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THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held on Monday, the 10th instant, for the transaction of important business. First of all, a Treasurer for the ensuing year will be elected, and then twelve brethren to represent the Life and Annual Subscribers on the General Committee. Next two additional vacancies in the school will be declared, and their will be considered a recommendation from the General Committee that five additional boys be elected, and if such recommendation be adopted, to elect sixteen boys from the list of fifty-nine approved candidates, instead of nine as originally announced. After this, a proposition will be submitted, in accordance with a resolution of the General Committee held on 1st January last, with a view to authorising the payment of £2,000, being the amount of the purchase money of the freehold of "Kent House," with land required for a sanatorium. Two motions will then be brought forward, the first by Bro. Dr. Ramsay, "that every three years the four Senior members of the House Committee retire, but shall be eligible for re-election, and the four who have been least frequent in attendance shall retire annually, and be ineligible for re-election for a space of twelve months." The second motion will be proposed by V.W. Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford P.G.C. and P. Prov. G.W. West Yorkshire, to the effect "that, having in view the recent imputations cast on the administration of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, this Court deems it to be its duty to express its unabated confidence in the House Committee and executive." As regards this latter motion, we propose offering a few remarks.

It may be in the recollection of our readers that, in our issue of 25th December last, we announced the presentation by the Committee appointed to inquire into the alleged mismanagement of the Boys' School of a long and exhaustive report, in which the governing body were completely exonerated from the charges made against them. So perfectly innocent were they of all errors, either of omission or of commission, so simple and straightforward was the task of the Investigating Committee that it was not even found necessary to call in a professional accountant, though authority for that purpose had been granted. Under the circumstances we expressed a hope that the difference arising out of these charges, the *bona fides* of which we did not question, but which had thus been authoritatively disproved, should be allowed to die out, and that, in the future as in the past, West Yorkshire would cordially co-operate with the rest of the Craft in promoting the welfare of this important charity. West Yorkshire, however, it seems is sore upon one point. Its Committee of Investigation applied in due course to the Secretary for information on certain points. The members of this Committee, by the merest accident in the world, were Life Governors of the School, and they directed their Secretary, who was not even a subscriber, to apply for the information in question, but on their behalf as a Committee, and not in their capacity of Life Governors. Bro. Binckes, acting strictly in accordance with a resolution passed on the 1st January last, of the General Committee of the School, declined in any way to recognise officially the West Yorkshire Committee of Investigation. At the same time he expressed his readiness to furnish answers to the several queries, as indeed he would most courteously have done to any member of the Committee itself,

if he applied in his capacity of Life Governor. How far the General Committee were right in ignoring the existence of the West Yorkshire Committee, it comes not within our province to determine, but manifestly Bro. Binckes, with the resolution before him, had no option but to reply as he did. Since then, the West Yorkshire Committee have delivered their report. In it they draw attention to certain imperfections, as they deem them, in the mode of rendering the School accounts, and they lay great stress on the great cost per head of maintaining, clothing, and educating the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys as compared with the expenditure per head in sundry other Schools of somewhat similar stamp. We have before us a copy of their report, but it is not our intention to bring any of its details under the notice of our readers. To do so would, in the first place, occupy too much space. In the next, so far as we have been able to gather from a pretty careful examination of its most material points, the report differs but slightly from the pamphlets already published by Bro. Tew and Bros. Tew and Rev. O. G. D. Perrott. Lastly, the Committee specially appointed by the Governing Body of the School, to inquire into and determine the merits or demerits of the charges raised by West Yorkshire, have long since delivered their report, to the effect that no irregularities whatever had occurred in the financial management of the School. A most critical examination had satisfied them, not only that the apparent discrepancies to which their attention had been drawn were capable of explanation, but also that the whole financial arrangements of the School were in the highest degree creditable to the executive. Under the circumstances, it naturally occurs to us to ask what will it profit any one if we reopen questions that have been already settled. West Yorkshire has complained, its complaint has been investigated, and a decision has been given, to the effect that its complaints have no foundation. As for the comparison instituted, we confess we attach but little importance to this. The expenditure per head has been steadily diminished, while as regards the office expenditure, we may note that a smaller staff could not do the work, or at all events not do it as satisfactorily as it is done now. Moreover, the cost under this head of service will not be sensibly increased when the school is enlarged to two hundred, or even to two hundred and fifty pupils. Again, while the general body of the Craft is most exemplary in the fulfilment of its charitable duties, while its contributions to the funds of this Institution are year by year more considerable, there is no wish on the part of any members that the Boys' School should be conducted after the manner of an ordinary charity school. In years gone by, the pupils, then far fewer than now, were clad in very homely garb. With brown corduroy trousers, close fitting, buttoned-up brown jackets with metal buttons, and underneath it neither vest nor under vest, but only a shirt of the make of an ordinary night shirt, the pupils of the Masonic Boys' School were but little better dressed than pauper children, while in manners and bearing they were the terror of the neighbourhood. Now, thanks to the marvellous energy of "our Hercules" and the governing body generally, and thanks also to the hearty response which Masons have made annually these fourteen or fifteen years past, the Masonic Boys' School is a pattern of excellence, both in discipline and management. The boys are well-behaved, well-fed and clad, and moreover the course of study laid down is of the most liberal character. Under these circumstances, it is impossible they can feel or experience aught but the most affectionate regard for the school in

which they are brought up. There is no sense in them, as is the case with children ordinarily dependent on charity for their maintenance and training, of being a burden to the Craft, and the Craft would feel ashamed of itself were it possible such a feeling could be experienced. It is worth while, in order to produce such splendid results as these, to spend a pound or two more per head per annum; it is certainly far better than to have a school cheaply conducted and full of ill-conditioned, unmannerly whelps of boys. We think lightly, therefore, of the expense in our School being somewhat above the expense incurred in other schools. On these grounds, we trust the Quarterly General Court will accept, if not unanimously, at all events by a very substantial majority, the motion so happily drawn and submitted by Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford. The charges raised last year turn out to be no charges at all, and the Quarterly Court will virtually stultify itself if it does not agree to Bro. Woodford's resolution. And the resolution accepted, we hope and trust the dissensions of the past few months will cease, and, as we said at the commencement of these remarks, that the whole body of the Craft will work steadily and harmoniously together, to the end that this and our other Institutions may become more and more prosperous every year. At the approaching Festival there will be 211 Stewards, and we hope the result of their exertions on behalf of the Boys' School will be even more profitable than were those of last year's Stewards.

MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 23).

A RIGHT HAND MAN.

"A soul as dauntless 'mid the storm
Of daily life, a heart as warm
And pure as breast e'er wore."

THOSE only who are admitted "behind the scenes" can form any adequate idea of the enormous mass of dry business which is daily transacted by our paid officers. The position which these gentlemen fill, no doubt, seems a very enviable one, and perhaps there are young Masons who would give their ears in exchange for the honour of holding an office of trust and confidence in the Order. At the first blush it may, indeed, seem that those who devote their whole time to Masonic affairs must have a very pleasant time of it. That the primary motive force which animates them is love for the Order no one can deny; and much may be done cheerfully for love or for honour. But the daily toil and anxiety, and the constant life of excitement which these gentlemen are fated to live, must wear upon the constitution, and the very enthusiasm which supports them has the effect of consuming the vital flame rather too rapidly. No paid officer ever yet fulfilled his commission, whose labours began and ended with his set list of duties. If the official has no zeal and energy, if he is not prepared to spend laborious nights as well as days in the cause, he is not suited to his post, and might just as well throw off his official traces, and retire to private life and obscurity. The visiting of Lodges is an important portion of the unwritten duty of these gentlemen, and we all know how ably it is performed, and how welcome they are wherever they show themselves. The brethren are always pleased to see the working men as well as the leading spirits of the Order, and are only too glad to have an opportunity to learn from the lips of those who have made Masonry the business of their lives. Perhaps if they knew how many sacrifices are often made by the permanent officials for the sake of Masonic progress, how often the visit to a distant Lodge or Chapter is made at the sacrifice of precious time and cash, they would possibly still more highly appreciate services which mere money can never requite. Some few of us who know the details of official life can, at all events, bear testimony to the fact that Masonry owes to these steady champions a heavy debt of gratitude. The constant watchfulness, the ready alacrity to oblige, the steady industry of these gentlemen; their zeal in hunting up information from the records of the Order, are only known to students of Masonry. The great mass of the Craft have a vague idea that the brother who gracefully wears many honourably won decorations, often carries a weary heart under his gay trappings, and, in attending a grand Masonic gathering, has merely passed from the dry every day duties of his appointment to duties equally

responsible, though more fascinating and less matter of fact. We expect, as we have hinted, guidance, help, advice and assistance from brothers whose time is wholly devoted to the Craft, and with a due sense of responsibility upon him, the so-called pleasures of Masonry can hardly ever be enjoyed by the devoted official with perfect ease and abandon. He is always in harness. Every one expects him to say a few words at table. His influence is eagerly sought on behalf of some benevolent object or other; in short, he is, if he could but feel so, bored everywhere, and yoked like a willing steed to the Masonic Chariot.

We have in our mind's eye at this moment the features of a brother who entirely fulfils our ideal of a perfect official. We do not intend to hide his light under a bushel, and we shall, therefore, at once say that he is the respected chief clerk in the Grand Secretary's Office, a position which he has adorned by his high Masonic virtues, his obliging disposition, and his blameless life. No more genial or kindly face ever shone upon us from the classic precincts of the Grand Lodge. He carries the heavy load of his official duties with the ease and grace of a warrior, whose heavy armour, from constant use, has become a portion of the wearer. He never complains of over work, although the fulfilment of his unwritten duties involves serious labour and much sacrifice. He has his business on his fingers' ends, and is always ready to get up information of a practical kind for those who seek it. He is essentially a practical Mason. For the speculations of literary brethren he does not care much, and does not readily wander from the solid stores of knowledge which are to be found in an almost endless series of minute books and records. Within this maze of Masonic lore, this vast mass of material for a history of the Order, which, we hope, will one day be written by a competent hand, he is quite at home, and possesses the enviable art of at once pouncing upon the information which he desires to unearth. He is always at his post at the right moment, and walks doggedly to business every morning, with the air of a man who has little or nothing of consequence on his mind. His cares, if he has any, are for himself, his jovial good humour is for the world; his innocent jollity for those who are privileged to sit at the same table with him.

Our hero was born at Pentonville, just outside the sound of Bow Bells, and cannot, therefore, claim the enviable distinction which these famous chimes confer upon all who are born under their spells. His father, a medical man, who had a somewhat extensive practice, was determined to give his son a sound commercial education, and the lad was sent at the proper age to an excellent school at Tunbridge. On leaving this establishment he entered his father's surgery, and commenced the study of medicine. Whether this proved an uncongenial occupation or not we do not know, but it is certain that he soon quitted the profession and devoted his attention to law. He was for some years in the office of a barrister of eminence; but his ability had been seen and recognised by the late Grand Secretary White, who, in 1855, gave him an appointment in his office as second clerk. He filled this position with great credit to himself and advantage to the Order, and upon the retirement of the late Bro. Farnfield he was appointed to his present responsible and laborious post. In this position he has found his true sphere of usefulness, and being a real lover of hard work, he has always carried out the spirit as well as the letter of his duties. His connection with the Order dates from the year 1846.

He is the founder of several Lodges; and in 1850 he was W.M. of Lodge No. 27, Secretary from 1851 to 1874, and is now its Treasurer. He is an honorary member of many Lodges and Chapters, a P.Z., also a Past Grand Almoner of Rome and Constantine, Red Cross, and a 30° Mason; a firm friend, a zealous brother, and a good man. Thoroughly unassuming in manner, and utterly forgetful of self in his steady devotion to duty, our brother has little or no ambition to be regarded as anything more than a hard working and intelligent Mason. His official position has brought him into contact with men of the highest rank and culture, and we are speaking "by the card" when we say that he is respected alike by the Chiefs of the Order, and by those who compose the rank and file of the Craft.

The Consecration of the Skelmersdale Lodge was fixed to take place yesterday evening, at Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue. Bro. Terry was to enact the part of Consecrating Officer. We shall give full particulars next week.

Obituary.

THE LATE HON. F. WALPOLE, M.P. PROV. G.M. NORFOLK.

IT is barely five months since we congratulated our Norfolk brethren on the installation of Bro. the Hon. F. Walpole as their P.G.M., in succession to our late respected Bro. B. B. Cabbell, and now, unhappily, it is our sad duty to record his death, at the comparatively early age of 54. We said at the time that the day of his installation would be a memorable one in the annals of Norfolk Freemasonry. The strong muster of the brethren, not only from all parts of the Province, but from neighbouring Provinces likewise, showed the immense influence of the Craft in the Eastern counties. The ceremony was performed by one of the highest dignitaries of our Order, no less a one, in fact, than the Deputy Grand Master of England, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale. And the few remarks Bro. Walpole made in acknowledgment of the high honour conferred upon him were conceived in the manliest and most truly Masonic spirit. Hence it was we anticipated for the Craft an uninterrupted course of prosperity in Norfolk under the able and kindly rule of its new Grand Master. But *l'homme propose, et Dieu dispose*. Yesterday Bro. Walpole's mortal remains were committed to their last resting place at Kingsbury, and what so recently was a Masonic Province filled with joy and hearty gratulation has now become a Province filled with deepest sorrow and lamentation. We deeply sympathise with our Norfolk brethren, and offer them, in all sincerity, our condolence at the loss they have sustained.

Bro. Walpole was a son of the third Earl of Orford. He was born in 1822, and entered the Royal Navy in 1837. In 1845 he rose to be Lieutenant, and retired from the service as Commander in 1865. In 1859 he became a Major in the West Norfolk Militia, and in 1868 was returned to Parliament as Member for the Western Division of his native county. When yet a midshipman in the Navy, and almost as soon as it was possible for him to become a member, he was initiated into Freemasonry. In the year 1859 he joined the "Union" Lodge, No. 52, Norwich, and remained a member till the day of his death. In 1874 he joined Lodge "Walpole," No. 1500, Norwich, as one of its founders. In 1867 he was appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Norfolk, under the late Bro. B. Bond Cabbell, and in 1875 he received his patent as Provincial Grand Master in succession to that distinguished officer, his installation, by Lord Skelmersdale, taking place on the 20th November of the same year. During the whole of his Masonic career, Bro. Walpole worked steadily yet unostentatiously in furtherance of the interests of the Order, and during the eight years of his Deputy Grand Mastership had exercised a beneficial influence in the Province. Hence, on the death of Bro. Cabbell, the brethren in Norfolk were unanimous in their wish for his appointment as Grand Master, a wish which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., most graciously and at once acceded to.

