and general appearance, nothing but praise is merited for the work. The article on “Eminent Masons at Home,” the subject of which, as the first of a series, is our Most Worshipful Grand Master, is embellished by an admirable portrait, and the subject matter is interesting. An original paragraph referring to the MASONIC STAR is incorrect in some of its particulars. A poem having no masonic bearing is also an original contribution; but beyond these we find nothing which is not, in a masonic sense, either “ancient history” or reprints from other journals, unless it be society gossip of no paramount interest to Craftsmen. We admit, of course, the many difficulties which must attend a first number in regard to *pabulum* for its several pages, but if it aims to “lead the literature of the Order,” as stated in its preface, the *Masonic Review* must do something far different in its future issues. “Something which the existing masonic journals have failed to supply,” reads to us as very vague, and we shall be greatly interested in learning in due course what that *something* may be. If that be not produced “the ‘waste paper island’ and the ‘butter counter’ rocks” may prevent the fulfilment of the expectation that its volumes will “rest as a monument of the Craft, cheek-by-jowl with the memorable volumes which furnish the oaken shelves of the Englishman’s library.”

* * * * *
Our new contemporary remarks “we have nothing to sell.” What can it mean! Does it not expect to obtain sixpence per copy, and to give value for it? At any rate, venturing to speak for our old contemporary, and unhesitatingly speaking for ourselves, we offer our wares at a price, and for money’s worth. The former *sells* at threepence, and we, not being quite so voluminous, expect the modest penny per week for our little brochure, failing to obtain which, we must, as a matter of course “go under.”
* * * * *

One thing in connection with the foregoing is certain. The English craft cannot say they are not now catered for in respect of Masonic literature in a manner to suit their individual requirements. They have only to “pay their money and take their choice.” Competition is the soul of commercial enterprise, and a great feature in ensuring superior quality in production. There is a field for each and all who will strive to advance the progress of Freemasonry, and assist its scholarship. There is no race without a rival. In that in which we are entered, we may not take precedence, but we shall hope at least to reach the goal, in racing parlance, “a good second.”

We Notify that:—

—The Panmure Lodge, No. 720, Bro. Lewis Jones, M.D., W.M., will meet at the Balham Hotel, Balham, S.W., on Monday next, the 15th inst., at 5 p.m., for passings and initiation. In consequence of the lamented death of Bro. Thomas Vaughan Davies, the brethren will clothe in mourning.

The *Wiener Zeitung* of the 27th June, contains the following announcement:—“His Majesty the Emperor has been graciously pleased to confer the ‘Franz Joseph Order’ on Mr. Maurice Spiegel resident in London.” We congratulate our brother in obtaining this distinction.

DORSET MASONIC CHARITY.—The ninth annual meeting of the general committee was held at the lodge room, Wimborne, on Thursday, the 4th July instant, W.Bro. W. D. Dugdale, P.P.J.G.W., the chairman of the charity, being supported by the R.W. Montague J. Guest, P.G.M.; W.Bros. R. Case, P.G.Sec., treas.; T. R. Baskett, P.P.G.R., hon. sec.; W. Mortimer Heath, P.G.Chap. of England; L. H. Ruegg, P.P.S.G.W.; G. J. G. Gregory, P.P.S.G.W.; J. W. Luff, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Whitehead Smith, P.P.J.G.W.; C. H. W. Parkinson, P.P.J.G.W.; W. W. Strickland, P.P.G.J.D.; C. G. Targett, P.P.G.J.D.; T. Giles, P.P.G. Supt. Works; J. A. Atkins, P.P.G. Supt. Works; A. C. Todd, P.P.G. Supt. Works; J. S. Stroud, I.P.M. 417; C. J. Woodford, W.M. 137; J. Harold, W.M. 622; E. Mills, W.M. 1037; and A. Taylor, J.W. 1146. Only three lodges in the province were unrepresented. The half-yearly meeting of the relief and assistance sub-committee, consisting of one member from each lodge, was first held, and investigated the petitions for relief, five in number. At the meeting of the general committee several letters and telegrams, apologising for unavoidable absence, were read from various brethren, including W.Bro. Z. Milledge, P.G.D.C., the vice-chairman; W.Bro. C. J. Hambro, P.D.P.G.M.; and other distinguished brethren. On the recommendation of the relief and assistance sub-committee, grants varying in amount were made to six petitioners, amounting together to £85. The draft report to provincial grand lodge was then considered, and showed a most satisfactory progress had been made, and it was ordered to be printed for distribution at the next P.G.L., viz., at Wareham, on the 26th September. Some slight alteration in the bye-laws having been proposed and carried, it was arranged that the Midwinter meeting should be held at Dorchester, and the meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman on the proposition of the P.G.M. On the invitation of W.Bro. J. Harold, the W.M. of the Wimborne lodge, who had thoughtfully remembered that many of the brethren had come a long distance, the committee then adjourned to a substantial cold collation at his expense, under the presidency of the P.G.M.

