

THE MASONIC STAR

A Weekly Journal and
At Home



Record of Freemasonry
and Abroad.

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Pensions.

WE are in receipt of a number of letters from brethren who appear to be greatly exercised in their minds with respect to the ultimate issue of the labours which the Provisional Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys has undertaken. Some are disposed to think that those labours will not result in general satisfaction, but will rather be productive of partizanship; whilst others desire at once to publicly champion individuals connected with the past management. It is suggested in one direction that the Masonic press, itself somewhat divided on the question of responsibility of managers and officials, has not fairly represented facts; and in another that one or other of its journals has been the mouthpiece of those implicated, and not bold and outspoken on behalf of the important interests of the Institution. We have before us one epistle censuring ourselves for setting before our readers comments upon indisputable facts, and another condemning us for not more strenuously attacking individual reputations in connection therewith. There can be no doubt that the late unfortunate—or shall we say fortunate?—occurrences have assisted to create parties amongst the brethren and the subscribers to our masonic charities, and that it will not be an easy matter, if time is wasted before a decision is arrived at, to effect reconciliation. In a recent issue of this journal (July 11th) we wrote "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." We again repeat that observation, and also that "no good whatever can accrue by further publicity in connection with the past." Our attention is directed to existent abuses elsewhere; and, moreover, it would be graceless and ill-advised to intrude "opinions" upon the acting Committee of the Boys' School at the present juncture.

We shall therefore ask to be relieved from any requests to continue controversy in regard to matters relating to the Boys' School antecedent to the last General Court which approved of the preliminary report of the Provisional Committee of Management. And as we suspend agitation, so we would respectfully urge upon our readers that they should suspend judgment until the opportunity for the fullest acquaintance with all details of the past mismanagement and of the proposed reformation shall have been, as they surely will be, submitted to an ensuing Special Court of the Governors and Subscribers.

Dealing generally, however, as it does, with the system of pensions, and merely soliciting information thereon, we insert in another column a communication from a correspondent which may be answered without reference to the matters now *sub judice*. It raises a simple but very important question—Can pensions or annuities be granted from funds expressly given and received for the relief of particular persons whose necessities and requirements of aid are especially defined? In other words, can any sum obtained upon a representation that it is to be applied to a particular purpose, subject only to the reasonable cost of such application, be devoted to any other purpose without infringing the moral law which the Craft prescribes in all its teachings, the "giving unto every one his just due and that without distinction;" and the law of the land which protects the wronged and can punish the wrong doer? What may very consistently be done with accumulated funds provided for general management of a Society or Institution, such, for instance, as those which accrue from enforced payments by Lodges to the Craft "Fund of General Purposes," cannot, in our opinion, and certainly should not, be done with special gifts for charitable purposes, such, as for instance, the "Fund of Benevolence," to suggest a pension from which, to executive officers, would be the height of absurdity. However much, therefore, it may be desired on the part of many brethren who would greatly regret that valuable services rendered in the past should be unrecognised by provision in the future,—and we ourselves are amongst that number,—the risk attendant on a diversion of donations and subscriptions from the direct purpose for which they were made and collected, should be well considered before final decision. Our correspondent points out the direction in which opposition to any resolution to divert any portion of the funds entrusted to the stewards, and by them transferred to the proper authorities for distribution, might take; and we have full assurance that what is by him merely suggested is a fixed resolve in the minds of others should necessity arise. Cannot the generous impulse of those who would be grieved to see a most serviceable career, during

many years prior to a present difficulty, totally ignored, find another and much more satisfactory, as well as unquestioned means for carrying out a grateful acknowledgment? We think there must be a method by which this could be done without much difficulty; and in the hope that it will be sought out and adopted in preference to risking opposition, which might be fraught with very serious consequence, we leave the matter for the present.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE AND CHAPTER, SURREY.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the Province of Surrey, was held at Caterham, on the 18th inst., under the banner of the Caterham Lodge, and was largely attended. The chair was filled by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the V.W. Bro. Fred. J. West, P.G.D. Lodge having been opened in due form, the P.G. Secretary, W. Bro. Geo. Charles Greenwood, P.P.G.R., read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed, and called over the list of lodges in the province, all of which were represented except one. About two hundred brethren were present. The investment of Provincial Grand Officers was as follows:—Bros. J. E. Street, S.W.; Dr. Gibbes, J.W.; the Revs. E. Chichester and M. W. Martin, Chaplains; Geo. Price, Treasurer; J. R. R. Cama, Registrar; C. Greenwood, Sec.; Dr. Nicholls, S.D.; F. F. Redpath, S.D.; R. Piper and C. Smith, Junior Deacons; J. K. Thompson, Sup. of Wks.; A. Lamb, D.C.; J. Hughes, Dep. D.C.; Geo. Moss, Asst. D.C.; A. Tremearne, Swd. Br.; T. T. Phillips, Jas. Hide, Std. Brs.; J. O'Connell, Org.; A. C. Greenwood, Asst. Sec.; F. R. Crooker, Pursuivant; and R. Killick, Asst. Purs. The Dep. G. Master referred to the death of the late Provincial Grand Master Brownrigg, and paid a high eulogy to his memory. He observed that when they were appointed in 1871 there were ten lodges and five chapters. Since then 24 new lodges and seven new chapters had been consecrated in the province, and now they had 34 lodges and 12 chapters. A great deal of their success was, he said, due to the enthusiasm thrown by their deceased brother into the work. Their late Grand Master was a strict disciplinarian; but, notwithstanding that, his kindness and geniality won affection for him which did much towards the success of his Masonic career in Surrey. He concluded by moving a vote of condolence with the family of the deceased, which was carried. The balance in hand was reported to be £283 18s. 10d. Twenty guineas were voted to the Boys' School, and ten guineas each to the Girls' School, the Benevolent Institution, and the Widows' Fund, and to the rector of Caterham for the poor of the parish.

The Prov. Grand Chapter was held subsequently to the above meeting for the despatch of ordinary routine business, and the appointment and investiture of the following companions as Grand Officers for the year ensuing, viz., Comps. Dr. Thompson, P.G.J.; G. Price, treas.; J. D. Langton, registrar; C. Greenwood, scribe E.; G. D. Lister, scribe N.; Dr. W. H. M. Smith, principal sojourner; F. Honeywell, 1st asst. soj.; F. T. Mullett, 2nd asst. soj.; R. Bird, Swd. Br.; T. T. Phillips, Std. Br.; T. Weaver, D.C.; C. M. Pochin, Asst. D.C.; J. O'Connell, org.; and R. Potter, janitor. Upwards of 150 of the brethren and companions sat down to an admirable banquet, which was well served up by Mr. Preston, of the Railway Hotel.

INSTALLATION MEETING OF THE LEBANON LODGE No. 1326.