Such, in brief, was the very honourable career of our late brother, who, in the short space of fifty-four years, rendered good service to his sovereign, firstly, as an officer in the Navy, and then as Member of Parliament. As regards Freemasonry, Bro. Walpole had been a member for two and thirty years, and enjoyed the satisfaction of attaining the highest position in his native Province which it was in the power of the M.W.G.M. to bestow. There is, then, this consolation to the sorrowing members of his family, his personal friends, and his brethren in Masonry, that whatever the task Bro. Walpole was called upon to perform, whatever the office he was elected to fill, he did his duty faithfully and well.

The funeral of our late brother, Sir Cordy Burrows, took place at the extramural Cemetery, Brighton, on Saturday. All classes and denominations were represented in the procession, which extended for over a mile in length. Sir Cordy Burrows was highly respected, and there was a universal desire to pay the last sad tribute to his worth. The brethren mustered strongly, to the number of several hundreds, the duty of marshalling them being undertaken by Bro. H. Scott, Prov. G.S. Sussex, assisted by Bros. W. Kuhle G.O. and W. C. Stuckey. Mark Masonry was also in great force, as the deceased held the distinguished rank of Provincial Grand Master of that degree. Many other

brethren, wearing the distinctive emblem of a sprig of acacia, were mingled among the general body, which included also the Mayor and Corporation, and notabilities of the town. When the ceremony was over, the brethren, in passing the grave, throw in their sprigs of acacia, as an expression of their hope and belief that their departed brother had gone to that immortal mansion, where the Great Architect lives and reigns for ever. There were present among the Craftsmen: Bros. W. T. Nell, J. M. Kidd, Eberell, J. Wood, W. Bennett, H. Saunders, J. W. Stride Marchant, W. Smith, Rev. E. Walker, Rev. Dr. O'Brien, Charles Horsley, &c., &c.

It is with extreme regret we announce the somewhat unexpected death, on Wednesday morning, of Bro. Isaac Frankfort, a member for very many years of Joppa Lodge, No. 188. Bro. Frankfort was loved and respected by all the members of his Lodge, and by a numerous circle of Masonic friends. In private life he was equally respected and beloved. Though he never aspired to Lodge honours he was in every sense a true Mason. He was charitable without the slightest ostentation, and was a staunch friend, who never failed most lovingly to fulfil his duty towards his neighbour.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., assisted by his Provincial Grand Officers, will lay the foundation stone of the new Lodge rooms at Havant, on Monday, 10th April. The brethren will assemble at Bro. Locke's rooms, adjoining the railway station, at half-past 1 p.m. The Lodge will be close tyed at 2 o'clock. The ceremony of laying the stone at half-past 2. Return to Lodge at 3.30; and the Lodge will close at 4. A banquet will take place at the Town Hall at 4.30.

The 7th Annual Concert in aid of the funds of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage, took place on Friday, the 31st ult., at St. James's Hall, which was crowded in every part. The Baroness Burdett Coutts and Colonel Henderson were present. Mr. Sims Reeves, who was never in better voice, sang the "Last Rose of Summer," "Tom Bowling," "Farewell, my Trim Built Wherry," and the "Jolly Young Waterman." Bro. Wilford Morgan was well received, and Miss Emily Mott sang with great feeling, and was deservedly encored. Miss Clara Suter and Madame Gips also gave some good songs. Mr. Lewis Thomas introduced a song composed by Mr. W. H. Thomas. Mr. Henry Coe played a selection of Welsh airs on the concertina. The band of the A Division of Police, under the direction of Mr. A. Dickinson, attended, and Sergeant Longman displayed his ability as a cornet player. The conductors were Messrs. Sidney Naylor and W. H. Thomas. This Charity now provides for 160 children, who receive a good education, under the teaching of Mr. Allcock, at the Orphanage at Twickenham.

The Library Committee of the Corporation of London, with their chairman, Mr. Reginald Hanson, dined at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Monday, the 3rd inst. After dinner, Bro. John Symonds, Vice-Patron of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and late chairman of the Library Committee, was presented with a very handsome clock and vases, in recognition of services rendered to the Library Committee, and as a mark of their esteem. Among the guests invited to meet the Committee was the Rev. Dr. Richard Morris, Head Master of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, who, as President of the Philological Society, and Member of Council of the Early English Text Society, was called upon to respond to the toast "The Learned Societies."

At a Count of the Needleworkers' Company, on Thursday, at Guildhall, under the presidency of the Master, Bro. J. C. Parkinson, it was determined to give certain prizes, with a view to assist in the development of the art of needle-making.

At a dinner of the Officers and Clerks Committee, at the London Tavern, on Monday, 27th ult., Bro. Thomas Beard, P.M. 101, was presented with a very valuable demi-hunting watch.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PROV. GRAND LODGE.

ON Tuesday the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire held its annual meeting at Wakefield, under the banner of the Unanimity Lodge, 154, the preliminary Lodge being opened by the W.M. and officers of the Lodge. The meeting was held in the Exchange, and was attended by about 350 brethren, representing 58 out of 61 Lodges in the province, Sir H. Edwards, Bart. Prov. G. Master, presided, and was supported by T. W. Tew, Esq., J.P., Deputy Prov. G.M. and other P. Grand Officers. The brethren gave their customary salutation in a hearty manner. In acknowledging the salute, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master said:—I regard the salutation with which this magnificent assembly of Freemasons has just greeted me as a convincing proof of friendship on your part towards your R.W.G.M., and your reception of me this day expressive of fraternal sympathies fast ripening into a bond of durability. My earnest desire in the position which our Royal Grand Master has called me to occupy amongst you is to inspire the Lodges with that legitimate confidence of unity and sincerity amongst them which alone can contribute strength and Masonic independence of action to this important province of the other provinces of Grand Lodge, and the faithful preservation of our landmarks, ceremonies, privileges and symbolism as Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of England. On account of social circumstances, it is, I hope, acceptable to every one of the Lodges in the province, that our annual meeting is held this day in the 'good old and hospitable town of "Merrie Wakefield," for the invitation that we should assemble here is, I trust, a happy medium between us, and not the less gratifying than the invitations from two such important towns as Huddersfield and Leeds. We meet under the banner of the Unanimity Lodge, No. 154, and on the special invitation of a distinguished brother Mason, the W.M., and in association with the other two Lodges, Wakefield and Sincerity. The interval which has elapsed since our meeting in Leeds has been pregnant of hopeful results for the interests of Freemasonry. This year, like the last, now records the accession of Royalty to an important position in the Craft. The installation of H.R.H. Prince Leopold as Grand Master of the Freemasons of Oxfordshire is an event which has been celebrated with considerable splendour and éclat. The visit of our Royal Grand Master to Her Majesty's Indian Empire, and to the Lodges there is another incident of national importance and Masonic significance. These circumstances are warmly appreciated by the Craft, and cannot but be attended with the happiest results in the conquest of the hearts and affections of the princes and people of Hindostan, and the popularity and prosperity of our Order throughout the world. Bro. Thomas Hill has resigned the chairmanship of the Charity Committee, which since 1872 he has filled with such benefit to the Craft. He was always successful in securing the election of our West Yorkshire candidates. Bro. Tomlinson, of Wakefield, has been elected in his place. My deputy informs me that with but one exception to the ruling of the late Deputy, and to which he has not been able to find a harmonious solution, the Masonic affairs of the province are in a prosperous and satisfactory condition. The Masters of Lodges may be congratulated on the punctual manner in which they have completed and presented their returns to the Provincial Grand Secretary. Two new Lodges have been consecrated, making the roll of Lodges in this province 61. We have 3,027 active members of Lodges, paid for in the annual returns, as against 2,885 in the previous year, being an accession of 142 brethren in West Yorkshire. During the past year the initiations into Freemasonry have been considerable. I hope, therefore, the Worshipful Masters have been careful to make diligent inquiries touching the character and moral fitness of such applicants. 309 new noviciates is a large addition in one year to the Craft, and indicates in a marked manner the high esteem felt for the Order in this province. Brethren, I hope to see upon the increase that source of munificence which pre-eminently stamps the Freemasons as a charitable body, the annual voluntary contributions to our excellent institutions. We have been stigmatized by a Roman Prelate as "merely an eating and drinking society." Let us show to the uninstructed and popular world the utter fallacy of such a statement by ever putting into practice the noble principles of our Order—Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Whatever ecclesiastical opinions may be felt at home, the author of this statement may find in the records of West Yorkshire Freemasonry, so diversified, so interesting, so associated and intertwined with the history of every charitable institution in this province and of benevolent actions, instructive lessons and powerful incentives to the cultivation of patriotism, piety and unselfishness. In the language of my distinguished predecessor, the Marquis of Ripon, let me observe, "In the support we have given to our charitable institutions may be found the proof of what are the principles and the results of the Craft. I earnestly beg of you to reflect that these institutions are the visible proofs which are held up to our fellow-countrymen of the advantage of the spirit by which the Craft in this country is animated, that the spirit of the Craft is to be judged by the fruits which it bears in institutions like these, because these institutions do not rest upon the generosity of the few, but because they are founded upon the broad and staple basis of the general support of the Craft." Permit me to observe, that when I came to examine the annual returns of the Lodge for the selection of eligible brethren to fill the offices in Provincial Grand Lodge, I scarcely ever before approached a duty fraught with so much delicacy, anxiety and difficulty as this one—viz., to choose names for the ensuing year out of a long list of most zealous, able, and energetic Past Masters. I wish to thank the outgoing Prov. Grand Officers for the work they have accomplished, and the support they have accorded my deputy during their term of office, and to assure the incoming officers that there is an abundant promise of work in store for them also. (Applause.)

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master having also acknowledged the hearty reception of the brethren,

Bro. Major Le Gendre Starkie, Prov. Grand Master of East Lancashire, having been saluted by the brethren, replied to the compliment in a few well chosen remarks. The province he presided over, he said, was fast striving to rival in its good deeds that of West Yorkshire. In conclusion, he expressed a hope that the Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire and his Deputy might long live to carry on their work, and that their stars, which now shone bright in the heavens of Masonry, might go on increasing in lustre till they became fixed planets in the Order. (Applause.)

After the routine work of the Lodge had been gone through, the following brethren were appointed and invested as officers for the ensuing year:—

Prov. S.G.W. Bro. W. H. Gill	...	Mayor of Wakefield.
" J.G.W. Bro. I. Booth...	...	Halifax.
" G. Chap. Bro. Rev. J. W. Cassells	...	Batley.
" " Bro. Rev. E. W. Makinson	...	Leeds.
" G. Treas. Bro. R. I. Critchley, J.P.	...	Dewsbury.
" Reg. Bro. J. Ibberson	...	Mirfield.
" Sec. Bro. H. Smith	...	Wakefield.
" S.G.D. Bro. F. Horsley	...	Leeds.
" G.J.D. Bro. Allan Jackson	...	Huddersfield.
" G. Supt. of W. Bro. J. Beauland	...	Bradford.
" Dir. of Cer. Bro. J. J. Rhodes	...	Huddersfield.
" A.D.C. Bro. T. Collinson	...	(139).
" S. Bearer, Bro. J. R. Armitage	...	Bradford.
" Organist, Bro. J. C. Perrott	...	(904).
" Purs. Bro. J. Marshall	...	(1283).
" A. Purs. Bro. Henry Ward	...	(1018).
" Stewards—Bro. E. Walshaw	...	(448).
" " Bro. J. G. Hutchinson	...	(1034).
" " Bro. Summerscales	...	(265).
" " Bro. J. Hirst	...	(337).
" " Bro. J. Simpson	...	(904).
" " Bro. J. F. Moss	...	(296).
" Tyler Bro. J. Leo	...	Huddersfield.
" Asst. Tyler, Bro. J. Shears	...	Batley.

The remaining business of the Lodge having been gone through, the Lodge was closed. A number of the brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet, served at the Bull Hotel, at which Lieut.-Col. Sir H. Edwards presided.

POLLUTING THE BALLOT BOX.

WE have read, that "in the lowest deep there is a deeper still." This may appear paradoxical, but whether it is or is not so, if there be any word more mean than *meanest*, then we wish to apply that epithet to the man claiming to be a Mason and a member of a Lodge who deliberately, wilfully, and with malice prepense, determines to destroy the best interest of his Lodge, by, on every occasion that offers, depositing a black-ball, and for no other or better reason than that a majority of his Lodge would not elect him to office. Every Mason should have a laudable ambition, but that ambition, so far as the gratification of the same, should be governed, not by his own desires but by those of his fellow-members, who, appreciating his worthiness and qualifications, seek to elevate him. To seek office is unmasonic; to vent your spleen because your inordinate vanity is not gratified, by stabbing the character of worthy and unoffending gentlemen who form a favourable opinion of the Masonic institution, and who desire to aid in the extending of its benevolence, is not only more than unmasonic, it is cowardly, dastardly, fiendish, and hellish.

The man calling himself a Freemason, who deposits a black-ball from other than purely Masonic motives, is a *Thug*, and though by the Masonic law his base and iniquitous motives cannot be inquired into, yet, if he is possessed of the least fractional part of what is known as conscience, then must he feel that he has a *hell* within his own breast. He must know and feel that he is a murderer of an innocent and unoffending man's character, a character which for manliness, uprightness, and common honesty, is as far superior to his own as light is to darkness.

Indeed, we do not hesitate to say that the man who would be guilty of violating his covenants as a Mason in the manner we have indicated (and we fear there are more than one in this metropolitan city) would not hesitate to commit a murder were it not for the fear of the gallows. In committing the latter, the greatest of all crimes, though he confessed it not, suspicions, or suspicious circumstances, would place him under at least confinement until it was cleared away, and he would therefore hesitate before rendering himself amenable to the hands of justice; but in committing the former, he, in his coward's heart, knows that neither suspicion or suspicious circumstances can reach him, and though suspected, and he knows that he is suspected, he continues in his infamous career, and shelters himself, coward-like, behind the sanctity of the Masonic ballot-box, to the injury of his Lodge and the stigmatising of the character of men as far above himself as heaven is above earth.