(Continued from page 251.)

Table listing members of various lodges and chapters across different counties and provinces, including names, lodge numbers, and financial contributions.

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.

Table detailing meeting schedules for various lodges and chapters on specific days of the week, including the date, lodge name, and meeting location.

SUMMARY OF THE PROVINCES.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Bedfordshire ...	42	0	0	Lincolnshire ...	69	6	0
Berks & Bucks ...	207	6	0	Middlesex ...	193	1	6
Cambridgeshire ...	162	15	0	Monmouthshire ...	306	12	0
Cheshire ...	131	5	0	Norfolk ...	101	11	0
Cornwall ...	105	0	0	North Wales ...	63	15	6
Cumber. & Westmore.	37	16	0	Oxfordshire... ..	13	13	0
Derbyshire ...	379	10	0	Shropshire ...	94	10	0
Devonshire ...	103	19	0	Somersetshire ...	110	10	0
Durham ...	105	0	0	South Wales—East	323	13	6
Essex... ..	331	5	6	South Wales—West	204	8	0
Gloucestershire ...	105	0	0	Staffordshire ...	199	10	0
Hants & Isle of W.	144	18	0	Suffolk ...	144	7	0
Hertfordshire ...	78	15	0	Surrey ...	102	2	6
Kent ...	493	0	0	Sussex ...	390	17	6
Lancashire East ...	52	10	0	Worcestershire ...	252	0	0
" West ...	152	5	0	Yorkshire, West ...	770	0	0
Leicester & Rutland	525	0	0	Foreign Stations ...	52	10	0
153 STEWARDS—LONDON	...	...	...	£6,580	15	6	
182 STEWARDS—PROVINCES (including the Chairman)	...	...	...	£6,602	2	6	
				£13,182	18	0	

The monthly meeting of the General Committee appointed by the subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institute for Boys, was held on Saturday last, at Freemasons' Hall, London, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, chairman of the Provisional Committee appointed by the Special Court held on the 6th of June, presiding, the vice-chairman, Bro. F. A. Philbrick, *Q.C.*, grand registrar, being also present. Several members of the provisional committee and a large number of life governors and life subscribers attended. After the formal business of the meeting had been transacted, and a list of sixty-nine candidates for admission to the school settled, sixteen vacancies were declared for the October election.

Bro. the Earl of Euston then presented to the committee the report drawn up by the provisional committee of its transactions since the 6th of June, and his lordship read the report as follows:—

"The Report of the Provisional Management Committee appointed by the Special General Court on June 6th, 1889.

"1. This committee has, since its appointment, held five meetings, one of which was at Wood Green. The Earl of Euston was elected chairman, Bro. F. A. Philbrick, vice-chairman, and Bro. J. D. Langton, hon. sec. of the committee.

"2. On the 12th June the late House, Finance, and Audit Committees passed a resolution handing over the management of the Institution to this committee, and this committee, on the same day, passed a resolution accepting the charge, and has since that day done all things necessary in carrying on the Institution.

"3. The matron and steward of the Institution having resigned, this committee has taken the matter into their consideration, and they recommend that the office of steward be not filled up for the present, but that the matron be at once appointed. They, therefore, ask that they be empowered to make the appointment subject to the approval of the next general committee.

"4. The committee is of opinion that a fresh medical officer is required, and recommend they be empowered to take the necessary steps to attain this result forthwith.

"5. It appears to this committee that in the interests of the Institution and in order to carry out the wishes of the special court it is necessary there should be a change at as early a period as possible in the office of secretary. The committee are unanimous in recommending that a retiring allowance should be accorded to Brother Frederick Binckes, and asks the general committee to authorise it to confer with Bro. Binckes on the terms of his retirement, to arrange them if possible, and report thereon to the next general committee.

"6. The committee has under its consideration the various recommendations of the committee of enquiry, with a view to carry them out as desired by the general court. It has not lost sight of the question of the head mastership, but deems it advisable to reserve this with other important subjects for further deliberation.