The nineteenth installation meeting of this popular lodge was held at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, Middlesex, on the 20th inst., when W. Bro. Edwin Charles Smith, under whose genial rule during the past year the lodge has greatly prospered, installed as his successor Bro. Chas. William Baker, an initiate in the lodge of 1874, and a very highly esteemed member. In consequence of there being so many as four passings and a raising before the all-important business of the day, the lodge was opened at the early hour of one in the afternoon, and after the reading of previous minutes and the auditors' report, which was of a very favourable character, Bros. Winslow Harry Davey, David Moss, Samuel Henry Platten, and John Exton were admitted to the second degree, and Bro. Benjamin George Andrews to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The ceremonies were performed by the W.M. and his officers with that care and exactitude which at all times distinguish the work in the "Lebanon," and the outgoing master is to be congratulated on the style and manner of his ceremonial performances. After a brief interval the installation ceremony took place, and Bro. Baker having been presented, his predecessor, Bro. Smith, most ably carried out the beautiful ceremony of the installation, and received investment as Immediate Past Master, and subsequently the P.M. jewel voted by the lodge, and collar and jewel presented by the members as a special gift in acknowledgment of high deserts. The newly-installed Master, Bro. Baker, having been saluted and greeted in accordance with ancient practice, appointed such of the officers as the regulations of the constitution permitted him to appoint, and invested the whole in the following order, viz., Bros. John A. Wilson, S.W.; James C. Goslin, J.W.; S. Page, treas.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M., sec.; S. Wheeler, S.D.; Fred. Dunstan, J.D.; A. Robertson, D.C.; John Amey, org.; W. H. Davey, C.S.; G. H. Eaton, W.S.; W. Kite, A.W.S.; and John Gilbert, tyler. The addresses to Master, Wardens, and brethren were effectively delivered by the Installing Master, who, amidst applause, completed a year of good Masonic work upon which the lodge may be congratulated, and its members have occasion to reflect with satisfaction. Some excellent material has been supplied for the continued

construction of the building, and it is to be hoped that the newly-admitted may have the advantage of seeing the Master who "entered" them affording their fellow workmen his counsel and assistance for many years to come. Some routine business followed the conclusion of the installation ceremony; letters of regret for unavoidable absence from the Prov. Grand Master, Col. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart.; the Dep. Grand Master, the V.W. Bro. Raymond Thrupp; Bro. Woodward, P.G. sec., and many others were read; propositions for initiations at next meeting were taken; and after "hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed, and the meeting adjourned until the 17th August. The brethren then separate for a time, and enjoyed a ramble over the adjacent country, spending a very pleasant hour until again assembling for banquet. This was served in the large and well ventilated assembly room attached to the Railway Hotel, and Bro. H. P. Harris, the landlord thereof, merits recognition for the taste with which the table was prepared, and the more than ordinarily good quality and abundant supply of viands placed before the company. There was no lack of service, and in every respect satisfaction was afforded. The Lebanon is more of a "working" lodge than a talking one, so that, on the clearance of the cloth, the disposition to harmony was more predominant than a desire for lengthy addresses. Of course all honour was paid to the customary toasts precedent to that of the W.M., W. Bro. W. A. Barrett, P.G. org., replying to that which related to the Grand Officers, and W. Bro. Osborn, P.P.G.S.B., to that of the Provincial Rulers and Officers. In the course of his speech Bro. Osborn explained to his hearers how it is that the province of Middlesex is but a small one in comparison with many others, a large portion of the county being absorbed in the Metropolitan Masonic district of ten miles from Freemasons' Hall, and his remarks were interesting. W. Bro. Lawrence, Prov. G.D.C., P.M., also responded, remarking as to the reputation the lodge must hold in the province to have secured so many representatives amongst the officers thereof. "The health of the W.M." was proposed with brevity, received with cordiality, and responded to with earnestness. To that of the "Past Masters," which was acknowledged by such as were present, Bro. Marsh, P.M., more fully responded, directing attention to the fact that already the lodge had representatives for forthcoming festivals of the Masonic charities, as stewards, in the persons of Bros. P. Lodge, John Amey, and the W.M. for the R.M.B.I.; W. H. Davey for the R.M.I.G.; and W. Kite for the R.M.I.B., all in 1890; and Bros. S. Page, treas., and W. H. Davey for the R.M.B.I. in 1891. Bro. Marsh very naturally considered that such an exhibition of earnestness in the cause of our several charities reflected credit on the lodge, and upon those brethren who undertook the stewardships. So do we, and we could heartily wish that all the lodges would take example by the "Lebanon." Nothing more important than Bro. Marsh's intimation occurred in the way of speech during the evening, which was pleasantly spent in utmost harmony, with frequent song and interesting recitation, until the inevitable parting to "catch the trains" became absolutely necessary.

Amongst the brethren who were present on this occasion, in addition to those above named were: Bro. James Stevens, P.M., Hon. Mem.; B. G. Andrews, E. Whelan, W. H. Davey, Sen., G. T. Bailey, P. Bick, T. W. Kingston, and other members; and visitors Bros. J. Tanner, P.M. 1457; Henry Forss, P.M. 917; J. B. Sorrell, P.M. 176; J. Smithe, W.M. 193; Vincent Larni, 157; J. Blackburn, 1449; E. H. Gilbert, 172; T. Borer, 15; A. Hamblin, 1637, &c., &c.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Somerset, which was to have been held at Clevedon yesterday (the 24th inst.) has been postponed to a date (not yet fixed) towards the end of August or the beginning of September.

BURGOYNE LODGE—No. 902.—Summer outing. A very pleasant day was spent by the members of this lodge, their wives, sweethearts, and friends, on Tuesday, the 16th inst., when a trip to Virginia Water was arranged and conducted by a committee formed for that purpose, and whose efforts proved successful in a high degree and were greatly appreciated. The lodge was well represented as to numbers. At the dinner, which was served at the Castle Inn, Bro. John Cross, the W.M., presided, and Bro. Smith, W.M. Elect, occupied the vice-chair. Bros. Sadler, Price, Gabb, Mark Gill, Harvey, Rashleigh, White, Norrington, Prince, and others, were conspicuous for their attention to the comfort and convenience of their guests, and with Bro. George, as steward, contributed largely to the successful proceedings of the day.

CHARITY.—"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and knowledge, and have all faith so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing." Such was the language of an eminent apostle of the Christian Church, and such is the sentiment that constitutes the cementing bond of Freemasonry. Charity is the chief corner-stone of our temple, and upon it is to be erected a super-structure of all the other virtues, which makes the good man and the good Mason. The charity, however, of which our Order boasts, is not alone that sentiment of commiseration which leads us to assist the poor with pecuniary donations. Like the virtue described by the apostle, already quoted, its application is more noble and more extensive. "It suffereth long, and is kind." The true Mason will be slow to anger and easy to forgive. He will stay his falling brother by gentle admonition, and warn him with kindness of approaching danger. He will not open his ear to his slanderers, and will close his lips against all reproach. His faults and his follies will be locked in his breast, and the prayer for mercy will ascend to Jehovah for his brother's sins. Nor will these sentiments of benevolence be confined to those who are bound to him by ties of kindred or worldly friendship alone, but, extending them throughout the globe, he will love and cherish all who sit beneath the broad canopy of our universal lodge.—*New Zealand Mail*.

“The Masonic Poet’s Corner.”
(Original and Selected.)