If the days of miracles had not passed away, we should pray that the devil which dwells in the clayey tabernacle of such wretches should by a miracle be cast out, and those features which bear the impress of manhood and manliness should not belie themselves.—*N. Y. Square.*

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Neuralgia.—Those cases which have withstood all other means of treatment will best test the curative powers of these medicaments; they are sure, whatever the condition or duration of the complaint. It is sometimes difficult to determine which of these diseases is afflicting the sufferer, but this ignorance will not matter if Holloway's remedies be used. They alleviate and cure all muscular and nervous pains. In hereditary Rheumatism, after bathing the affected parts with warm salt water, Holloway's Ointment should be well rubbed upon the skin, that it may penetrate and exert its soothing and regulating properties on the deeper vessels and nerves, which are unduly excited, and cause both the pain and swelling.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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GRAND LODGE HONOURS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—“Ecco homo,” or, in plain English, “Behold the man,” He is in our midst. There is not a particle of a mistake about it. All history proves that “with the hour cometh the man.” Then why should the trite saying be falsified in Masonic history. The fires of discontent and disaffection which are supposed to be smouldering beneath the placid, but treacherous surface, will soon be fanned into lurid flame. The first note of the coming tempest was sounded in my former letter. I again feel bound to raise a voice of warning, for the letter of “Enquirer,” which appeared in your pages of 25th March, contains confirmation, strong as “Holy Writ,” that my apprehensions were only too well founded. In it we find openly proclaimed what was until then only vaguely and insiduously indicated. It behoves us, therefore, be on the alert. Protestations of loyalty notwithstanding, our vigilance must not be relaxed. Great captains permit themselves all manner of stratagems to gain an advantage. We have no reason to assume that the great leader of the coming revolution will be less expert in their use. Already a step in advance has been taken. The programme is published. It is the manifesto of the chief. It has probably been read and commented upon by thousands. Why should we hesitate to analyze it? The first portion has reference to my personal self. As a rule I hate egotism, and upon principle like to remain in the back-ground. But I feel so positively grateful to the writer for expressing a fear that by his agency my mental and physical equilibrium has been rudely shaken, that I hasten to re-assure him. He may banish all anxiety about me, and undisturbedly enjoy his night's rest. It may also be gratifying to him to learn that it takes a wonderful deal to “disturb my equanimity.” My peculiar temperament enables me to take part in a discussion, however intensely interesting, with calm and dispassionate deliberation, and to bear with exemplary meekness any amount of abuse an opponent might see fit to heap upon me, always provided it is undeserved. In the present controversy, as well as in all others, personal feelings should be held in abeyance; I endeavour to follow this rule, and confine my observations to combat such arguments as may seem worthy of consideration. “Enquirer” describes me as a “dogmatic critic.” I have never heard that dogmatism is sinful, or even a breach of propriety. I can, however, conscientiously say, which some that I could name cannot, that if my opinions are flavoured with dogmatism, they have at least the merit of being unbiassed by any hope of gratifying personal vanity or latent ambition. And if such views as I happen to entertain upon this or any other subject are not acceptable to “Enquirer,” and those who think with him, I shall be perfectly contented if I secure the approbation of those whose fairness, impartiality and good sense are universally known and beyond question. Personal matters are of course uninteresting; we will, therefore, drop them, and proceed to the next point, which must certainly be regarded as of the highest importance to mankind in general. In somewhat bombastic language the world is given to understand that “Enquirer” is stoutly resolved to “hold fast the Englishman's privilege of freedom of speech.” Let us sing Hallelujah, and rejoice in the fact. But as I am unaware of any one ever having attempted to deprive him of his undoubted right, the pompous outburst seems gratuitous. Yet, while loudly claiming the privilege for himself, he furnishes proof that had he the power, he would deny it to others. As, for instance, the views expressed in my last letter, he designates “a string of invectives,” and declares that he “refuses to have my opinions thrust down his throat,” as he elegantly and classically phrases it. It is, however, vastly amusing to note the extreme caution with which he exercises the much vaunted privilege securely under cover of the safe and convenient shelter of a *nom de plume*. Unfortunately, I labour under the disadvantage of being a foreigner, yet do I most highly value and appreciate the great boon of freedom of utterance, written or verbal. But, in common with all peace-loving men, I would rejoice in its restriction, or even total suppression, were it generally used at the expense of honesty and truth. Liberty of speech, degenerating into licence becomes a curse, especially when employed in unjust and unfair criticism, or taken advantage of for the purpose of garbelling or misconstruing the statements of an opponent. These truisms are in no way intended for personal application. Until the contrary is proved, we are bound to suppose every one actuated by the worthiest of motives. I should be very sorry even to hint that, with “malice aforethought,” my opponent has treated my remarks with wilful and intentional dishonesty, yet how am I to account for the fact that not one of my statements is fairly represented, and plain and obvious meanings so misconstrued, twisted and perverted, as to obliterate all resemblance to the original. I will charitably ascribe it to misconception on his part. I am prompted to do so, not only from benevolent motives, but from the consideration of his notions of refinement. A gentleman “who is able to dance, and has the grace to lisp sweet nothings to brainless young ladies,” he conceives to be endowed with the tastes, habits and usages of refined society! Is it credible, a man possessing more than average intelligence, unless his mind has suddenly become unhinged, or in moments of mental abstraction, can seriously entertain an idea so preposterous, or honestly maintain that that was the meaning it was intended to convey. Perhaps the writer meant to be jocular when penning that

part of his letter. He next volunteers the unnecessary information that he did not seek to oppose the re-election of H.K.H. Whoever said he did? Consistently with the principles he advocates he ought to have done so. It is to that end they naturally and inevitably tend. If, as he asserts, as Masons we are all equal, in the sense he wishes us to understand the term, then I maintain Bro. Growler has as good a right to the Grand Mastership as the Prince, for where is the line to be drawn? The last part of this extraordinary document contains the programme. In the view of the coming liberator the Grand Lodge, as at present constituted, is an oligarchy, which he thinks it his mission to destroy. To do this effectually he must secure the dethronement of the present Ruler, he being the Chief Oligarch. We are further informed of his determination to form a healthy (?) public opinion amongst the members of Grand Lodge, and make them shake off their indifference or apathy (which you prefer, my Masters) to enable him to achieve his purpose. He promises to try to emulate the zeal and earnestness of Peter the Hermit (he, being only half fledged, modestly refuses to be called by that name as yet) in preaching a crusade against the, to him, so obnoxious oligarchy, by and bye. Then let the Grand Lodge shake in its shoes, for its days will be numbered. The restorers of our newly regained liberties will sing “Tommy make room for your Uncle,” and the despotic oligarchs who so long and tenaciously have kept their grinding heels upon our slavish necks will have to evaporate. A few words more and I have done. In many respects the principles of Freemasonry are democratic, but not in the sense Red Republicans or Communists understand it. Our traditions show the chiefs to have always been selected from the highest in the land. The first Grand Lodge was presided over by three of the greatest men in Israel, the second, from which, be it observed, we are taught to believe is derived our present system of government, by two kings, and one who was “of living men best dowered of Heaven,” the third by a prince, a prophet, and a high priest. Would it be wise, prudent or politic, to discard an inheritance whose value has stood the test of ages, for an innovation, the merits of which, to put it mildly, are at least problematical. In the outer world, republicanism has of late cut but a sorry figure. Jobbery, speculation, dishonesty in every shape, and all manner of odious and disgusting vices have been dominant amongst men who attained high positions in the state upon the principle of perfect equality, which “Enquirer” so strongly advocates, and promises to do his best to establish. Honest men are not likely to be charmed with a system which can produce no better results, and Masons will scarcely be induced to accept it in exchange for their ancient landmarks and time-honoured traditions.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

CENTENARY LODGES.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR BRO.—I notice that Bro. Spencer intends publishing a history of the Lodges under the Grand Lodge of England. Such a work is much wanted, and would, in my opinion, be as acceptable to our foreign brethren as to the Craft at home.

I write (of course, with all due deference to Bro. Spencer's views) to suggest the publication, in the columns of your readable paper, of a list of all the Lodges entitled to a centenary jewel, according to the designs submitted for the approval of the M.W.G.M. prior to the new regulations requiring all the members of centenary Lodges (since 1866) to wear a jewel of a uniform pattern, issued by the Grand Lodge of England, and not to be obtained elsewhere. Such a list would prove most valuable and interesting, as also one affording information as to all special jewels allowed to be worn by the members of certain Lodges.

Yours fraternally,

S. C.

Those who may have cast a glance at our advertisement columns last week must have noticed, in the announcement of the business that will be submitted to the Quarterly General Court of the Girls' School to-day, a notice of motion by Bro. Kenyon, to the effect that a Committee of five Governors be appointed to inspect certain freehold lands at divers places near London, with a view to the erection of enlarged school premises thereon. However, only four names appear in the advertisement, namely:—those of Lieut.-Colonel Burdett, Dudley Rolls Esq., Dr. Ramsay, and R. Kenyon, Esq. Lieut.-Colonel Oration's name was originally included, but without his sanction, and, as soon as he heard this, he gave peremptory instructions for its withdrawal. Hence the apparent anomaly of a Committee of five, consisting of four members only. Since then Lieut.-Colonel Burdett has written, to the effect that his name likewise has been used without his sanction, and that he, too, declines to act upon the Committee. Of course, Bro. Kenyon may be in a position to explain his monstrous presumption in using, without their sanction, the names of two gentlemen, of whom one at least, we know, is committed to a particular proposition re the enlargement of the Girls' School. But the foregoing information is perfectly trustworthy, and, knowing this, we consider comment on Bro. Kenyon's conduct superfluous.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the
Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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My Circular Notes. Extracts from Journals, Letters sent Home, Geological, and other Notes, written while travelling westwards round the World, from 6th July 1874, to 6th July 1875. By J. F. CAMPBELL, Author of "Frost and Fire." In two volumes. London: Macmillan and Co. 1876.

THERE is no class of literature so universally popular, so fascinating, as that which treats of foreign peoples and the countries they inhabit. Individually, we may be regular stay-at-homes, too lazy, or too incurious to learn, by personal experience, the habits and customs of other nations, and the scenic beauties or wonders for which the lands they dwell in are notorious. Yet, none the less do we care to gain our information second hand. The records of travel are a never failing source of delight. They tell us what other people are like, what they do, what are their peculiar customs, what the country they live in is like and what it produces, and what is their previous history. Hence it is that, nowadays, we are almost overwhelmed with narratives of journeys to this or that country. Many even of those who mostly spend their holiday abroad, consider their task incomplete if they do not take the whole world into their confidence. They suffer from *cacoëthes scribendi*, and recount their doings with a minuteness that is simply painful. And as the facilities for travel increase, as countries less easily accessible are brought, so to speak, nearer to us, it is probable the number of these bookmakers, who can tell us little we do not know already, will increase likewise. Mr. Campbell's "Circular Notes," however, are a book of quite another character. True, he set out to spend a year's holiday in journeying round the world. True, he visited countries which are not entirely new to Britons, and, of necessity, saw much which other Britons had seen before; but he saw and noted much that is new and interesting, much that the ordinary traveller for pleasure would never have troubled himself about. The result is that *My Circular Notes* are most entertaining. There is hardly a page in which does not occur some useful piece of information, and the style of the narrative is, from beginning to end, the most charming it is possible to conceive. The notes are composed partly of letters to relations and friends, partly of a log or journal, and to supplement the whole is a very valuable Geological paper on the "Period of Polar Glaciation," in the writing and revision of which Mr. Campbell spared no pains.

At the very outset, at pp. 10 and 11, on board the *Batavia*, en route for the United States, we get a wrinkle. Says Mr. Campbell, "he (the Captain of the *Batavia*) holds that weather prognostics might be made by telegraphs from Boston and Newfoundland; together with the logs of steamers running westwards, telegraphed from Queenstown to head quarters. In America, they telegraph western weather to the east coast, and find that tracts of weather move northwards and eastwards. That is reasonable and probable. It is true experimentally. Our system is to tell people what the weather was; which does not help to prepare them for the morrow." The journey across the Atlantic passes without adventure of any kind, but Mr. Campbell enjoys it, and carefully notes, in his quaint way, whatever is amusing and demands observation. The story of an artichoke, as told him by a "jolly old man," is worth repeating.

"Me and Joe, and my wife and his, was dining in Paris; and Joe, he ordered an artichoke. 'What's that?' I said. 'It's an artichoke,' said he, 'will you take some?' 'No,' says I, 'Mother told me to be sure to eat artichokes; I'll have one for myself.' So when it came, we looked at each other, for we was green. We didn't know which end of the animal to attack. So first we began at the hard end, and that pricked our mouths; and we didn't think much of artichokes. 'That can't be right,' says Joe. So we began at the other end, and scraped out the middle and ate that. 'My,' said the wife, 'I was that ill, that I had to leave the table. It's all prickles and hairs, and they stuck in my throat.' Well, we did not think anything at all of artichokes that time, but next time, we got a man that knew how to fix it, and then we liked them well enough, I guess. Yes, Sir, that's so!"

Our traveller lands at Boston, finds the heat excessive, goes to a spiritual séance, and is puzzled whether the lady medium is crazy or a rogue, and soon after sets out by rail for Niagara. The drawing room car in which he travels is described as "a long lofty room, set on four pairs of wheels, of which two pair are on a boggy at each end, consequently the long beams take off all jar and rattle. All down the sides are velvet-covered chairs, with spring seats, each on a bronze pillar turning any way. The sash windows are large plate glass affairs, into which, when open, an attendant nigger fits wire blinds to keep out the dust. Green sun blinds draw down, so there we sit at ease, each in his own arm chair, and look at the country as we whirl along at great speed." Then "those who want to smoke find a cabin in the fore part of the car, those who want to drink find iced water, and those who want to wash their dusty faces and 'slick their hair down,' can do that to their hearts content." Well may Mr. Campbell remark, "Truly the Yankees know how to travel by rail." Landed at his hotel, the writer indulges in a variety of reflections on waiters. He mentions an Irishman who, when left to himself, always brought potatoes; even when asked once for a soup, "he brought me goose and potatoes." As to the niggers, "the olive-green ones sell books and papers, the refined men wait at table, the blackest black boots and brush coats, and bear burdens. But no amount of dilution seems to make a black white enough to keep an hotel, or own a shop, or do anything that an Aryan does. I am quite sure that no African will ever run an Emma mine, or an Erie ring. But the potato man may in time, for he has brains to be educated, while darky's head is like that of the Neanderthal man who was like a monkey." The

Niagara Falls have been often enough described, but the following is so excellent that we make no apology for transcribing it.

"Nothing can give the faintest idea of the beauty of these falls. The water is a sort of Prussian-blue emerald green colour where it is clear of air bubbles, and deep. Where it comes over the Horseshoe it is like nothing else in the world. It is a great green waving water curtain, edged with dark purple, where the red rock edge is seen through falling water four or five feet deep at least. Nearer and thinner and more broken, a promontory of falling water tells warm purple against the green Horseshoe gulf. Great stones below glimmer through the spray, and change from black to purple, and pale blue, and vanish as the clouds of spray go and come. Dark green and warm purple waves below fade into the cloud like the stones. The white Canadian fall shines white through the cloud-like silver gauze, while the cloud itself changes like a dim rainbow of purple and green, and blue and yellow. Last night the setting sun lit up a great orange cloud behind the dark bank of trees in Canada, and the contrast made the falls like liquid jewels. I sketched, but Turner could not have imitated this. I defy all painters to copy Niagara."