"7. The committee asks this general committee to confirm what it has already done, and to depute to it the powers of the house, audit, and finance committees, in order that it may be duly authorised to carry out the directions given by the special court on the occasion of the appointment. The various duties devolving on the committee render it desirable in their opinion that they should be enabled to add to their number if found requisite.

"The committee have accepted the honorary services of Messrs. Kennedy and Hobbs, chartered accountants, and have appointed a sub-committee, who have received an interim report advising on the system of bookkeeping, and that sub-committee are engaged in furthering the question of the financial condition of the institution.

"Dated the 6th day of July, 1889. (Signed) EUSTON."

Bro. Philbrick, in moving "that the report of the provisional management committee now read be received and entered on the minutes, and that its proceedings and recommendation do receive the sanction of this committee which authorises the provisional committee to carry the same into effect," said the committee found it necessary to ask that further members should be added to their number, which was now 21, but all of them did not attend. Some of these gentlemen, such as Bro. Gerard Ford, of Brighton, were not always able to be present, and the duties of the committee were becoming both many and arduous. The committee, however, was anxious to continue its labours with the same zeal, assiduity and thoroughness as heretofore, and would like some more brethren to be conjoined with them. Bro. J. S. Cumberland seconded the motion. A short discussion arose on the report, the different speakers expressing their approval of the manner in which the provisional management committee had discharged the burden thrown upon them. Bro. James Motion asked whether the secretary had resigned in conformity with the wish expressed at the Special

Court of June 6th. Bro. Binckes rose and said certainly not. He had not resigned. Bro. James Motion then took exception to that paragraph of the report relating to a retiring allowance to the secretary. He strongly objected to any retiring allowance. It was, however, explained that no recommendation by the committee that a retiring allowance of any amount would bind the subscribers to the Institution in any way whatever. The committee could only recommend, and whatever recommendation they might make would be submitted to a special or quarterly court of subscribers for their confirmation or rejection. The report was then agreed to without a dissentient voice, and a resolution was afterwards come to authorising Lord Euston to sign all cheques. Grants of £5 and £10 for outfits were made to some ex-pupils of the institution, and a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

Press Exchanges and Books Received.

Masonic Review, London; *Masonic Review*, Cincinnati; *The Liberal Freemason*, Boston, Mass.; *Society*; *London Freemason*; *Freemason's Chronicle*; *South African Freemason*.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

REQUIRED.—A Matron, to enter on her duties on 1st August, 1889. She must be a spinster or a widow without encumbrance; between thirty and forty years of age; experienced in all domestic duties and in the control of servants; able to keep accounts; and a good manager. Salary to commence at £80 per annum, with board, &c. Full particulars may be obtained from the Secretary of the Institution, as under.

Applications with testimonials to be sent in to the Secretary not later than 12 o'clock noon, on Monday, 8th July next.

FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

Office—6, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street, London, W.C.
24th June, 889.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

Provincial Grand Lodge of London and the Metropolitan Counties.

THE Knight Companions will meet in Council at 33, Golden Square, W., on SATURDAY, the 13th July, 1889, at 2.30 for 3 p.m. precisely, and the R.W. Prov. G.M. desires the attendance of all duly qualified Brethren.

Names and addresses of Candidates with name of Chapter, must be sent to me not later than the 3rd July next.

The ANNUAL BANQUET will be held at the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, N.W., at 6.30 precisely.

By Order,
28, Golden Square, W. FRANK RICHARDSON, *Prov. G. Sec.*

POST CARD COMPETITION.

PRIZE VALUE 30s.

PARIS EXHIBITION.

The French are annoyed because the English and Americans close their stands on Sundays. For further particulars see July number of "HOPE." Do you "approve" or "disapprove" of the action of the Anglo-Saxons? Write word "approve" or "disapprove" on Post Card, put your name and address, and guess the number of Post Cards you think will be sent in.

Prize 30s. for nearest guess.

Post Cards to be sent to J. N. MASTERS, before July 15th.

Post Free.] "HOPE," [One Year, 1/6.
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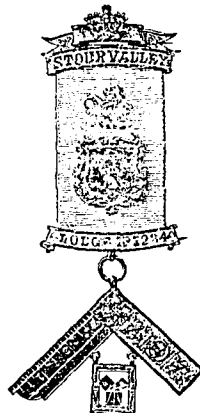
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