THE NOBLE ORDER.

BY BRO. JOHN FAWCETT SKELTON, P.M. 146 (Bolton), P.Z.

Tunes—“The Sea is England’s Glory,” “From Greenland’s Icy Mountains,” “Jerusalem the Golden,” &c.

<p>I. THERE is a Noble Order Selected from all men, From Earth’s remotest border, To Britain back again: From ev’ry northern nation— From ev’ry circling zone— From ev’ry southern station This Order hath its own.</p>	<p>III. This noblest of all Orders, Most ancient and most free, Is known to Earth’s bright bor- As fair “Freemasonry.” [ders, Then wave her flags all prouder, On ev’ry hill and shore; And sing her praises louder Than we have done before.</p>
<p>II. From widely distant regions— From hills beyond the wind, It draws its loyal legions To benefit mankind. Brave chiefs with bronzen faces— Fair sons of ev’ry tongue— All tribes, and clans, and races This Order proudly throng.</p>	<p>IV. “The Noble Order!” brothers, Let lips of yours reply; The star of all the others Beneath the starry sky. Earth’s princes bear its banners, And to its mandates bow; Then drink, with all our honours, “The Noble Order!” now.</p>

HAIL, MASONRY, THOU GLORIOUS ART!

BY BRO. JOHN FAWCETT SKELTON, P.M. 146 (Bolton), P.Z.

Tune—“The Hardy Norseman.”

HAIL, Masonry, thou glorious Art!
In beauty may’st thou shine,
While life glows in the human heart,
Or love in the Divine!

Chorus—May Friendship, boundless as the sea,
And Love, pure as the snow,
With Truth, in heavenly harmony,
Delight our Lodge below.

Alas! we do not—dare not—say,
Our Mason-Brethren, all,
Are perfect as the light of day,
And never know a fall.

Chorus—Our rules are good, our laws are grand,
Our precepts are divine,
And we, indeed, might spotless stand,
Could we but toe the line.

But this we boldly do declare,
In front of earthly hosts,—
Who nearest works up to “the square”
Our “Constitution” boasts,

Chorus—He is a Mason and a Man
As noble as the best—
One, who, when busy life be done,
Deserves Eternal rest.

Then, Brothers, pledge we in a draught,
With pride the most profound,—
Success and honour to the Craft
The spacious earth around!

Chorus—May e’en the world outside its gates
Confess, as ages roll,—
Our noble Art both elevates
And purifies the soul.

Written for the MASONIC STAR; Words may be reproduced (“with credit”).

FREEMASONRY IN PERSIA.

We extract the following from *The Masonic Record of Western India*, as likely to prove of interest to the English Craft, in connection with the present visit of the SHAH to England:—

“Persia is one of the few countries where the holding of Masonic lodge meetings is forbidden by the law and it is, therefore, with much interest that we have received news from that part of the world. There is in Persia a number of Freemasons, chiefly of the nobility, who enter the Craft while serving on the staff of the embassies of their State in the capital cities in Europe; some, however—how many is not known—were admitted into the Fraternity in their own country. Up to within about twenty years ago, a Freemasons’ lodge—believed to be very ancient—was regularly held in Teheran. By beginning to build a Masonic Hall in the Persian capital, the brethren attracted the notice of the Shah, who, not being a Freemason, and having many scruples about entering a lodge in the usual manner, stopped the work and issued a proclamation forbidding the lodge meetings. It is generally believed that since that time there have been no meetings in Persia; but a brother who has visited that country (and was recently in Madras) tells us he has reason to believe Craft Lodge meetings have been held there, at irregular intervals, up to the present day. Those brethren were most careful to preserve their secrets, having used in their lodge neither printed nor manuscript rituals, and it is extremely probable that the records of the old lodge and its meetings have been carefully preserved. Reports which have recently reached us *via* Bushire inform us that our Persian brethren hope that during his coming visit to England, the Shah will acquire a better opinion about the craft—sufficient at least to give them permission to recommence their halt, and begin holding regular meetings again. It is not yet known who among them will be selected to accompany

the Shah upon his tour as he is constantly changing his mind about the details; and he seems to have resolved upon making the journey. We are told some of the brethren in Teheran are of opinion, that their ruler will when in London, join the Craft; but although possible, we think it likely that this is mere speculation. However should Nasr-ud-din, Shah of Persia, be initiated into Freemasonry, it would bring about a Masonic renaissance within “the land of the Rising Sun and the Red Dragon,” one of the earliest strongholds of Freemasonry in the world, which would be for that country a step in the right direction. It is interesting to notice that in Persia a Freemasons’ lodge is called a *Feramosh Khana* (meaning literally “forgetting house,”) but understood to imply “house of oblivion and silence,” as everyone who enters it “forgets” apparently all that has taken place within its doors. When pronounced by a Persian *Feramosh Khana* does not sound very unlike “Freemasons’” (*Khana*) or Hall.—*Madras Masonic Review.*”

INSTALLATION MEETING OF THE MENTURIA LODGE, No. 418, HANLEY.

The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 16th inst., the W. M., Bro. H. Windle, in the chair. Considering that it was a summer meeting the attendance of members was good, nearly 40 being present. The lodge was honoured with a visit from the Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, Colonel Foster Gough, LL.D., P.G.S.B., who was escorted into the lodge-room by the past and present provincial officers in attendance. The P.G.M. took the chair and gavel whilst the minutes were read and confirmed, after which he requested the W.M. to return to the chair and proceed to the business of the evening. Bros. Forester and Rushforth were then examined as necessary, and passed to the second degree by the W.M., the charge being delivered by the S.W., Bro. J. Robinson. After the usual fraternal greetings from visiting brethren, a resolution was proposed by Bro. G. V. Greatbatch, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. Wks., and seconded by Bro. W. Tunnecliff, I.P.M., that the sum of fifty guineas be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys out of the amount realized by the *conversations* in February last. The proposer and seconder referred to the fact that they had taken an active part in bringing about and assisting at the recent inquiry into the management of the Boys’ School, from which they hoped and believed excellent results would arise, and they had the greatest pleasure in asking the lodge to strengthen the hands of the Provisional Committee by a handsome subscription to the funds. Some discussion took place as to the desirability of increasing the amount, so as to constitute the lodge a vice-patron, but subsequently the resolution was carried, the hope being held out that ere long sufficient additional money would be found to enrol the lodge amongst the list of vice-patrons.

The R.W.P.G. Master complimented the W.M. and officers of the lodge upon the excellent manner in which not only the passings, but the entire business of the lodge had been conducted; it left little, very little indeed to be desired. He had found every officer, from the W.M. downwards, at his post and well up in his duties, which gave him very great pleasure. He also expressed his gratification at seeing the resolution carried with respect to the Boys’ School, showing, as it did, the truly masonic spirit of the lodge. Some, and probably most, of the members of the lodge had thought that some improvement might be made in the management of the School; but, at the same time, they were not going to withhold their aid—they recognised the fact that the boys were there and must be provided for. He was truly glad that a Staffordshire lodge was doing its duty so nobly in the matter, and he sincerely hoped that the example of the “Menturia” would be noted even beyond the borders of his own province. He also referred in eulogistic terms to a paper on Voting in Lodges (as to candidates) which had been read by Bro. Greatbatch to the members of the “Menturia” and a copy of which he had received. He thoroughly endorsed the principles suggested in the paper, and thought it a very useful and commendable contribution. He expressed his regret at having to leave the lodge before it was closed, but his train compelled him to do so. After the departure of the R.W.P.G.M. the lodge was closed by the W.M.’s and the brethren adjourned to light refreshment in the ante-room of the lodge.