Then he sets out for Chicago, travelling the greater part of the way in a Pullman's car, the comforts of which are fully described. The seats and roof are so constructed, as to form comfortable beds for the passengers to sleep in. A capital dinner is to be had aboard, and as the cars are long and springy, and because they are exceedingly well made, the motion is utterly unlike railway motion in England. There is no side-long rattle and roll, no jar and little noise. With an easy swinging, see-saw movement on I went, feet foremost, sleeping as if I were at home in my own bed." At Chicago Mr. Campbell becomes reflective again, and passes sundry comments on emigrants, and the several varieties of the genus Republican, among the latter of which the Red variety is not spoken of in the warmest terms. Thence he sets out for Cheyenne, on his road to San Francisco. At the Missouri he sees his first Indians; at Fremont, again Indians, and again at Grand Island, where he sees their camp and manages to make a sketch of one of them. He is advised by a fellow traveller not to stop at Cheyenne, "all the men are murderers and thieves; you will have your throat cut and lose your money." He stops all the same, and has neither his throat nor purse cut. At Colorado Springs, a difficulty occurs between two rival drivers, of whom one is "slender and vicious," the other "a big, bluff, bull-headed, prize fighting sort of man in boots and shirt sleeves, who had been a captain." The former is full of pluck, but gets his knob in chancery and his claret tapped, and has his face reduced "to the condition of a beef-steak well beaten." The fight was a fair stand-up one, though the smaller man yelled for a knife. At Salt Lake City he meets with people of every nationality. "Boots is from Yorkshire, another is from Nottingham. Half the wives are from Wales. The master has three, and Brigham Young has fifty." He is introduced to a Professor Barfoot, who came to Salt Lake City and turned geologist and "bug collector," or naturalist and chemist. Mr. Campbell thus describes him and his geological views, and his collection of curios:—

"According to him the geology of the country has not been ascertained, but these rocks are lower carboniferous. Their dip has nothing to do with the lake basin. He has failed to discover bromine or iodine in Salt Lake. He finds 1.5 by weight of chloride of sodium (common salt). He does not believe the lake to be part of an old sea, and attributes the saltiness to beds of rock-salt to the south. He has specimens very pure and compact. But where did these beds come from unless they came from an old sea? He has bones and teeth of Falconer's *Elephas Americanus* from drift. He has samples of ore from Emma, Comstock, and other famous lodes. From much talk with him and with others, I gathered that many people here know that the Emma mine could not possibly stand the price paid for it in England. He has malachite with gold in the green. The green mines of England have been more successfully worked by the 'cute tribes of this mining region. He has large garnets, and a few coal formation fossils. He has a 'live' prairie dog, a little owl, and a 'couple of rattlesnakes, tribes who dwell together in social communities, eat and are eaten. He has a scorpion in a seidlitz powder box, Tarantulas and their nest. Even the Tarantulas fear the enmity of a certain dragon-fly which preys on them so, they make a house with a hinged door and holds for their claws. When the enemy comes to the castle, they shut the door and hold on by the lock. He has Indian gear, a scalp or two, which indicate the habits of modern warfare, some crania, some parrots, photographs, and petrifications from springs. These he calls 'Tuffa.' He has deposits on wood, wood half turned to silica, the rest still combustible, and wood-opal entirely petrified. He is a learned man, and I was glad to give him a letter to the British Museum."

Further west, travelling can hardly be very agreeable, certainly not in the estimation of those who must have help everywhere. "Every one for himself," we are told, "is the rule of life; men will not answer questions or lend a hand to anybody." They work hard and well, and earn dollars, "but any sign of decent civility I have not seen off the cars for a long time, unless I happen on a poor Paddy." The traveller, however, will meet with not a few novelties. Thus, "as we steamed into Virginia City, the passengers amused themselves by firing revolvers at the telegraph posts. It was a hot fire for a mile." Mr. Campbell did not care about staying here, so he moved on by rail to Carson City. The line of rail he describes as a wonderful work; "it curls and winds about the hill sides, in and out of V-shaped hollows, which show the geological structure. As I sat, the engine and train curled before me like a snake, and wriggled to balance itself. Sometimes the engine disappeared round a corner, and all the way it was dangerous to look at. As emblem of place and people, I drew a boy, who sat in the brake of the gold train, like a mast-headed midshipman, while another bold reckless being sat on the buffer of the engine, swinging his legs over the edge of the track in front of the wheels. That is young America going ahead in the far west. Energetic, headless, reckless." At Summit, our traveller is neatly sold. He reads on a sheet of sacking, hung over a cage, "A MAMMOTH RED BAT!! CAPTURED AFTER A THREE DAYS' SIEGE, IN

HELL CANON." On raising the sheet, he is greeted with a roar of laughter. "In the corner lay a red brick-bat."

Driving in California must be anything but pleasant to judge from the following:—"My wigs and old bones, that's (the driving) something new. A man drives fine from the box on a road as wide as his three leaders, and full of stones; up you go through the forest, and when the top of a hill is reached, down you go full tilt, round corners, in and out, bump, with an angle of 32°, and rocks and trees on one side or the other, or on both above and below the road. At last you get to the edge of a cliff, and over you go, down a road of the steepest practicable gradient, with cliffs on each side, above and below, and no fences, and very sharp angular stones at the bottom. The Gemmi pass, in Switzerland, is a road of this kind, and there men prefer walking. The worst road that I ever drove a carriage on in Norway is less dangerous, and here a nigger drove five-in-hand rapidly, and frightened me horribly for two days."

Not long after, Mr. Campbell finds his way to the Mariposa grove, and among the big trees he mentions one that was 94 feet round, and 234 to the broken top; another was 75 round, and 105 to the first limb. Others were 300 feet high. Another he rode through. As to the fertility of the soil, we read—"Fruit, grapes, peaches, pears, plums, and all manner of things that you grow painfully, grow here in marvellous abundance. I saw an old Irishman at the street corner in caubeen and frieze, with unbuttoned knees and a dudgeon, selling his own grapes, grown in his own garden. His stall, at Covent Garden, would have been worth about ten pounds, I reckon. He was asking our price for street apples." But cheap as fruit is, and large as are the labourers' earnings, they have to pay heavily for clothes and shoes, &c.

Quitting California, the writer turns his steps towards, or rather takes ship for, Columbia, the climate of which, in the neighbourhood of Victoria, is described as perfection. "Victoria," he tells us, is the chicken of a great town. But meanwhile it is in a shell made of wood. The future of it depends on the making of railways, and the interests of Canada and Victoria seem to clash. Both sides want the commerce of the interior to pass their ports, and meantime Quebec has the gate of Northern America. This side is not settled up, and it will be a long time before it is. They are trying the gold bait, but it won't do." From Columbia, he returns overland to California, meeting with every variety of people on the road, amusing himself, philosophising, &c., &c. A further experience of the stage is not more agreeable than that we have already quoted. The stage is "a square tray with little stuffing, a back seat and a fore seat, and a seat in the middle with a strap for back. There are no springs. The body is hung on leathern straps, and these are made fast to a frame on four strong cart wheels. Luggage goes on a hind boot and a front boot. One passenger sits on the box by the driver. He drives six horses from the box, and manages the brake with his foot. They carry mails, and make about six miles an hour. The road is not much wider than the coach; it is formed, not made." That it must be very hard work to sit in this stage may be well imagined. Says Mr. Campbell, "I got my head down on a bag, and my feet curled up, and I managed to sleep now and then, but my hat was crushed, and my old body was tossed up and let down with a bang at short intervals all night long. At odd times we crossed the trail of a skunk, and smelt the brute. At dawn I sat up, and all day held on by my hands, and exerted my strength in saving my spine." Returning to San Francisco, the writer has more to tell us, in his genial fashion, of the people and the city, the sea-lions and seals that disport themselves on "a rock outside the Golden Gate, opposite a bar-room and hotel called Cliff House." He visits, too, an opium den, and other choice resorts of the inhabitants, and having thus visited to his heart's content, he takes a berth aboard the "Great Republic," bound for Yokohama. Here, for the present, we must leave him, reserving for the next issue, our notice of his Japanese and other experiences.

(To be continued.)

Poems of the Month: By M. A. Baines. The etchings by Wilhelmina Baines. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle and Rivington, Crown-buildings, Fleet-street.

THESE poems first appeared in different periodicals, and as we have already stated our opinion upon their merits, we may content ourselves with expressing the pleasure we experience at finding them collected together and published in one volume. The etchings, which are done by what is known as the heliotype process, are manifestly the work of a true artist. In fact, poems and etchings are alike worthy of each other, and together make a very ornamental volume, which well deserves a place of honour on the drawing room or boudoir table.

'Tis our Duty to Help one Another. A new Masonic song. Words and music by Bro. James Batchelder (Manchester).

THIS song, which is dedicated to Bro. Lieut.-Col. Le G. N. Starkie, Provincial Grand Master East Lancashire, is not without merit. Here and there the lines halt somewhat, but, on the whole, it is superior to the average run of Masonic songs. The music is simple, and being such, will, doubtless, find favour among brethren who happen to have tune enough in them to acquire a simple melody. It is not, however, a lively measure, its merit lying chiefly in the wholesome Masonic sentiments to which the poet has striven to give expression.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14 per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 14d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

READING.—UNITED MEETING OF THE TWO LODGES.

ON Wednesday, 29th March, the members of the two Reading Lodges—Union 414, and Grey Friars 1101—assembled, at a Joint Lodge of Emergency, for Masonic business, and the presentation of a Jewel by the R.W. P.G.M. of Berks and Bucks, Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., to Bro. W. W. Moxhay P.M. 414, Hon. Mem. 1101, Prov. G.S.W. Berks and Bucks, Installing Master of the two Lodges.

The W.M. of 1101 took the chair, and opened the Lodge; the W.M. of 414 occupying the chair of I.P.M. The ceremony of initiating Mr. Henry Creed was proceeded with, after which the gavel was handed to the W.M. of 414, who opened the Lodge in the 2nd degree, and announced that Bro. F. W. Albury was a candidate to be raised to the sublime degree of M.M. That brother having very satisfactorily answered the usual questions, retired to be prepared; when the Lodge was opened in the 3rd degree, and Bro. Albury was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. in a correct and efficient manner. The Lodge was resumed in the 2nd and 1st degrees, when it was announced that the R.W. P.G.M. was in the adjoining room waiting admission, upon which a procession of Prov. Grand Officers past and present, preceded by the Stewards, and under the guidance of the Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies, the R.W. P.G.M. entered the Lodge amid the acclamations of the brethren, and took his seat at the right of the W.M., who tendered his gavel and was requested to retain it. The Prov. G.D.C. called upon the brethren to salute the P.G.M., which was correctly done and appropriately responded to. The gavel was then handed to the P.G.M., who took the chair amidst hearty cheers, and called upon Bro. Moxhay to receive the testimonial which had been voted by the two Lodges. In offering the jewel to Bro. Moxhay, Sir Daniel said the brethren desired to show their regard for him as a Mason, as a friend, and as a citizen; one of the greatest and purest kinds of happiness which any man could enjoy was in recollecting that he had won the esteem and the affection of those who knew him. Compared with this, the enjoyments derived from rank and wealth were but little. It was Bro. Moxhay's good fortune to be able to reflect that he enjoyed the friendship, and had won the esteem, of the numerous and important body on whose behalf he had been requested to make the presentation. Sir Daniel then invested Bro. Moxhay with the jewel, amidst loud and continued cheering.

Bro. Moxhay, who appeared deeply affected, in returning thanks, spoke of the love and reverence which he felt for the principles of Freemasonry; whilst those principles were of the highest kind, there was an utter absence of anything approaching narrowness or sectarianism. He believed that Freemasonry tended to bind people together in a bond of love and charity. He alluded to the great kindness which had been shown to him by the members of both Lodges, and he thanked them for the handsome present which they had given him. The Prov. G.D.C. called upon the brethren to salute Bro. Moxhay, which was correctly and heartily done. The Lodge was closed by the Prov. G.M., and the brethren adjourned to the George Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided by Mrs. Pontin. The chair was taken by Sir Daniel Gooch, and upwards of fifty brethren sat down; the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to; the evening was enlivened by some admirable singing, making altogether one of the most pleasant reunions recollected in Reading. Among the brethren who attended Lodge and banquet, were the following: Sir Daniel Gooch Bart., M.P., P.G.M. Berks and Bucks, Hon. Member of the two Lodges, W. T. Mercer P.G.M. China 414, A. M. Yetts W.M. 414, G. Botly P.M. 414, W. W. Moxhay P.M. 414, Prov. G.S.W. Berks and Bucks, J. T. Blowers P.M. 414, Chas. Smith P.M. 414, W. Biggs P.G. Secretary Berks and Bucks, Hon. Member of the two Lodges, J. T. Freeman W.M. 1101, P.G.S. Berks and Bucks, E. Margrett S.W. 1101, S. A. Pocock S.W. 414, G. Slingsby Stallwood 414 and W.M. 558, C. Stephens I.G. 414, S. Bradley J.D. 414, M. J. Withers 414, Harry Ayres 414, C. G. Butler 414, A. Welch J.W. 1101, J. T. Stransom Treasurer 1101, W. P. Ivey P.M. Secretary 1101, W. G. Flanagan S.D. 1101, R. Dowsett Organist 1101, J. E. Danks I.G. 1101, W. Ferguson and T. Newman Stewards 1101, J. Egginton P.M. 1101, R. C. Hurley P.M. 1101, J. T. Brown P.M. 1101, J. Weightman P.M. 414 and 1101, W. A. Hukins 1101, J. W. St. John Hunt 1101, T. J. Cottrell 1101, W. J. Browne 1101, E. J. Blackwell 1101, J. H. Hawkes 1101, J. Robinson 1101, T. Simonds 1101, F. W. White 1101, H. Creed 1101, R. C. Mount 414 and J.W. 1328, &c.

Lilly of the Valley Conclave, No. 127, of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.

—This body met in the Masonic Hall, Holytown, on Saturday, 1st April. The M.P.S. Sir Knight H. J. Shields, 33°, presiding, assisted by Sir Knight G. W. Wheeler M.P.S. 114, Glasgow, and Wm. McMurdo V.E., D. Baker S.G., H. Dyer J.G., John McMurdo Recorder, J. Alexander and A. Reid. There were two applicants for admission, Comps. Nimmo and Menzies, who were duly admitted and created Knights of the Order. A Sanctuary of K.H.S. was then opened by the same officer, when the two gentlemen, along with Sir Knight Alexander, were admitted and instructed in its mysteries. A Commandery of St. John the Evangelist was then formed, and the same three gentlemen were duly dubbed Knights of that Order, in a very impressive manner by Sir Knight Shields, the M.E. Commander. The Commandery and Conclave were then closed after their protracted labour.

Robert Burns Royal Arch Chapter, Holytown.—This Chapter held its regular monthly meeting on the 1st April, H. J. Shields presiding as Z., Wm. McMurdo P.Z., D. Baker H., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 acting as J., John McMurdo S.E., Nimmo S.N., Menzies 1st S., C. Meak 2nd S., McCarthy 3rd S., R. Reid Janitor. The bye-laws committee brought up their report, which, after discussion, was passed, and two candidates were proposed for the next regular meeting.

INSTALLATION OF H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,

Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously
pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

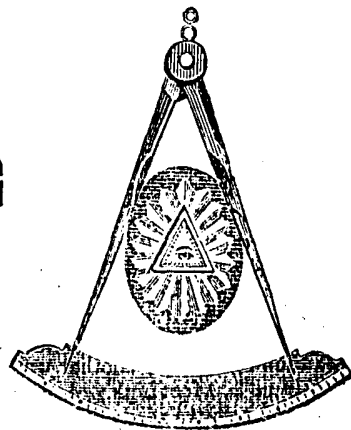
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OF THE

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IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By BRO. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.W. No. 1201.



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OFFICE: 6 Freeman's Hall, W.C.

PATRON.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY General Court of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Monday, the 10th day of April 1876, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution:—

To elect a Treasurer for the ensuing year.

To elect twelve brethren as members of the General Committee, to represent the life and annual subscribers.

To declare two additional vacancies, caused by the withdrawal of two boys since 1st July last.

To consider a recommendation from the General Committee that five additional boys be elected at this Court, and in the event of such recommendation being adopted, to elect sixteen instead of nine boys, as stated on the voting papers, from fifty-nine approved candidates, in the list of whom note the following alterations:—

No. 19. Keddell, Robert Walter, both parents deceased.

" 34. Price, Alfred Higham, deceased.

" 36. Shury, Solomon Hiram, Father is a Life Subscriber of the Institution.

" 41. Cade, Richard Henry, withdrawn.

" 55. Beck, first name should be William and not "David Davidson."

To authorise the payment of £2,000, purchase money of the Freehold of "Kent House," with land required as a sanatorium.

To consider the following notices of motion; by F. W. H. Ramsay, Esq., M.D., "That every three years the four senior members of the House Committee retire, but shall be eligible for re-election, and the four who have been least frequent in attendance shall retire annually, and be ineligible for re-election for a space of twelve months."

By V. W. Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G. Chaplain and P. Pro. G.W. West Yorkshire, "That having in view recent imputations cast on the administration of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, this Court deems it to be its duty to express its unabated confidence in the House Committee and executive."

The chair will be taken at twelve o'clock at noon precisely. The ballot for the election of Boys will commence at one o'clock, or so soon as the general business of the Court shall have been finished, and terminate at three o'clock.

By order,

FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

1st April 1876.

* * The SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held on Wednesday, 28th June 1876, the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, R.W. Prov. G. Master of Warwickshire, in the chair. The names of brethren willing to represent Lodges or Provinces as Stewards are earnestly solicited. All information may be obtained as above.

APRIL AND MAY ELECTIONS.

BRETHREN wishing to Exchange Votes, Boys for Girls, or Men for Widows, can send offers to

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OR

Bro. CHARLES GODTSCHALK, 107 Devonshire Road, Seven Sisters' Road, London, N.

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THE NEXT ELECTION OF MEMBERS will be held on 17th April, after which date it is anticipated that it will be necessary to impose an Entrance Fee, and raise the Annual Subscriptions—upwards of 500 Brethren having already joined.

FORMS FOR APPLICATION for Membership may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Offices of the LONDON MASONIC CLUB COMPANY LIMITED, 37 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

JOHN A. LATHBURY, Secretary.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—This evening, MARTHA. On Monday, L'AFRICAIN. On Tuesday, MARTHA. On Thursday, FRA DIAVOLO. On Saturday, LA TRAVIATA. Each evening at 8.30.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, A CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT. At 8.15, MEASURE FOR MEASURE.

LYCEUM.—At 7.0, THE RENDEZVOUS. At 7.45, OTHELLO. On Tuesday, QUEEN MARY.

ADELPHI.—At 7.0, VANDYKE BROWN. At 7.45, PEEP O' DAY, and MY OWN GHOST. (Last night.)

PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, THE WHITE HAT. At 8.0, RIP VAN WINKLE, and HEAD OF A CLAN.

STRAND.—At 7.0, TWO TO ONE. At 7.40, A LESSON IN LOVE. At 9.30, CRACKED HEADS, and THE RIVAL OTHELLOS. (Last night.)

GAIETY.—At 7.15, OPERETTA. At 8.15, WIG AND CROWN. At 10.15, A SPELLING BEE.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, FASCINATING FELLOWS. At 7.45, THE GASCON. At 10.30, 'Twas I.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.30, QUITE BY ACCIDENT. At 8.15, MASKS AND FACES. (Last night.) On Thursday, WRINKLES.

GLOBE.—At 7.30, THE TAILOR MAKES THE MAN. At 8.15, JO. (Thursday next last night.)

VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG. At 8.0, OUR BOYS AND A FEARFUL FOG.

COURT.—At 8.0, A SCRAP OF PAPER, and A QUIET RUBBER.

ST. JAMES'S.—At 7.30, REAL AND IDEAL. At 8.30, ALL FOR HER. (Last night.)

ROYALTY.—At 7.30, MARRIED BACHELORS. At 8.15, POM.

DUKE'S.—At 7.30, THE POOR GENTLEMAN. At 10.0, ON THE RINK. On Monday, SAM HAGUE'S MINSTRELS.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.15, A HORNET'S NEST. At 8.0, TRIAL BY JURY. At 8.45, MADAME ANGOT.

CRITERION.—At 7.30, PAUL PRY, and at 9.0, PIFF-PAFF.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.15, A QUIET FAMILY. At 8.0, DON JUAN, &c.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, &c. On Monday, SPRING TROTTER MEETING. On Tuesday, THE COLLEEN BAWN. On Friday, GRAND SACRED MUSICAL FESTIVAL. Open Daily, SKATING RINK, &c.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT, &c. On Friday, GRAND SACRED CONCERT. Open daily, AQUARIUM, SKATING RINK, &c.

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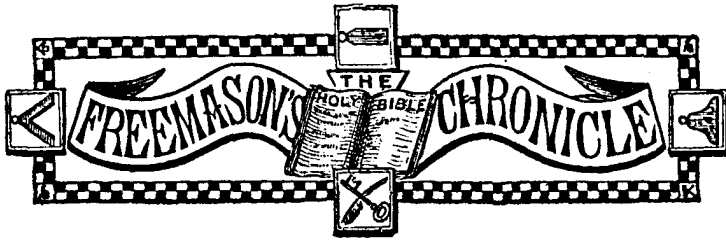
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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

IN the House of Lords on Friday, after a brief discussion relative to the production of certain documents received some time since by the Secretary of State for India, their Lordships went into Committee on the University of Oxford Bill, but not till the Duke of Devonshire and other Noble Lords had expressed opinions on matters more or less directly associated with the aim and purpose of the measure. An amendment to clause 14, proposed by Earl Granville, to the effect, that when proper provision had been made for religious instruction and worship, all emoluments or offices should be conferred according to present merit and fitness, without any religious tests, was defeated by 55 to 44. On the motion of the Duke of Somerset, progress was then resumed. On Monday, every part of the House was crowded, as Lord Shaftesbury was to move a resolution on the motion to go into Committee on the Royal Titles Bill, to the effect that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty praying her to assume a title more in accordance with the feelings of the nation than that of Empress of India. The debate which followed was long and interesting, the Lord Chancellor, Lords Selborne, Middleton and Sandhurst, and the Earls of Feversham and Harrowby taking part in it. On a division, the Earl of Shaftesbury's motion was lost by 137 to 91. On Tuesday, the second reading of the Irish Peerage Bill was moved by Lord Inchiquin, and agreed to. On Thursday, the second reading of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Ireland) Bill was agreed to. Their Lordships then went into Committee on the University of Oxford Bill, and on clauses 16 to 45 being passed, the Chairman was ordered to report the Bill.

When the usual array of questions had been disposed of on Friday, the House of Commons settled down to listen to the debate on Sir T. Chambers's motion respecting Monastic and Conventual Institutions, the purpose of the honourable and learned gentleman being to obtain a parliamentary inquiry into the number, character, relation to law, &c., &c. Mr. Shaw moved the rejection of the motion, which received support from Sir J. Kennaway, Mr. Newdegate, and others, while Mr. O'Reilly, Dr. O'Leary, Mr. Sullivan, &c., &c. opposed. Lord J. Manners suggested the withdrawal of the motion, but this was not acceded to, and, a division following, Sir T. Chambers lost the day by 127 by 87. Certain amendments to the Mutiny and Marine Mutiny Bills were agreed to; the Cattle Diseases (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee. The Committee of inquiry on the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was nominated, and the Chancellor of Exchequer announced that the Khedive had sent a telegram requesting that Mr. Cave's Report on the Financial condition of Egypt be at once and without reservation presented to Parliament. The House cheered this announcement and then adjourned. On Monday, after some preliminary business, the House went into Committee of Ways and Means, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer delivered his Budget speech, the main points in which were these: The Estimated Revenue for the past year was greatly exceeded. The estimated expenditure for the current year would show a considerable increase, owing to the necessity for increased expenditure in connection with the Army, Navy, and Civil Service, and this increase would not be met by a corresponding increase of Revenue. Therefore, the Chancellor proposed to charge an increased penny for the Income Tax, at the same time relieving all those persons the smallness of whose incomes entitled them to consideration. Thus all incomes under £150, instead of £100, were to be exempt, while instead of granting relief to the extent of £30 on incomes ranging from £100 to £300, there would be no charge on £120 in the case of incomes ranging from £150 to 140. Mr. Dodson, Mr. Hubbard, and other members having addressed the Committee, progress was reported, and the House resumed, but only to go into Committee on the

Merchant Shipping Bill. Sundry amendments to clause 5 were proposed, some being rejected, while others were acceded to. When the 6th clause was reached, progress was reported. On Monday Mr. Sullivan moved a resolution on the subject of Irish Whisky, but was defeated. A motion by Sir J. Kennaway, about the East African Slave Trade, was agreed to, after a pretty long discussion. A resolution by Sir J. McKenna, that the general state of Ireland did not justify the retention of the powers conferred on Government under the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Act was ultimately withdrawn. On Wednesday the debate on the second reading of Mr. Dixon's Elementary Education Act (1870) Amendment Bill occupied well nigh the whole of the sitting. Mr. Sandford moved that it be rejected. Mr. Bright supported his colleague for Birmingham, and Viscount Sandon opposed on behalf of the Government. On a division, the Bill was rejected by 281 to 160. On Thursday, after a preliminary skirmish or two, the House went into Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Hubbard's motion on the Income Tax was defeated by 156 to 84. Mr. C. Lewis then moved a resolution, that the Income Tax be retained at twopence, but it was rejected. The Budget resolutions were then agreed to and reported. The House then went into Committee on the Merchant Shipping Bill, and having reached clause 14 resumed.

The Queen, during her brief stay in Germany, has been staying at the Villa Hohenlohe, Baden Baden, the residence of her deceased half sister. On Wednesday she paid a visit to the Prince and Princess (H.R.H. Princess Alice) Louis of Hesse, at Darmstadt. The Emperor William's journey to see Her Majesty has been postponed in consequence of a severe cold, and if this continues, there is a chance it may not take place at all. The Queen's return to England is fixed for an early day.

Our last intelligence respecting the movements of the Prince of Wales left him at Cairo, where he was being most cordially entertained by the Khedive. Since then he has taken farewell of the Egyptian capital. Having left Alexandria he has at length reached Malta, where preparations were being carried out on the grandest scale possible. The Maltese have evidently determined to do him honour, and will succeed in making the day of his visit a *dies fastus* in the annals of their island. From Malta the Prince will sail for Gibraltar, and it is expected his visit to this key to the Mediterranean will last some days. Here, too, he will meet with the first member of our Royal Family since he quitted these shores in October last, his brother, the Duke of Connaught, holding an appointment on the staff of the officer commanding the garrison. From Gibraltar the Prince will go to Lisbon, and it is even rumoured that he may pay a visit to King Alphonso at Madrid. And Lisbon reached, it will not be many days ere Portsmouth will be *en fête*, and His Royal Highness once more at home amongst us.

Another of the annual Inter-University contests has been determined, and Oxford has secured the victory. The Chess Match between seven picked players of each University was played at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, and after a keen struggle, Oxford was declared winner by twelve games to five. The boards were supplied by Bro. Morgan, of 67 Barbican. Yesterday, too, was a brilliant day at Lillie Bridge, for the Oxford and Cambridge Athletic contest was held there. The result will appear in our next. To-day the vexed question, which is the better of the two crews—Oxford or Cambridge—will be determined. No doubt our readers are as well posted as we are in the doings of the rival Blues since Friday last. Both are powerful crews, the average per man in each case being close upon twelve stone, nor, according to the experts, is there any considerable difference between them as regards merit. This being so, a splendid struggle may be anticipated this afternoon. In one particular there will be a departure from the arrangements of former years. The Hammersmith Suspension Bridge will be closed to all traffic at twelve o'clock to-day, and not re-opened till the race is over. This step has been thought necessary, in consequence of the report of Captain Tyler of the Board of Trade, to the effect that danger to life and limb might be anticipated, if the bridge were crowded as at previous contests.

On Sunday, Lieutenant Cameron arrived at Liverpool, and though, owing to the uncertainty that prevailed as to the time of his arrival and the general quietness of the day, there were few present to greet him, no sooner was it

known that he had landed there, than the Mayor and town authorities did their best to offer him a hearty welcome. It will be in the recollection of our readers that this gallant young officer was in the first instance placed in command of the Livingstone Relief Expedition. When, however, the news of that noble African explorer's death reached Zanzibar, Cameron resolved to penetrate into the interior, and at the outset was able to recover some of Livingstone's notes which had been accidentally left behind at Ujiji. Cameron then continued his journey, and at length discovered that the Lualaba of Livingstone was an outlet of Lake Tanganyika, and was none other than the great river Congo, which empties itself into the Atlantic Ocean. Cameron then followed the course of the Congo as closely as he could, and ultimately reached the Portuguese settlements on the West Coast, having traversed the whole distance between there and the coast over against Zanzibar on foot. Lieutenant Cameron left at an early date for his home at Shoreham, where he met with an enthusiastic welcome. We shall very soon learn more of this achievement, for the Royal Geographical Society is making the needful preparations for giving a fitting reception to this gallant officer.