We Notify that:—

—The Euston Council of Royal Select and Super-Excellent Masters, No. 4, The M.I. Comp. the Earl of Euston, G.M., T.I.M., will assemble at the Masonic Hall, 8a, Red Lion Square, this day (July 25th), at 5.45 p.m., for election and reception of approved Mark Master Masons, and for election of Master and Treasurer for the ensuing year.

—The Annual Provincial Grand Lodge for Essex will be holden at Easton Lodge, Dunmow, the seat of the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Lord Brooke, M.P., on Tuesday, the 6th prox., at 2 p.m. Preparations have been made on a liberal scale to make the occasion an extremely pleasant and interesting one to such as may be privileged to be present.

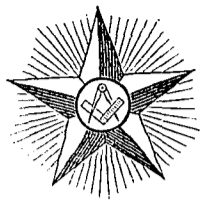
—The consecration of the Scots’ Lodge, No. 2319, Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Euston, W.M. designate, is appointed to take place on Saturday next, the 27th inst., at the Scottish Corporation Hall, Crane Court, E.C.

Press Exchanges and Books Received.

Society; The Canadian Craftsman, July, Toronto; *South African Freemason; Freemasons’ Chronicle*, Sydney; *The Masonic Record of Western India*, May, Allahabad; *The Liberal Freemason*, July, Boston.

The Masonic Star.

THURSDAY,



JULY 25, 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.

R. M. I. B.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

Kindly permit me to assure "Master Mason" upon the three points he now suggests. 1st. When I want to attack the Secretary, or anyone else, there will be no room to doubt the fact. 2nd. When I have no case I will not abuse the plaintiff; and, 3rd. I do not flatter myself that I am capable of sarcasm.

He may therefore, I hope, rest assured of my sincerity, and trust himself to enter upon the subject "freely and at length" (without fear of me), if he thinks he can benefit the Institution, at the recent success of which I am moderately well pleased.

Yours fraternally,
A VICE-PRESIDENT.

INSTALLATION OF W.M.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I observe that nearly every correspondent in reference to this subject compare their diversities with what is briefly known as "Emulation working." I would like to see some remarks by some brother who knows something of the "Stability working."

I have it under the authority of Bro. Fenn that "both 'Stability' and 'Emulation' modes of working about the time of the Union, received either the direct or indirect sanction of the Grand Lodge and the Duke of Sussex." He does not say that other modes were submitted and sanctioned also, but I think it is an undoubted fact that other modes did exist, more or less localised; and it is also an undisputed fact that some of the oldest lodges in the Constitution still preserve a form of ceremony, which they do not recognise the "power of any man nor body of men" to cause them to alter—it is, in fact, one of their ancient landmarks.

Not many years since a distinguished P.M. of this province (since gone to the great majority) was being severely criticised by a brother from London (since made a Grand Officer) for constituting or opening a Board of Installed Masters, and the discussion went so far that the brother from London threatened to report our Lanca-shire brother to the Board of General Purposes, to which he somewhat indignantly replied to the effect that "he did not regard even the opinion of the Board of G.P. in the matter." I quite agree with him. We have no Board or Committee qualified or authorised to interfere or dictate in such matters, not even the entire Grand Lodge combined; nor can I see how anything can be done definitely tending towards uniformity of the observances in this respect, until a Grand Board of the I.M.'s of the entire Constitu-

tion is summoned by the G.M. to meet him in council on the subject. At such a conclave the differences could be discussed, and the probability is a very appreciable approach could be arrived at, if not a quite uniform system.

The time to effect this would necessarily be very lengthy, as the *proving* would have to be done by lodges, then by provinces and districts, and finally by a fair and equal delegation of representatives duly selected, especially for districts and provinces at a distance from London. The question is, would the result be commensurate with the trouble, time and expense? One thing is certain, some of us would get to know something we do not know now or can only vaguely guess at. Yours very fraternally,

W. NICHOLL, P.M. 317, P.P.G.T., E.L.

QUALIFICATIONS OF W.M.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

Under the above heading in your issue of July 4th, you had a "communicated" article with which I was very much pleased. Doubtless it was unpalatable to many, but all must admit that it places before us a matter of great importance.

Some months ago an active mason, who has the welfare of the Craft at heart, was talking to me on this subject. He suggested that all W.M.'s and P.M.'s passing an examination proving their ability to work our beautiful ceremonies should have the privilege of wearing a distinctive mark—a specially designed bar on the ribbon of his P.M. jewel. Under the present system the P.M. jewel is almost worthless.

Seven Past Masters or W.M.'s, not more than three being members of the same lodge or lodges as the candidate, should constitute an examining board. They, having witnessed an Initiation, Passing or Raising, either in a regular lodge or at a lodge of instruction (or indeed a special meeting held for the purpose), if they unanimously agree that the ceremony was well and properly worked, should sign a paper or certificate to that effect. A W.M. or P.M. having obtained such papers or certificates for all three degrees, including opening and closing in the three degrees also, should be entitled to wear the specified bar.

Later on it might be required that the examining board must be *bar holders* or *certified masters*. The bar might be of any design containing the word "Certified," or "Certified Master," or "By Examination," or of a special design without words.

Surely no one could object to such a scheme—except on the ground that it is not stringent enough—for it would in no way interfere with the present system. It would simply allow those who had really *earned* the honors of the chair to show that they were duly qualified.

While placing before you the above suggestions I wish you to understand that I thoroughly agree with your previous article—that no one should be allowed to occupy the chair until he had proved himself qualified. Yours fraternally,

T. W. RICHARDSON, P.M., 2029, J. 141.

Clarence Road, Wood Green, N.

PENSIONS OUT OF CHARITABLE FUNDS.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

Will you or any of your readers inform me under *what rules* pensions have been granted from the funds of our charities; and out of what funds these can be *legally* paid?

So much attention having been given to the affairs of our Boys' School, it behoves us to see that our finances are managed strictly according to "rule and line," otherwise, any dissentient brother has the power of upsetting any pension by obtaining a rule in Chancery compelling the committee to apply the funds entrusted to their care strictly to the purposes for which they were contributed.

I myself believe such payments to be entirely "*ultra vires*," and that it would be so ruled by the Court of Chancery; and having taken up a considerable amount as steward, I am anxious to assure those kind brethren who helped my list, that the funds entrusted by them to me for the R.M.I.B. will be sacredly devoted to their intended object; viz.: the *sustenance* of the R.M.I.B. during the current year, which certainly implies that no money shall be paid out of these funds except for services rendered or to be rendered during the year for which their monies have been contributed.