Saturday, at the Alexandra Palace, was marked by the revival of Handel's oratorio of *Susanna*. The revival was a great success, though not as great, perhaps, as was that of *Esther*. Mr. H. Weist Hill was the conductor, and very ably he fulfilled his task. The principal singers were Miss Anna Williams, Miss Julia Elton, Mr. Shakespeare, and Signor Foli. The chorus were evidently well-trained, and performed their part admirably. The band, also, played well, while Mr. Archer presided at the organ with his accustomed ability. The other attractions during the week have been of the usual character, and have been well attended. The Easter festivities will be on a grand scale, if we may judge from the very formidable list of arrangements announced in the printed bills. On Monday, there will be a trotting match, and on Good Friday there will be a grand sacred musical festival, when Mr. Sims Reeves is engaged to sing. Six military bands, including those of the Coldstreams, Grenadiers, and 2nd Life Guards, will take part in the festival. On Easter Monday will be produced a grand spectacular extravaganza, entitled *Turco the Terrible*.

Barnet, a small town on the confines of Middlesex and Hertford, is not unknown to the student of English History. Four hundred and five years ago come next Friday, was fought, on Gladsmuir Heath, the Battle of Barnet, when the forces of the last of the Barons, Richard Earl of Warwick, the celebrated king maker, fighting for Lancastrian Henry VI., were defeated by the Yorkist, Edward IV., and Warwick himself, with his brother Montagu, slain. Barnet, too, is notorious for its horse fair, held in the early days of September. It is not, perhaps, a very imposing place; it has a church and a grammar school, a very comfortable hotel, yecept the Red Lion, where our worthy Bro. Fisher does all he can to please the visitors who frequent his hostelry, and a Police Station. It has also a famous mineral spring. In one sense it may be compared to eternity, for what with Chipping Barnet, High Barnet, Fryern Barnet, New Barnet, East Barnet, West Barnet, and, for aught we know, a variety of other Barnets, it seems to have neither beginning nor end. Still it is a pretty and a comfortable place, and sorry are we to learn that on Wednesday, the peace of its inhabitants was sorely disturbed by the invasion of one Ahmed Kenealy, son of the notorious Dr. Kenealy. He, it seems, came with the avowed object of establishing a local Magna Charta Association, and a resolution to form one was actually agreed to. But the meeting was not distinguished by temperance, in speech or conduct, though it was held in a Temperance Hall. We are not by any means surprised that a part of the audience howled down Mr. Ahmed Kenealy when he attacked the Royal Titles Bill, and talked abusively of the Prince of Wales's visit to India. We hold that every man should be able to speak freely; but it was hard on respectable Barnet that a Kenealy should enter its precincts for the sole purpose, as far as we can make out, of exciting the passions of its lowest and least reputable inhabitants. We do not think we should have been seriously grieved had it been Mr. Kenealy himself instead of an unfortunate boy who made his exit from the hall through the window. Mr. Kenealy and his riotous followers would have sung very small indeed had any of the grim old Barons of the true Magna Charta days been present. They would soon have

taught him and them the difference between the true and the counterfeit Magna Charta.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held on Wednesday, at the Lyceum Theatre, Mr. Swinbourne, in the absence of Mr. Backstone, occupying the chair. The Balance Sheet showed a total capital of £12,946 2s 6d; namely, invested in New Three Per Cents £12,039 7s 3d, Freehold Ground Rents £240, Cash at Bankers £304 8s 11d, Lacy Bequest Fund £301 19s, in Treasurer's hands £60 7s 4d. The Treasurer and retiring directors (with the exception of Mr. Rayner, who withdrew) were re-elected, and Mr. Edgar was elected Secretary. Mr. Gaston Murray announced that Mr. Alfred de Rothschild would preside at the next annual festival, which would be held at Freemasons' Tavern, on the 7th June next. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

Many times lately have we expressed ourselves dissatisfied with the perverse and highly capricious conduct of the Clerk of the Weather, who neither vouchsafed to us a gleam of sunshine for months together, nor allowed us to know if we were to experience heat or cold for two consecutive days. Therefore it is we feel bound to offer him our hearty thanks for having accorded us pretty nearly a whole week of bright spring weather, and if it remain as fine as it is now much longer, we may have to thank him for bright flowers, fresh vegetables, and luscious fruit.

A dreadful accident occurred at Aberdeen on Wednesday afternoon, by which it is believed over thirty persons perished by drowning. There is, it seems, a ferry service over the Dee, plying between the principal thoroughfares of the city. Though there is a suspension bridge a short way out of Aberdeen, the people prefer coming by this ferry. Wednesday being a general holiday, the boats were largely patronised, and it became more and more difficult as the day advanced to prevent them being overcrowded. At length so many had entered for one of the journeys that the boatmen in charge refused to proceed till some of the passengers had alighted, but before any could disembark some persons in the middle seized the machinery and set the boat in motion. When in mid stream the boat met the full force of the current and was swamped, and all the passengers, to the number of about sixty, were thrown into the water. Only about twenty-nine were rescued, and of these one has since died from exhaustion. The accident has caused terrible excitement, and active dredging and trawling operations are being carried on with a view to the recovery of the bodies.

Another trial of the 81-ton gun took place the same afternoon at Woolwich, in the presence of the Prince Imperial of France, Lord Cardwell, the Earl of Cadogan, under Secretary for War, and a number of officials and visitors, among the former being General Sir Lintom Simmons, Inspector-General of Fortifications, and General Adye, the present Governor of the Woolwich Academy. The cartridges were of 250 lbs., and 260 lbs of powder, and the projectiles weighed nearly 1,500 lbs. The details of the trial were registered in the usual manner, and then the company repaired to the gun factories for the purpose of witnessing a number of interesting operations. The Prince afterwards rode back to Chislehurst, attended by Count Clary.

There is a split in the Orton camp. On Monday evening an excited meeting was held at the Jerusalem Tavern, Clerkenwell-green, Mr. Whalley, M.P., being the hero of the hour. The object of the meeting was to consider whether Dr. Kenealy was sincere in his advocacy of the cause of the Claimant, and Mr. Whalley strongly denounced the Doctor's conduct of the Claimant's case. Among the speakers who followed, one was loud in his denunciations of the Magna Charta business. The conduct of the Kenealyites who were present was naturally uproarious, and the interruptions were both frequent and abusive. We must congratulate ourselves on this good fortune. There is, at last, it seems, a prospect that the Orton case may pass away into oblivion, and the sooner the better, say we.

There is little in the way of foreign news to record. It has been officially announced that the state of siege in Paris has been raised. A demonstration was made at the funeral of General Cremer, a Republican. The new opera, "Jeanne d'Arc," has been given at the new opera house, and we are informed that everything is considered admirable but the music. There is also to be another Paris Universal International Exhibition, to be opened on the 1st

May and closed on 31st October. There has been another outbreak in Bosnia, and on the other hand Baron Rodich, Austrian Commissioner, has entered on negotiations with the insurgent chiefs. From Washington we learn that Mr. Dana's nomination, as United States Minister to Great Britain, has been rejected by the Senate by 36 to 17 votes, and further, that the Senate has been sworn as a Court of Impeachment in the Belknap case, and that the 17th inst. is fixed for the trial.

Bro. Charles Morton has taken the Duke's Theatre, Holborn, and the Hague Minstrels will appear there on the 10th inst. Bro. W. Holland will produce, on the 15th inst., at the Surrey Theatre, a new nautical drama, by Mr. F. Hay, entitled, "From Stem to Stern."

The "Maria Wood" (late the Corporation Barge) will be moored off the Duke's Bathing Place, Chiswick, on the day of the University Boat Race. A military band will be in attendance, and a cabin will be set apart for ladies. Refreshments will be supplied by Bros. Ritter and Clifford, of Hammersmith, and the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c. as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

SATURDAY, 8th APRIL.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.0.
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

MONDAY, 10th APRIL.

Quarterly Meeting, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
90—St. John's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
957—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
68—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
101—St. John's, Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport.
411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham.
589—Druids' Love and Liberty, Clinton Arms Hotel, Redruth.
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich.
665—Montague, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis.
1021—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Custom House Buildings, Hindport-road, Barrow-in-Furness.
1069—United Brothers, Castle Hotel, Southsea.
1073—Greta, Court-buildings, Keswick.
1253—Traveller, Queen's Hotel, Manchester.
1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Temple, Hope-street, Liverpool.
1398—Baldwin, The Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
M.M. 173—Temple, Green Dragon, Stepney, E.
R. C. 12—Athenæum, Lancaster.

TUESDAY, 11th APRIL.

55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1538—St. Martin's-le-Grand, Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street, E.C.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 8.30.
93—Social, Freemasons' Hall, Norwich.
284—Shakespeare, Masonic Room, High-street, Warwick.
414—Union, Masonic Hall, Grey Friars-road, Reading.
892—Royal Edward, Royal Oak, Leominster.
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport.
1228—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8. (Instruction.)
1250—Gilbert Greenhall, Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington.
1384—Equity, Walker's Commercial Hotel, Widnes.
1465—Ockenden, Talbot Hotel, Cuckfield, Sussex.
1503—Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
M. M.—Shakespeare, Masonic Room, High-street, Warwick.

WEDNESDAY, 12th APRIL.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1305—St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms Tavern, St. John's Wood.
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover. (Instruction.)
261—Unanimity and Sincerity, Clarke's Hotel, Taunton.
281—Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster.
615—St. John and St. Paul's, Pier Hotel, Erith, Kent.
660—Benevolence, Private Room, Prince Town, Dartmoor, Devon.
851—Worthing of Friendship, Steyne Hotel, Worthing.
1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading.
1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1424—Bromwigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham.
M. M. 145—Constantine, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.

THURSDAY, 13th APRIL.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-square, at 7.0. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)
534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
657—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
860—Dalhousie, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
933—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1488—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

THURSDAY—continued.

35—Medina, 85 High-street, Cowes.
339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penrith, Cumberland.
489—Benevolence, Masonic Hall, Bridgeland-street, Bideford, Devon.
546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Caroline-street, Longton, Stafford.
732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, Berks.
1055—Derby, Knowsley's Hotel, Cheetham, Lancashire.
1098—St. George's, Private Room, Temperance Hall, Tredegar, Mon.
1204—Royd's, Belle Vue Hotel, Malvern, Worcestershire.
1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon.

SATURDAY, 15th APRIL.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

SATURDAY.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
308—Prince George, Station House, Bottoms, Eastwood.

MONDAY.

296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.
R. A. 154—Unanimity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
R. A. 495—Wakefield, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.

TUESDAY.

448—St. James's, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
1522—Olicana, Crescent Hotel, Ilkley.
1545—Baildon, Angel Inn, Baildon.
R. A. 265—Judea, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley.
R. A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.

WEDNESDAY.

290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield.
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
R. A. 387—Moravian, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.

THURSDAY.

139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
439—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley.
R. A. 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
R. A. 337—Confidence, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.

FRIDAY.

453—Aire and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-street, Goolc.
1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street, Harrogate.
1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield.

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

MONDAY.

240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields.
481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
949—Williamson, Royal Hotel, Monkwearmouth.

TUESDAY.

80—St. John, Masonic Hall, Park-terrace, Sunderland.
764—Harbour of Refuge, Freemasons' Hall, Upper Church-street, West Hartlepool.

WEDNESDAY.

661—Fawcett, Masonic Hall, North-road, Seaham Harbour.

THURSDAY.

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland.
991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Willington-quay.
K. T. 118—Mount Grace, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-road, Stockton-on-Tees.

IRELAND.

FRIDAY—178—St. John's, Castle-street, Lisburn, County Antrim.

SCOTLAND.

TUESDAY—43—St. John, Fort William.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-street.
R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—8—Journymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—56—Canongate, Kilwinning, St. John's-street.

GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY.—102—St. Mark's, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 362—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street.
" 384—Athole, Washington Hotel, Kirkintilloch.
" 403—St. George, Old Fellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
" 541—Marie Stewart, Freemasons' Hall, Crosshill.
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 419—Neptune, 35 St. James-street.
" 426—Prince of Wales, High-street, Renfrew.
" 441—Glasgow, 24 Struthers-street.
" 543—St. John, Masonic Hall, Dalmuir.
R. A. 69—St. Andrew, 170 Buchanan-street.
WEDNESDAY—178—Scotia, 170 Buchanan-street.
" 333—St. George, 213 Buchanan-street.
" 510—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
THURSDAY—88—New Monkland, Town Hall, Airdrie.
" 570—Kenmuir, Freemasons' Hall, Springburn.
R. A. 50—Glasgow, 213 Buchanan-street.
FRIDAY—18—Kilwinning, Mission Hall, Dumbarton.
" 116—Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.
R. A. 144—St. Rollox, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road.
SATURDAY—522—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, East Kilbride.
" 544—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Coatbridge.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge, No. 4.—This Lodge held its regular meeting in their own hall, Buchanan-street, on the 5th April, R. Prout R.W.M. presiding, assisted by Bros. Sage D.M., Jamison S.W., G. Holmes J.W., J. McKean Treas., J. A. Riddell S.D., and G. Ramsay Tyler. The Lodge was opened in the 1st degree, and a petition presented from Mr. Daniel Carlisle. At the request of the Master, Bro. J. Morgan, R.W.M. of the Star, 219, performed the ceremony in his well known style, for which he received the thanks of the Lodge. The case of a distressed brother, at present in the Western Infirmary, was then considered, and steps taken to relieve him on his coming out. Visitors present—Bros. Wheeler 73, J. Morgan R.W.M. 219, R. Mitchell P.M. 332, Ferguson P.M. 543, Law P.M. 570.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge was held at Bro. Gay's, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, E.C., on Monday, the 3rd instant, Bro. Beckett presided. Present—Bros. Tolmie S.W., Saul J.W., Pearcey I.G., Killick Hon. Sec. The fifteen sections were worked by Bros. Killick, Lake, Pearcey, Saul, Bentley, Tolmie, Sadler, G. H. Cook, and Mitchell. A vote of thanks to Bro. Beckett was unanimously carried. Bro. Pearcey will preside next Monday. The ceremonies and sections are worked in this Lodge at every meeting.