Yours fraternally,

20th July, 1889.

SEMAJ.

THE R.M. BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

On the 10th of January last, you publish a letter of mine which drew attention to certain matters connected with the above Charity. This letter (as well as others) was referred to in violent terms of reprobation at the time by your contemporary *The Freemason*. Subsequent events have shown in the case of the Boys' School that much information was required, and the attention which was drawn thereto was based upon no frivolous pretexts, but on lamentable fact.

I find that the accounts, &c., of "Benevolent Institution" have recently been criticised by a brother (who, by the way, is not described as "silly," "stupid," &c.) who takes hold, *inter alia*, of some of the points my letter drew attention to, which criticism is dealt with at some length in an article in the current number of *The Freemason* with the view of, as the late Bro. Birch said, "endeavour being made to correct flagrant abuses." I now again venture to address you, repeating some of my former observations.

We are told that the Collector's commission is £512 19s. (It figured as £639 odd for the previous twelve months.) Now, sir, I again say, it would be interesting if the secretary would make known the *actual* amounts received through the collector,

and the rate of commission allowed him. It is all very well to put down an amount such as this, and say it is "in accordance with the terms and conditions on which his appointment to the office of collector was made," but unless there is something to be ashamed of, why should not we know what those terms and conditions are, and if nothing beyond them is accorded it becomes a serious question whether those "terms and conditions" should not be materially altered. £510 seems a very heavy sum as commission and collection, and, even though paid conformably to arrangement, others as well as myself cannot conceive that it arises from absolute "collection" on the part of the collector. It is possible that when he was engaged, it was never contemplated what rapid strides would be made in the interests of the charity through the agency of the "associations" which are really the backbone of the Institutions, and thus commission is levied on these contributions, the work of which is carried on by voluntary agency, and money paid into the coffers of the charity which the collector has no more "collected" than I have.

Assuming the collectors's commission to be as high as 5 per cent., it would require a "collection" by him of £10,000 odd to give him the £510 with which he is credited, the whole amount subscribed being some £15,000. It would thus appear that only £5,000 reaches the charity intact. Now, Sir, the stewards' lists represent nearly the whole of the money given to the charity ("they are the brethren by whose efforts the major portion of the year's income is raised.") I conclude that "votes of thanks, &c.," are recognitions of the stewards' efforts in having collected the various sums. If this is so, what claim can the "collector" reasonably lay to any commission thereon? If, on the other hand, the stewards and their lists are nothing more than ornamental, wrongly self-glorified dummies, the "collector" being the real Deus ex Machina, what use are they? No Sir, it is quite clear to anyone that commission is paid on the bulk of the sums represented by stewards' lists, remitted direct to secretary, and uninfluenced and untouched by the collector, he, in these instances, belying his title.

In regard to the large sums raised by the association, I may in passing remark that a great deal of their success is due to the hard work of the hon. secretaries thereto—brethren who give no end of time and labour to the execution of their self-imposed tasks. With them, however, it is a real labour of love, and amongst those with whom I am acquainted a strong feeling exists that it is a scandalous shame that after the tedious work (which it must be), of getting hundreds and thousands of pounds together practically by shillings, their contributions should be sweated down in the way they are by commissions, &c.

I firmly believe that as much money would be got together as well without a collector as with one; but in any case it is preposterous to pay anything like the sum now figuring in the accounts, which would suffice for the relief of 15 or 16 more old people annually.

I would venture seriously to draw the attention of all concerned to the foregoing. It is a matter which will sooner or later, and I believe sooner, have to be gone into and settled in accordance with right, justice, and common sense. Subscribers to this charity, as well as others, have been negligent long enough, and right and proper enquiry cannot now be ignored, if not stifled, by officialism, no matter what shape it may bear.

"Votes of thanks to stewards, entertainment of stewards, &c., £119 17s. 6d." This is charged to the institution, but I fancy if the brethren who discharge the office of steward were polled, they would, by a large majority, devote the sum remaining, after expenses, from the £2 2s. subscription to this purpose, rather than, as was done in 1888, getting rid of it by presenting £100 to the secretary and dividing the balance among the clerks. The late Bro. Birch, in his letter to the *Freemasons' Chronicle* of the 5th January, said, "entertainment of stewards and annuitants it is generally supposed in the provinces is covered by the stewards' fees." Well, that general supposition is incorrect; but as this sum is not charity funds, no law is broken by giving it in the way it has been given, but to vote the secretary (beyond, of course, this £100) the sum of one hundred guineas out of the FUNDS OF THE CHARTY, as an "honorarium," was a diversion which many consider absolutely illegal. I stated last January the "money was subscribed in the cause of charity, but was not faithfully applied," and this I repeat.

I notice that Bro. Letch Mason says that he has never seen a statement as to how the stewards' fees are disposed of; well, if he will refer to my letter in your journal of 10th January last, paragraph IV. of same will enlighten him as to 1887 (the sum remaining after expenses was about £160). I am not aware how the balance this year has been, or will be dealt with, but should not be at all surprised at its journeying the same road.

"Provincial and other expenses £169 14s." What this item represents is vague. "Travelling" expenses being included, £3 a week seems heavy without any details as to the "other." Detail is wanted, surely no difficulty can arise in supplying it; to say that as the "statement of account from which these figures are quoted is only a summary, fuller particulars are not necessary," is evasive and valueless."

By the way, there is an error somewhere in Bro. Letch Mason's tabulated account so far as receipts Male Fund is concerned, his addition is £15,188 14s. 11d., his items only adding up £11,488 14s. 11d.

The *Freemason* endeavours to prove that the percentage of expenses of management to income is much less than Bro. Letch Mason shows it to be, and mentions a sum of £5,325 "disbursed in the purchase of stock." I cannot imagine how purchase of stock can entail any other expense than stock broker's commission; what "management" is requisite for this, or what expenses can be incurred in such "management" is a puzzle. It may be good or bad, but this sort of special pleading would not go down with an actuary, so why try to foist it upon us.

No matter how the accounts may be manipulated, the total of

"grants to annuitants," male and female, is £14,610, and expenses £3,329 16s. 1d.—it is a mere attempt at jugglery of account, when approximating the percentage of expenses per head, to include items such as Balances forward—Grand Chapter and Lodge Grants—Dividends—Legacies—Cash Withdrawn at Call and Interest thereon—but I don't think many will be taken in by it. I purpose having these accounts dissected by a first rate firm of chartered accountants, for publication. I fancy the "percentage" will not tally with that so curiously arrived at by your contemporary, who I notice states that "the Asylum . . . is entirely unprofitable as regards the main purposes of the Institution." What in the name of goodness does this mean? Is it intended to convey that the Institution is effete? If so does it not show how greatly a searching enquiry is needed?