Lodge of Industry, No. 48, Gateshead.—Monday, 27th March, being the day of installation, the Lodge was opened by Bro. R. Gregory W.M., and there was a goodly attendance of the Craft to witness the ceremony, Bro. J. D. Stephen having been accepted by the brethren. Bros. J. E. Robson and J. J. Clay acted as Installing Masters, and Bro. Dr. R. F. Cook as D.C. Bro. Stephen having been inducted into the chair of K.S., subscribed to the ancient formulas of the Order. Amongst those present were Bros. W. H. Crookes Prov. G. Sec. Durham, R. B. Lutert P.P.G.S.D. Durham, W. Liddell P.P.G.D. Durham, J. J. Clay P.M. 97, Jos. Cook Prov. G.J.D. Northumberland, J. E. Robson P.M. 48, W. Lean P.M. 1087, W. Laing S.W. 659, T. Blenkinsop P.P.G.D. Northumberland, A. Barker W.M. 1342, R. Candlish P.M. 661, G. A. Allan P.M. 991, P.P.G.D. Northumberland, T. Dawson 424, T. Patton 48, J. T. Smith 48, T. White 48, J. H. Thompson P.M. 48, P.P.G.S.B. Durham, R. Smaile Prov. G.S.W. Northumberland, T. S. Miller J.W. 424, J. G. Smith 48, A. Riley P.M. 138, R. F. Cook P.M. 48, P.P.G.S.D. Durham, R. Humphrey P.P.G.S.D. Durham, Jas. Humphrey S.W. 97, W. Richardson 48, A. Lawrie S.W. 991, E. Wakefield 48, G. Hewitt 48, J. Grieves 48, J. Atkinson P.M. 481, Prov. G. Supt. Works, Northumberland, M. Taylor 659, P. Harrison 48, J. G. Robertson 48, J. Montgomery J.W. 991. The W.M. invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. D. Sinclair S.W., J. G. Waddington J.W., R. Gregory P.M. and Treas., R. F. Cook D.C., M. Corbitt Sec., J. H. Rowell S.D., R. Whitfield J.D., J. Wood I.G., R. Tate S.S., T. Simm J.S., E. Liddell A.S., R. Ferry Org., J. Curry Tyler. The brethren afterwards adjourned to Bro. Jas. Tait's, Grey Horse Tavern, where they partook of an excellent repast. An orchestral band discoursed sweet music during the banquet, and the evening was agreeably enlivened by the following musical brethren, viz. Bros. D. Whitehead, J. Walker, and J. Nutton, from the Cathedral Choir, Durham, also Bros. R. Dewar jun., A. S. Donnison, J. Liddell, R. Ferry and R. Dewar sen.

Thistle and Rose Lodge, No. 73.—This Lodge held its meeting on Tuesday, 4th inst., at Glasgow, Bro. G. McDonald R.W.M., J. Bannerman D.M., A. McLeod S.W., J. Handbridge J.W., R. Richard Sec. Two candidates, Messrs. John Miller and Mitchell Read, were carefully initiated, after which Bro. G. W. Wheeler passed Bro. David Fraser to the degree of Fellow Craft. The Rev. Joseph Rice, M.A., of Acacia Lodge, 225, Dublin, and George Innis, S.W. of St. John, 292, Rothesay, were then proposed as honorary members, and seconded by Bro. Wheeler on behalf of the Lodge, which was then closed in harmony.

Hawton Mark Lodge, No. 100.—The annual meeting of the brethren of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 30th March, in the lodge-room at Irybridge, Devon, when Bro. Boxall P.G.P. was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was ably and impressively performed by V.W. Bro. C. Goitschalk P.M. 66, P.P.G.D.C., supported by a numerous body of Installed Masters. The brethren present included Bros. V. Bird P.G.M.O. of England, and Prov. G.S., S. Chapple P.G.D.C. of England, J. B. Gover P.G.T., J. Baxter P.P.S.D., E. A. Davies P.P.G.J.D., H. Cole P.G.S., J. Brown P.P.G.P., J. H. Toms P.S.B., Gidley P.M. &c. The installation being over, the W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Cole I.P.M., Toms S.W., Sandover J.W., Scarle M.O., Sawyer S.O., Scobell J.O., Toms Treasurer, Scarle Secretary and Registrar, Metherell S.D., Mallett J.D., Pearse O., Patterson and Ley Stewards, Short I.G., Ford Tyler. Before the proceedings terminated, the W.M. asked Bro. Samuel Jew's acceptance, in the name of the Lodge, of a P.M.'s jewel, in recognition of the valuable and constant service he has rendered to the Lodge since it has been in existence. Bro. Boxall spoke in the highest terms of Bro. Jew's services, and expressed a fear that the jewel was but a very slight reward for all that he had done on their behalf. Bro. Jew, in acknowledging the gift, assured the brethren that if he had done anything to assist them it had been done willingly and heartily, because he took a deep interest in the work, and felt that he was called upon to do all in his power to uphold the true principles of Freemasonry in all its branches. The Lodge was then closed in due form.

Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, No. 174.—This Lodge

met at Bro. Seaton's, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street, on Monday evening. The fifteen sections were worked by Bros. Horsley, Doric 933, Crawley P.M. 174 as S.W., Webb I.G. 174 as J.W., Austin P.M. 933 as P.M. The following brethren assisted:—

FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section	...	...	Bro. Salmonese, 27.
2nd "	...	...	Bro. A. H. Brown, 174.
3rd "	...	...	Bro. Crane, 933.
4th "	...	...	Bro. Austin, P.M. 933.
5th "	...	...	Bro. Gross, I.G. 1278.
6th "	...	...	Bro. Williams, 933.

SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section	...	...	Bro. Cambridge, J.W. 15.
2nd "	...	...	Bro. Webb, I.G. 174.
3rd "	...	...	Bro. Ellis, 933.
4th "	...	...	Bro. Brient, 933.
5th "	...	...	Bro. Lowe, 1,364.

THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section	...	...	Bro. F. Brown, 174.
2nd "	...	...	Bro. Wallington, W.M. 860.
3rd "	...	...	Bro. Crawley, P.M. 174.

Among the brethren present, in addition to those already named, we noticed Bros. J. S. Fraser, W. Fraser, Wintle, Bradstock, Ball, Levy, Oxley, Wells, Musto, Watkins, Hogarth, Poole, Hocking, Ashburner, Chapman, Johnson, Nailor, and Pitt.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—The usual meeting of this prosperous Lodge was held on Monday, 3rd April, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Present—Bros. A. G. Dodson W.M., L. Lazarus S.W., J. Miller J.W., L. Auerhaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert A.G.P. Secretary, M. Spiegel J.D., H. Hymans I.G., A. J. Campion D.C., H. P. Isaac and Baker Stewards; P.M.'s L. Alexander and H. M. Levy; Bros. Fitchett, R. Emanuel, E. Davey, I. Botibol, Louisson, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed, Bros. Clark and Davey were passed to the 2nd degree, Bro. Smith was raised to the 3rd degree, and Mr. J. Riebold was duly initiated. Three propositions were given for initiation, after which the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. E. P. Albert A.G.P. returned thanks for the Grand Officers. Bro. L. Alexander P.M., as President, replied to the toast of the Benevolent Fund, and the new initiate, Bro. Riebold, returned thanks for his health, and gave a guinea to the Benevolent Fund. The toast of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. L. Alexander, and duly responded to. The toasts of the P.M.'s, Visitors, Wardens and Officers was given. Bro. Pulman W.M. 720 responding for the Visitors, who were Bros. H. J. Young 299, B. Newton 1201, Brown 174, and Ryan 299. Some very excellent singing emanated from the W.M., Bros. Jennings, Mayers, Fitchett and H. F. Isaac. The brethren separated early.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 5th instant, at the Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street, City, E.C. Present—Bros. W. C. Corner W.M., Triggs S.W., Croaker J.W., J. K. Pitt Sec., J. Constable Treasurer, Turner S.D., Gomm J.D., Pelton I.G., Christopher Tyler. Past Master Bro. E. Gottheil, Preceptor. Business—Lodge opened, and minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Steers being the candidate. Bro. Corner, who took the chair on this occasion for the first time, performed his duties in a very able and impressive manner, and received the congratulations of all present. Bro. Gottheil worked the 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture. Bros. A. H. Brown, Steers, and Turner were elected joining members. Bro. Turner was appointed W.M. for next meeting. A vote of thanks was unanimously given to Bro. Corner for his efficient conduct in the chair. Bros. Defries, Turquand, and Bish were appointed auditors.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held at Bro. Fysh, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, corner of Church-road, Islington, on Saturday, the 1st instant. Present—Bros. Read W.M., Stock S.W., Powell J.W., Goddard S.D., Massey J.D., Walesby I.G., Pearcey Preceptor, Halford Treasurer, Killick Hon. Sec. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Higgins being the candidate; after this several of the sections were worked. Bro. Stock was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The fifteen sections will be worked by Bro. G. Ware Verry P.M. 554, on Saturday, 29th instant.

Union Lodge, No. 332.—This Lodge held its regular meeting at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on 3rd April, the R.W.M. Bro. D. McKirdy presiding, assisted by J. B. McNair I.P.M., L. Mitchell D.M. and J. Balfour P.M., J. McInnis S.W., E. Apperouson J.W., and most of the office bearers. There was one gentleman proposed for initiation, and an application was made on behalf of the Clyde Lodge, 408, to have a candidate initiated. This was readily granted, and the Master carefully initiated the two gentlemen. He then opened the Lodge in the Fellow Craft degree, and passed one brother. Thereafter Bro. McNair, on the Lodge being raised, conferred the sublime degree on two brethren.

East Surrey Lodge of Concord, No. 463.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Thursday, the 6th inst., at the Grey.

hound Hotel, Croydon. Present—Bros. A. C. W. Ebbutt W.M., T. P. Dickin S.W., W. Sharp J.W., C. H. Woodward P.M. Secretary, Price P.M. Treasurer, J. Close S.D., George Yaxley J.D., C. H. Pocock I.G., Lynn Tyler. P.M.'s—Bros. Dosell, Podmore, Hunt, &c. Amongst the Visitors present were Bros. Turquand W.M. 1556, W. S. Masterman W.M. 452, Chatterton, Lloyd, Morgan, &c., &c. Business—At the time appointed, 4 o'clock, there was a large attendance of members. The Lodge was opened, and the preliminary business gone through. Bro. Alfred James Webley was then duly proposed and balloted for as a joining member of the Lodge, and Mr. William Thomas Gardner was proposed as a candidate for initiation. In each of these cases the result was favourable. Bro. Ebbutt now vacated the chair in favour of P.M. Bro. C. H. Woodward, to whom Bro. Dickin was introduced as the W.M. elect. A board of installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Woodward performed the ceremony in a highly satisfactory way. After the new W.M. had been saluted in regular form, he appointed the following as his officers:—Bros. Sharp S.W., J. Close J.D., G. Price P.M. Treasurer, Woodward P.M. Secretary, Yaxley S.D., Pocock J.D., J. Streeter I.G., J. Rhodes Org., Lynn Tyler. The several charges were most impressively delivered. Mr. Gardner was then introduced, and the ceremony of initiation was successfully rendered by Bro. T. P. Dickin. Several propositions for joining and initiation were then handed in, and the Lodge was closed. A banquet followed, at which the W.M. presided. On the removal of the cloth the usual toasts were briefly proposed, and ample honour done to each. The W.M. referred to Her Most Gracious Majesty's visit to the Continent, and said he was sure the brethren present would join him in wishing her a speedy and safe return to this country. He also spoke of the M.W. Grand Master's visit to India. It was gratifying to note the reception that had everywhere been accorded him in that vast empire, and how he had endeared himself to all classes. The W.M., whose remarks were listened to with great satisfaction, concluded with the following lines:—

He holds no parley with unmanly fears,
Where duty bids he confidently steers;
Faces a thousand dangers at her call,

And, trusting in the Great Architect, surmounts them all!

In speaking to the toast of the Provincial Grand Master, the W.M. said that Major-General Brownrigg had been very kind to their Lodge in granting Provincial Grand Honours, but this was owing to the Past Masters, who were the right men in the right place. He hoped General Brownrigg might live long to preside over the province. The Provincial Grand Officers of the Province was next given, to which Bro. Price P.M. responded. The Secretary's toast followed, and received the usual honours accorded to that pointless feature at Masonic gatherings. Bro. Ebbutt I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., who, in reply, said he felt a little doubtful as to his ability to occupy the chair, which had been filled by so many able men before him. However, he would do all in his power to uphold the interests of the Lodge, and he trusted his exertions would be recognised and appreciated by the members. The toast of the Past Masters was replied to by the I.P.M., Bro. Ebbutt. Bros. Morgan, Masterman, and Chatterton acknowledged that of the Visitors. The health of the Treasurer and Secretary brought forth able replies from each, and the Tyler's toast concluded a pleasant evening.

East Surrey Lodge of Concord (Instruction), No. 463, held its weekly meeting on Tuesday, the 4th of April, at the Fox and Hounds, West Croydon. Present—Bros. Dickin W.M., George Yaxley S.W., John Close J.W., Henry J. Pocock Sec., Ebbutt S.D., Ridge J.D., Streeter I.G., Wm. Sharp Preceptor, with a good number of the brethren. Business—The first and second ceremonies were worked in an able manner. The brethren subscribed 19 guineas to the list of Bro. Sharp, who will act as Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

St. James's Lodge, No. 482, Warwickshire.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on the 3rd of April, at New Inn, Handsworth, on which occasion Bro. Rowlands W.M. occupied the chair, and was supported by Bros. W. H. Ward S.W., W. E. Parkes M.D. J.W., J. J. Turner as S.D., J. H. Parkes as J.D., L. David I.G., W. J. Whittall P.P.G.R. Treasurer, W. Wykes Secretary, W. H. Poole Tyler. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. J. Barber, Freestone and Sharp were passed to the 2nd degree. The able manner in which the W.M. performed the ceremony deserves great commendation. The Masonic Charities were not forgotten, votes were signed to enable those who were entitled to them to give the candidates a chance for election. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, where the W.M. presided in his happy and genial manner. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the toast of the P.G.M. found a very able exponent in Bro. J. J. Turner P.M. P.P.G.W. of Warwickshire, the Senior P.M. of the Province, who replied with an eloquent speech. The toasts of the W.M., P.M.'s, and Visitors were given, and cordially responded to, also that of the Wardens and Officers. The W.M., and Bros. Priestly and Price, contributed to the harmony. The Visitors were Bros. Hutton P.M. 473, Rogers, Robinson, &c.

Dramatic Lodge, No. 571.—This Lodge met at 3 p.m. on the 5th April, at Glasgow, W. J. E. Dobson R.W.M., H. W. Jackson S.W., Wm. Severight J.W., D. Campbell Sec., R. S. Smyth S.D., J. B. Hardie T. A petition was presented on behalf of Mr. Gairn Connel, who was very carefully initiated by the R.W.M. The Lodge was opened in the Fellow Craft degree, and Bro. Ferguson, P.M. of 543, passed Bro. Muir to that degree. Amongst the Visitors we noticed Bros. Prout R.W.M. No. 4, G. W. Wheeler and J. Allen 73, J. Kelso 127, McKirdy R.W.M. 332, J. Oliver S.W. 360, Ferguson 543, and Wm. Phillips R.W.M. 556.

Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement.—At the meeting on Tuesday last, at the Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, there was a fair attendance of Companions, who were presided over by Comps. Gluckstein M.E.Z., J. Constable H., Wyer J., T. W. White Scribe E., Cox Scribe N. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Finney being the candidate. The ceremony of exalting the Principals was very ably performed by Comp. Leeman, who received the thanks of those present for his services. The fact that the time for the business of this Chapter of Improvement being limited should be borne in mind, and those who desire to attend should note that punctuality is very desirable—the time for commencing business is fixed for 6.30.