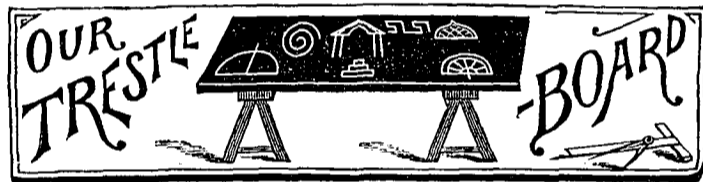
"We have no fear as to the result of an enquiry into the management of the institution." Your contemporary thus concludes his article on above subject. Now, sir, I recollect in one of your issues you made use of the word "inspired"; this was duly resented by those to whom it was applied. May I now venture to ask if you can elucidate the meaning of this sentence? "We have no fear." Why this identification of newspaper with charity? Why on earth should your contemporary volunteer the information to its readers that "they have no fear." Fear, forsooth! a curious statement to make, to say the least of it; but are we really likely to have the enquiry hinted at? The only room for fear that I can conceive is that without such enquiry the shrinking process, already in active progress, will continue until the collector finds that the sum it is "his duty to collect is in itself" so small as to have reduced his commission to the vanishing point.

I fear I have been somewhat lengthy in my remarks, but my excuse must be the interest I take in this charity, and my desire to see the funds subscribed in its favour, applied to the best advantage of those for whom they are intended. Vital reforms are necessary, and so far as my assistance can be utilised in securing same I shall freely give it, no matter what bigoted opposition may endeavour to prevent them. Fraternally yours,

SUBSCRIBER.

Answers to Correspondents.

W.M., EXETER.—The subject is worth consideration at a future opportunity. ALPHA.—Please observe our requirements at head of Correspondence Column.



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

Home news from abroad again! The *South African Freemason* is published at South London. That's in Africa. It can, however, tell us that "A conference of preceptors of lodges is about to be held in London, with a view, we presume, of discussing points of ritual." The London it refers to is the capital of England. Have any of our metropolitan brethren heard anything of this suggested conference? We have not, although on the spot and quite ready, indeed eager, to have a hand in any movement which will afford opportunity for discussing points of ritual, if only there be a prospect that such discussion might lead to an agreement in respect of unity of essentials and uniformity of practice.

* * * * * The *World* says: "It will interest Freemasons to hear that Dr. Kynaston has been appointed by the Bishop of Durham to succeed the late Canon Evans in the Greek Professorship at Durham University, to which a canonry is attached. The new Canon will find a D.P.G.M. in one of his brother canons. Canon Tristram."

* * * * * We have received from Bro. C. G. Cutchey, of Buckhurst Hill, I.P.M. 1685, &c., a proof copy of a photographic group of brethren attending the recent consecration of the Lennox-Browne Lodge, No. 2318. The picture is a very excellent one, the likenesses extremely well defined, and the grouping natural. It forms a very interesting memorial of an important event in connection with the present progress of Freemasonry; and by those who had the satisfaction of witnessing the proceedings connected with the consecration of the lodge it will doubtless be much appreciated.

* * * * * We have received a copy of the Third Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Society known as "The Old Masonians," to which we shall take an early opportunity to refer in respect of many interesting particulars relating to the old scholars of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the encouragement given for the continuance of friendship amongst them whilst pursuing the avocations of daily life after their entrance into the world of commerce. Both the report and balance sheet are of a highly satisfactory character.

* * * * * The Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master of Mark Master Masons, has appointed Viscount Valentia Grand Master of the province of Berks and Oxon, in the room of the Earl of Jersey, who recently resigned the office. Viscount Valentia will be installed by the Earl of Jersey at the Provincial Grand Lodge to be held a short time hence at Oxford, when an address will be presented by the Mark brethren to Lord Jersey on his retirement.

* * * * * At the moment of going to press we are in receipt of a packet, "via *Prisco*," from the New Zealand Masonic Union, per Bro. Thomas W. Kitt, P.M., which shall have our attention next week.

Reports of Lodges, &c.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE—RUNCORN—ELLESMERE LODGE—No. 758.—The annual installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Rooms, Runcorn, on the 17th inst., when Bro. George Summerfield, the W.M., ably installed his successor (Bro. A. Linater) into the chair of K.S., as W.M. for the ensuing year. The following were invested with the collars of their respective offices:—Bros. J. Cooper, S.W.; J. Littler, J.W.; C. W. Phillips, S.D.; T. S. Burgess, J.D.; W. Hankinson, I.G.; W. R. Wass, P.M., treas.; T. Sharrock, sec.; W. E. Lancaster, org.; J. Le Conte, almoner; and G. Hayes, tyler. At the close of the lodge the brethren adjourned to a banquet, when the usual masonic toasts were duly honoured, and subsequently a Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Geo. Summerfield for his services during his term of office, and also a life governorship on the Cheshire Masonic Education Institution.

DEVON—EAST STONEHOUSE—THE WESTERN DISTRICT UNITED LODGE—No. 2258.—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Caroline Place, Stonehouse, on the 17th inst., when Bro. Col. J. Philips, C.B., was installed as W.M. for the year ensuing by his predecessor, W. Bro. Major M. Tracy, B.A., P.G.S.W., assisted by W. Bro. Powell, P.M., and a Board of Installed Masters amongst whom were W. Bros. S. Jew, P.M., P.P.G.T.; D. Cross, P.M.; H. S. Best, P.M.; E. Binding, P.M.; G. S. Strodes Lowe, W.M. 1855; the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.J.G.W.; C. H. Cooper, P.M. P.P.G.D.; Thos. Gibbons, P.P.G., org.; E. Aitken-Davies, P.P.G.S. Wks.; W. Allsford, R. Dickson, H. E. Sitters, R. Selmon, W. Bartram, A. Trout, W. H. Lister, R. C. Wyatt, S. J. Daniels, W. H. Hamlyn, and James Gidley. The officers invested by the W.M. were Bros. Serg.-Major A. Revill, S.W.; Major N. Page, J.W.; Rev. J. Black, M.A., chaplain; D. Cross, P.M., treas.; W. Powell, P.M., sec.; Major C. B. G. Dick, S.D.; Lieut. and Quartermaster W. E. Donohue, J.D.; Lieut. Bowman, I.G.; Quartermaster-Sergt. A. Jones, D.C.; Captain and Adjutant J. H. Swanton, A.D.C.; Bandmaster C. F. H. Froehner, org.; Lieut. and Quartermaster T. Reynolds, Lieut. H. M. C. W. Graham, and Lieut. J. H. E. Allen, stewards; and James Gidley, P.M., acting tyler. W. Bro. S. Jew, P.M., P.P.G.T., was elected representative on committee of petitions. Prior to the closing of the lodge three gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation, and a brother as a joining member. The installation banquet was served at the Farley Hotel, Plymouth, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. J. Philips, C.B., and a very enjoyable evening was passed, the usual loyal and masonic toasts being given and heartily responded to. Several songs were rendered by Bros. Kennedy, Hadley, Revill, and others, and during the evening excellent music was provided by Bros. Sergeants Lidiard and P. Elford, Miller, and other members of the Royal Marine Band. Among the brethren present, in addition to those above named, were Bro. Captain Skipworth, 2258; Captain Geldard, 455; Captain Hadley, 2258; Captain Kelly, 2258; W. Bro. E. Littleton, P.M. 230; Bro. J. H. Williams, 1247; J. Holland, 1205; T. Lillierap, 223; J. Hayes, 1205; C. Coombes, 954; and H. T. Worth, 954.

DURHAM.—DEDICATION OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT CROOK.—On Wednesday, the 7th inst., Bro. Babington Boulton, No. 111, Restoration Lodge, P.P.G.T. and Acting-Deputy Master, in the unavoidable absence of Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., Provincial Grand Master for the province of Durham, in a most impressive manner solemnly consecrated and dedicated a handsome building in Church Street, Crook, to the services of Freemasonry. The Crook Lodge, No. 2019, of which Bro. E. Milburn is W.M., is in a very prosperous and thriving state, there being now a membership of over sixty since its formation seven years ago. A sumptuous banquet was afterwards partaken of.

ESSEX.—ROMFORD.—The Francis White Chapter, No. 1437, held a convocation at the Golden Lion Hotel, Romford, on the 18th inst., Ex-Comp. H. Mason, M.E.Z., presiding. Ex-Comp. the Rev. Thomas Cochrane, P.G.C.Eng., was unanimously elected M.E.Z. for the ensuing year. Bro. James Wild was exalted to the supreme degree, and after routine business the chapter was closed until October.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORD.—PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE.—The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford, under the banner of the St. Ethelbert Lodge, No. 243, Baron de Ferrieres, Prov. G.M. Master, presiding. Amongst the brethren present were the Deputy P.G.M.M., Bros. O. Shellard; W. Forth,

P.D.P.G.M.; R. V. Vassar-Smith, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Balcomb, P.P.J.G.W.; W. C. Heane, P.P.J.G.W.; W. R. Porcher, P.P.G.M.O.; Geo. Norman, P.G. Sec.; Dr. E. Gregory; G. Caldwell; J. L. Butler, P.P.G. Pur.; E. Lea, P.P.G.J.D.; T. Milligan, P.P.G.S.O.; W. C. Ferris, P.P.G.M.O.; Blinkhorn, Chance, Norton, and others. Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened, the minutes read and confirmed, and the accounts of the treasurer and other reports adopted, Bro. J. Balcom, P.M. No. 10, was unanimously elected P.G. Treasurer for the ensuing year, in place of Bro. Bain, who retires owing to ill-health. A vote of thanks was given to Bro. Bain for his long services. Bro. Henry Phillips was appointed Tyler. The roll of lodges was called, and the brethren responded for their respective lodges. The following officers were appointed and invested:—Bros. M. F. Carter, P.S.G.W.; W. R. Porcher, P.G.M.O.; R. T. Hughes, P.G.J.O.; J. Balcom, P.G. Treas.; J. Owner, P.G.S.D.; W. R. Felton, P.G.D.C.; Charles Roberts, P.G. Std. B.; Edward George, P.G. Std.; John Naysmith, P.J.G.M.; H. Clark, P.G.S.O.; Rev. Dr. Lynes, P.G. Chaplain; George Norman, P.G. Sec., R. of Mks.; J. Barns, P.G.J.D.; J. Davies, P.G. Swd. B.; C. Caldicott, P.G. Org.; T. G. Chance, P.G.P.; and Henry Phillips, Tyler. Letters of apology and telegrams for non-attendance were read from the P.G. Chaplain and others, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed. In the evening an excellent banquet was capitally served in the dining room, and was presided over by the R.W.P.G.M.M. (Baron de Ferrieres). The toast list was interspersed with songs and recitations, and the brethren separated after spending a most enjoyable evening.

SOMERSETSHIRE—WESTON, NEAR BATH.—ROYAL ALBERT EDWARD LODGE—No. 906.—On the 10th inst. the Dep. G.M. of the Province of Somersetshire, the V.W. Bro. R. C. Else, installed Bro Arthur Wadoux into the chair of K.S., in succession to W. Bro. George Henry Bartlett, P.P.J.G.W., who as I.P.M. was presented by the members of his lodge with a portrait of himself in recognition of his valuable masonic services.

SUFFOLK.—SOUTHWOLD.—MARTYN LODGE, No. 1983. On the 12th inst. the installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Town Hall Southwold. The D.P.G.M., Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap. (Eng.), assisted by Bro. P. M. Canova, P.M. 388, performed the installation ceremony, placing Bro. Thos. Sargeant in the chair of K.S. as W.M. for the ensuing year. The following brethren were present:—Bros. E. M. U. Adnams, W.M.; W. J. Brown, I.P.M.; W. J. Griffiths, J.W.; J. M. Canova, P.M. 388, 1983, P.P.G.S.W., Treas.; T. H. Jellicoe, P.M., Sec.; O. G. Rackham, J.D.; R. Barker, P.P.G., Asst. D. of C.; the Rev. Proby L. Cautley, P.P.G.C.; W. Porter, Tyler; W. G. Jackson, G. E. U. Adnams, J. Jarvis, D. R. Gooding, and the following visiting brethren:—Bros. S. J. Woodward, P.P.G.S.; W. J. Lee, 1777; Bro. H. F. Martyn, 1224; N. Tracy, 376, P.G. Sec.; and H. S. Strange, D.C., 1223. The W.M. invested his officers as follows:—Bros. W. T. Griffiths, S.W.; W. H. Elmy, J.W.; J. M. Canova, Treas.; T. H. Jellicoe, Sec.; O. G. Rackham, S.D.; R. J. Allen, J.D.; W. J. Browne, P.M., D. of C.; W. G. Jackson, I.G.; W. Porter, Tyler. After the installation the brethren proceeded to the Centre Cliff Hotel, where they were photographed in a group. A banquet followed at 6.30. Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn responded for "The Grand and the Prov. Grand Officers," and proposed the health of the W.M., Bro. Sergeant. "The Masonic Charities" was proposed by Bro. W. J. Brown, and responded to by Bro. N. Tracy. "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. Woodward, H. R. Stanford, H. F. Martyn, Lee and Strange; "The Officers of the Lodge" by Bros. Cautley, Chap., and O. G. Rackham, S.D.; and "The Ladies" by Bros. W. Gooding and W. Smith.

YORKSHIRE (WEST)—THORNE—ST. NICHOLAS LODGE—No. 2259.—The installation of Bro. A. L. Pearce as W.M. of this lodge took place at Peace Hall, on the 17th inst., W. Bro. Gardner, P.P.G.D.C., inducting that worthy brother into the chair of K.S. with perfect ceremonial. Subsequently the newly installed W.M. presided at a dinner at the Town Hall in honour of the occasion.

METROPOLITAN.

BROMLEY ST. LEONARD—No. 1805.—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow Road, E., on Tuesday, July 16th, at 8.30 a.m. Business of a formal character having been soon disposed of, the brethren, with their ladies and non-masonic friends proceeded in saloon carriages attached to the 10.25 express to the quaint old town of Arundel. Banquet had been ordered for 2.30, and opportunity was taken to visit St. Philip's R.C. church, the old parish church, the quiet dales of Arundel Park,

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.
(THIS DAY) (4th) THURSDAY, JULY 25th.		
GENERAL COMMITTEE, GIRLS' SCHOOL, AT 4.		
1623	West Smithfield	F. M. II.
13	Hiram	Greyhound Hot., Richmond
(4th) FRIDAY, JULY 26th.		
QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT, BOYS' SCHOOL, AT 4.		
780	Royal Alfred	Star and Garter Hot., Kew Bridge
(4th) SATURDAY, JULY 27th.		
QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT, GIRLS' SCHOOL, AT 12.		
1297	West Kent	Crystal Palace, Sydenham
1541	Alexandra Palace	Imperial Hot., Holborn Viaduct, E.C.

No. of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE AND CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.
(5th) MONDAY, JULY 29th.		
Nil.		
(5th) TUESDAY, JULY 30th.		
Nil.		
(5th) WEDNESDAY, JULY 31st.		
898	Temperance-in-the-East	6, Newby Place, Poplar, E.
R.A.C. 13	Union Waterloo	M. II., William St., Woolwich
(1st) THURSDAY, AUGUST 1st.		
1790	Old England	M. II., New Thornton II th , nr. Croydon

the country seat of the Duke of Norfolk, and other places of interest. At the hour named, a very appetising and substantial spread was placed before the company by Bro. Charles Barkshire, of the Norfolk Hotel, to whom great credit is due for his care and attention. Full justice was soon done to the "fourth degree," the W.M. Bro. Henry Johnson presiding, supported by Past Masters Peterkin, Forbes and Bailey. After the usual Masonic toasts had been duly honored, advantage was taken of the gathering to present a very handsome silver salver to Bro. Henry Bracey Forbes, P.M., and a gold keyless watch to Bro. Joseph Bailey, I.P.M., as a mark of esteem and recognition of their valuable services rendered during the time they respectively occupied the chair of K.S. Bros. Forbes and Bailey acknowledged this further honour in most appropriate terms. The toast of "the W.M.," proposed by I.P.M. Bailey, was responded to by Bro. Henry Johnson, who assured the ladies and friends of the great pleasure it afforded him to see so many present. Bro. Ben. Johnson, P.M., also in proposing the toast of "the Ladies," thanked them for coming in such strong force, and trusted that the occasion would be followed by many such. Bro. Roberts, S.S. replied, thanking the officers and brethren for the enjoyment afforded, a repetition of which would be always welcomed by them. T. A. Murray Macdonald, Esq., replying to the toast of "the Visitors," proposed by Bro. R. Toole, S.W., said they were very pleased to meet the members of the Bromley St. Leonard Lodge at all times, and especially on such a very enjoyable occasion as the present, when all seemed desirous of "being happy and communicating happiness," and he trusted ere long he would have the pleasure of being received as "one amongst them." W. Bro. Peterken, P.M., thanked the friends for remembering the P.M's, the old veterans in the cause, and Bro. Mead, sec., having responded for the officers, the company separated to enjoy the remaining time in such pursuits as pleased them best, as well on land as water. Soon after 8 p.m. the party re-assembled, having enjoyed most heartily this the first summer outing of the lodge. Great praise is due to the committee and Bro. Mead, sec., for the very admirable way the arrangements were made and carried out. Amongst those present were Bros. H. Johnson, W.M.; R. Toole, S.W.; Ben Johnson, J.W.; John Collier, treas.; W. Maxfield Mead, sec.; G. E. Warn, J.D.; C. Lewey, I.G.; W. Barnes, D.C.; W. J. Roberts, S.S.; W. J. Potts, J.S.; A. Peterkin, H. B. Forbes, J. Bailey, P.M's; Bros. Oates, Hambridge, Flynn, Chinery, Pealling, Horne, Bird, Davis, Marriott, Mark Liell, Griffith, Thompson, Howard, Fennell, Hutcheson. Visitors—J. A. Murray Macdonald, Esq., Bro. R. Hirst, Mrs. D. Amman, Mrs. Forbes, Bro. March, Miss Mead, Mrs. Liell, Miss Marriott, Bro. and Mrs. Hayns, Bro. and Mrs. Goodey, Mrs. Warn, Miss Howard, Mrs. Hambridge, Bro. J. W. and the Misses Gibbs, Mrs. Flynn, Bro. and Mrs. Bown, Mrs. H. Johnson, Miss Taylor, Mrs. Ben Johnson, Mrs. Horne, Mrs. and Miss Lewsey, Mrs. and Miss Oates, Miss Carraher, Miss Pealling, Mrs. Chinery, Mrs. Hutcheson, Bro. W. F. May, Mr. Peterken, junr., and Mr. Ashton.

Bro. Brackstone Baker has been nominated as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at the United Grand Lodge of England, and has received a similar appointment from the Grand Lodges of Ohio and Michigan. Bro. Baker is now the accredited delegate of twenty United States' Grand Lodges, besides two of the Dominion of Canada, viz., New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

THEATRICAL.

By the kind permission of Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. George Stone will take his first benefit at the Gaiety Theatre, on Saturday morning, July 27th, when, in addition to an act from *Faust up to Date*, and one from *Esmeralda*, most of the prominent artistes on the London stage will assist.

GLEANINGS.

Masons that have the right stuff in them can certainly afford a few shillings a year for a Masonic journal. Ignorance has ever been the bane of Masonry. It is the few well-informed and intelligent who are lifting the order above the common head, and giving it the character and usefulness it possesses. It is the reading Mason that gives vitality to the order. Masons who are allowed to rust, to go to sleep, satisfied with their own ignorance, are a millstone round the neck of the order, dragging their companions to their level of arrogance and stupidity.—*Exchange.*

THE TYLER.—We have some where seen the statement that the word Tyler is given to that Masonic Officer because he covers or seals in the lodge as if with tiles, closes it from the outside, the idea being also a Masonic one—he completes the Masonic building by tiling it, as roof covers in, protects and completes the house. It may seem strange, but it is nevertheless the fact that the two words "Tyler" and "detective" both come from the same root; not that the word Tyler means a detective, though the Tyler detects imposters seeking admission. The prefix *de* prevents that interpretation. The word "detective" comes from the Latin root *tegere*, to cover—while *detegere*, is to uncover or detect. Tile comes from the same root *tegere*, but by way of the Gothic or German, and Anglo-Saxon whence our ancestors got it. One of its meanings is to cover, but a more prominent one is to protect, presumably to protect by covering, not in the sense that we roof or protect a house by covering it with tiles or covers, but in the sense in which the word is used when we say that we cover a man with a pistol, or when a man is said to cover another with his body—that is stands between him and the danger, and so protects him. The Tyler is not the finisher of the complete Masonic structure. He is not furnished with a roofer's kit, as working tools or emblems of his authority. He is the protector of the Masonic body as his drawn sword would imply.—*Theo. C. Knauff, in Keystone.*

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A Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Friday, the 26th day of July, 1889, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To receive and approve a list of Sixty-nine Candidates (or Seventy in the event of a deferred case being accepted by the Court) on the recommendation of the General Committee, from which Sixteen Boys shall be elected on Friday, 25th October next, to fill that number of Vacancies.

The Chair will be taken at Four o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By Order,
FREDERICK BINCKES, (P.G.Std.), V.Pat.,
16th July, 1886. Secretary.

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