Erme Lodge, No. 1091.—The brethren of this Lodge met on Wednesday, 29th March, in their lodge-room at Ivybridge, Devon, when Bro. James Hill Toms was installed as W.M. for the coming year. The interesting ceremony was performed in an excellent manner by Bro. J. B. Gover P.P.G.A.D.C., assisted by Bro. S. Jew P.P.G.T., in the presence of a numerous company of brethren, amongst whom were Bros V. Bird P.P.G.T., S. Chapple P.P.A.D.C., J. Brown P.P.G.P., E. A. Davies P.P.G.S. Wks., C. Gottschalk P.M. 1255, J. Baxter P.M. 954, W. Boxall P.M. 1091, H. Cole P.M. 1091, B. Gidley P.M. 156, C. Mutton Secretary 1205, S. Hyne P.S.D. 1205, &c. The W.M. installed his officers as follow:—W. Boxall I.P.M., S. Sandover S.W., T. Searle J.W., H. Cole Treasurer, W. Boxall Secretary, G. Coleman S.D., W. H. Mackay J.D., Baker Organist, T. Barons D.C., R. Lavers A.D.C., T. E. Scobell S.S., and W. Arthur J.S., Sawyer I.G., and Ford Tyler. Bro. Cole then presented to Bro. S. Jew a handsome P.M.'s jewel, as a mark of his own personal respect and esteem, and also to mark the sense of the brethren at large of the great assistance which he had at all times rendered to the Lodge. The presentation was made amidst general applause, and was accompanied by some appropriate remarks from Bro. Gover, who bore testimony to Bro. Jew's zeal and earnestness on behalf of Freemasonry. Bro. Jew returned thanks in a few well-chosen words, similar to those which he used at the Mark meeting in the morning. The annual banquet of the Lodge was held in the afternoon, at the King's Arms Hotel, Bro. Toms, the W.M., presiding. A large company sat down, including Bros. V. Bird, S. Jew, J. B. Gover, S. Chapple, J. Brown, J. Baxter, E. A. Davies, J. Head P.M. 70, Cooper I.P.M. 105, E. A. Northy 105, and P.S.W. 1205, C. Mutton Secretary 1205, S. Hyne P.S.D. 1205, C. Rodda 105, J. Collins 70, Knight P.M. 202, C. Parsons J.W. 789, S. Sandover S.W. 1091, T. Searle J.W. 1091, G. Coleman S.D. 1091, J. P. Sawyer I.G. 1091, T. C. Barons D.C. 1091, R. Lavers A.D.C., Scobell S.S., W. Arthur J.S., B. Gidley P.M. 156, R. T. Quance 230, J. Justham 230, A. S. Distin P.S.W. 710, D. Sutherland 710, J. Cobbledick, W. H. Boon, M. Baker, W. Conway, T. D. Ford, W. Ware W. Treneman, &c. After dinner the usual Masonic toasts were given. The health of the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of England, was proposed by Bro. Jew, and received with true Masonic enthusiasm, and with the usual honours. Bro. Gover proposed "The P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the P.G. Officers of Devon," and Bro. Chapple responded. The next toast was that of "the W.M. of 1091," proposed, in eulogistic terms, by Bro. Jew, who remarked that Bro. Toms was well known and highly respected throughout every part of the province, and under his guidance the Lodge was sure to progress and flourish (applause). Bro. Toms briefly acknowledged the compliment, and Bro. Bird responded for the "Visiting Brethren. The other toasts were "Masons' Wives and Sweethearts," humorously acknowledged by Bro. C. Rodda; "the Officers of the Lodge," "Sister Lodges," and "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren."

Southern Star Lodge, No. 1158.—The regular meeting of this Lodge took place on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at the Montpelier Tavern, Walworth. Bro. C. W. Wise W.M., G. Macdonald S.W., J. Walter J.W., Wright P.M. Treasurer, W. J. Newsham Assistant Secretary, Allen S.D., R. Harris J.D., S. Mith I.G., and Burr Organist. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Edis, Horsley, Glass, Beckwith and Woods were raised to the 3rd degree. Messrs. J. P. Williams and P. Skar were initiated. The election for W.M. then took place, and Bro. G. Macdonald was unanimously elected. Bro. Wright P.M. was re-elected Treasurer. Ten guineas was voted for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and a ten guinea jewel was voted to the retiring W.M. for the admirable manner he had conducted the duties of the chair during his year of office. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a banquet, supplied in Bro. Allatt's best style. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and some good speeches made. Among the visitors were Bros. Birt 141, Thomas Withers J.D., Thomas 134, Kellaway 192, Withers 211, Winkle P.M. 548, Shelford 705, Parker 753, Roche 901, Boher 1416, &c.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Friday, the 31st of March, at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet. Present—Bros. James Outbush W.M., Dr. Livingston S.W., Young J.W., G. Askew Sec., W. Outbush P.M. Treas., J. Euerby I.G., Goddard Tyler. P.M.'s Bros. J. Lowthin, H. Edwards. Visitor—Bro. Cull. The usual preliminary business was gone through. A discussion in reference to the establishment of a Benevolent Fund in connection with the Lodge ensued, and the question was referred to a Committee, who are to report at the next meeting. Two propositions were handed in, and the Lodge was closed. A slight repast followed, and a pleasant evening was passed.

Halsey Lodge, No. 1479.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at the Town Hall, St. Albans. Present—Bros. G. Askew W.M., Webster P.M. as S.W., Palin W.M. 404 as W.M., F. Venables Secretary, John Furrott S.D., T. Kent J.D.,

W. Marks I.G., E. Kirby Tyler; P.M. Bro. John Lowthin Prov. G.S.W. Herts. Visitors—Bros. H. Campkin W.M. 403, Carter P.M. 403, J. Cutbush W.M. 1385, &c. The minutes of last Lodge were read and confirmed, and Bro. F. R. Webster W.M. designate was presented by Bro. P.M. Lowthin, and duly installed into the chair of K.S. He invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Isaac Newton Edwards S.W., T. Kent J.W., Hall Secretary, W. Palin P.M. Treasurer, W. Marks S.D., A. H. Debenham J.D., C. Miskin D.C., Bridges Steward, C. W. Reynolds I.G., Kirby Tyler. The installation ceremony was performed by the retiring Master, Bro. Askew. A letter of regret was read from the R.W. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Halsey, at not being able to be present. Three gentlemen were proposed for ballot and initiation, and one as adjoining member. We have no doubt that this Lodge will soon become one of the strongest in the province; at the same time, we regret to see so many new faces amongst the officers for the current year. The Lodge being closed in duo form, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was served by Bro. Marks. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a very enjoyable evening spent. Bro. Iles P.G.S. made a very able speech in proposing the toast of the Masonic Charities.

TENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF ST. ANDREW'S LODGE, No. 465.

THE tenth annual festival of this Lodge was held in the Hall of the Lodge, Garngad-road, Glasgow, on 31st March, Bro. David Gilchrist R.W.M. presiding, and Bro. G. B. Davidson S.W. Croupier. The hall was completely filled with the brethren and their wives and sweethearts. Amongst the visitors we noticed a deputation from No. 28, St. John, Kirkintilloch, headed by Bro. Allen D.M., also brethren from No. 0, 73, 199, 382 and 570. On the dais the R.W.M., who was supported by R. Bell E.C. of St. Mungo Encampment K.T., G. W. Wheeler M.P.S. Conclave 114, Robert Atkinson R.W.M. 570, Wm. Campbell Secretary, and R. Donaldson Treasurer. The Croupier was supported by J. Anand Z. of Chapter 114, and J. Allan Deputy Master of 28. Full justice was done to a plentiful supply of substantial provisions. The following address was delivered by the Master:—"As we have met here this evening under the auspices of a Lodge of Freemasons, I wish to make a few remarks anent that grand and mysterious Order. I have no doubt but that Freemasonry took its origin from the operatives that were employed at the numerous buildings that have been erected, more especially those dedicated to the services of the Lord. I will endeavour to give you a brief illustration of one of those buildings. As we look on grey Jerusalem, within its fence of walls, and scan the time-worn features and faded beauty of the city, once great among nations, and prince among the provinces, standing there, over against the levelled summit, where the Crescent glitters on the dome of Islam's wisest Caliph, one cannot but feel time's shadow go backward on the dial; we behold the vision of Judah's golden days, the glory and the loveliness that have departed throned once more on the ancient height; the holy and beautiful house which God desired for his habitation; the shrine once luminous with the misty splendour of His presence, whence mingling voice and instrument sent up the melody of earth's holiest praise; the smoke of sacrifice, floating heavenward in unceasing token of the expiation, wavers through the cloud of years, and grows into bright form and exquisite proportion; again, we see it exalted on its munition of rocks, with its marble terraces and pillared cloisters, its ample courts thronged with the white-robed Paschal multitude, and its trellis of golden spikes flashing over its roof of cedar. A glorious building it seems, and we wonder not at those of old who thought it too fair and stately ever to pass away. Of what a wondrous series of events, linked with the highest destinies of man, has this external mount of Jerusalem been the scene, looking down on the one side on the valley of Jehoshaphat, and on the sister hills of Zion and Asia, on the other over the narrow ravine that severed them of old, up its rocky sides, through the thicket that clothed it to the summit; it would seem that the Father of the chosen people led His son to the altar of his typical sacrifice. Long after, when David had wrested from the Canaanites their last stronghold on Zion, a Jebusite farmer had built his threshing floor on the neighbouring height, and there the King saw the Angel of the pestilence stand with sword outstretched over Jerusalem; there David built an altar, and often as he looked forth from his house of cedar on the sacred site the thought rose into his heart to build thereon a lasting Temple to the God of Israel. This work was not to be for him, but early in the reign of his peaceful son its foundation was laid in Mount Moriah. In the place that David had prepared, there the glorious fabric grew up, without sound of axe or hammer, into its majestic and harmonious completeness; the first Temple stood exceedingly magnificent. The Temple proper was never very large, but with its spacious courts and cloisters, its rich materials, its sumptuous decorations, its magnificent approaches from the royal dwelling on Zion, by a bridge or causeway, and flights of marble terraces winding up the steep ascent by which Solomon went up into the house of the Lord, it well deserved its renown. Near the south-western angle, not far from the Jewish wailing place, may be seen the spring of an ancient arch; perhaps the remains of a bridge, which joined the Temple Mount to the hill of Zion; if so, one may conceive the effect of this splendid arch, swinging in mid air over the valley of the Tyropean, for it chained, by its marble links, the palace of cedar wood to the corridors of the Temple, oftentimes stormed and plundered. The first temple was at last burned to the ground by the armies of Babylon. And the daughters of Zion mourned, because none came to the solemn feasts. After many years the second Temple rose under the hand of Zerubbabel and his band of exiles. To those who remember the former house, with its Ark of the Covenant, and its outward and inward glories, the second must have seemed a rude

and empty shell, a defaced casket, from which the jewel had been stolen, and so it was that the old Priests and Levites wept aloud, yet the glory of the latter house was to be greater than the former, for the desire of all nations was to appear within it. Through many troubled years and strange vicissitudes, it stands polluted by Antioches, purified by the Maccabees, besieged by Pompey and his Jewish partisans in the furious faction fights of a later time. This Temple endured till Herod the Great, in his passion for costly buildings, resolved to restore it to all its earlier grandeur, a work not completed till our Lord had grown to manhood; forty-six years was this Temple in building. This was the Temple at whose altar the holy child was offered to God, whose chamber heard the first words of his boyish wisdom, in whose porches and arcades many of his parables were spoken; whose wide enclosure and pillared courts he often looked upon from Olivet. Earth had not any to show more fair, as it lay open in all its extent, severed by deep ravines from the garden of Zion, and the compact buildings of the city, and planting its sheer walls and colonnades on the edge of the steep, with its great eastern gates of Corinthian brass flashing in the sun, its tessellated pavement and lofty terraces ascending to the sacred porch, over which wreathed the colossal golden vine, a scene of strange fascination, as it rose on its embattled mount with all its courts steeped in golden sunlight, and its steps of delicate marble glowing in that sapphire air with a pure and dazzling whiteness as of snow. Such was the Temple of Solomon, from the building of which we date our present organisation. There are a great many things said against Freemasonry, that it is a secret institution; and as secrecy may be conjoined with wicked intentions and for wicked purposes, as well as the contrary, or used as a veil to conceal childish and demoralising ceremonies, which will not bear the scrutinising gaze of the world, it is argued that it would not be unreasonable to regard Masonry as a suspicious association, an anti-christian and anti-moral society, and as opposed to freedom and social order. From our societies being formed in secret, and our principles and proceedings enveloped in mystery, they appeal to it as an argument for this view. I most emphatically deny that any unworthy object of the kind alluded to in these insinuations can be imputed to Freemasonry. We meet periodically, and in secret, as do the bodies referred to above, but there all analogy between us ceases, they completely cloak their motives and actions with mystery, and studiously conceal even their names. It is not so with us; the text books of our Order disclose our constitutions and our qualifications, and make known to all who choose to investigate the subject, the symbols which we use and the beautiful moral lessons they are intended to inculcate, and the names of our officers and members are published to the world. But, you may ask, why observe secrecy at all? That is a curiosity I am not at liberty to satisfy, suffice it that we are associated together for no selfish or unhallowed purposes, we withdraw ourselves occasionally apart from the world, that we may be the better able, within the privacy of our sanctuaries, to divest our minds from the taint of worldly prejudices, and accomplish the objects of Love and Charity which have banded us together. These are assertions, but if any should doubt their truth I would ask, were our institution anti-christian in its character, or immoral in its tendency, is it at all probable that primates and bishops and religious men of every grade and denomination would be found enlisted under its banners? Were our ceremonies puerile or unmeaning, is it at all likely that Locke, Newton, La Place, Franklin, La Fayette, and Washington, and thousands of other men of name and fame, pre-eminent for their intellectual acquirements, moral worth, and sterling virtues, would be found bearing testimony in our favour; were our institution political in its character, think you that Princes and Patriots, Royalists and Republicans, Aristocrats and Democrats, would be found co-mingling in our ranks, proud of the badge with which they are invested. These are facts which none can controvert, and they tell more directly in favour of our association than the objections founded, as they are, on one of two opposite probabilities; they ought, until more direct and truthful evidence can be adduced against it, to satisfy every candid and reflecting person that Freemasonry is a laudable institution. The degrees of Masonry are numerous, but all are moral and are intended to impress upon the mind of its votaries important and serious truths; and if the seed thus sown arrives not at maturity, the fault is not with the sower, but with the soil in which it is sown. In no branch of Freemasonry does the political opinion of the applicant form, upon principle, any objection to his admission; there are, I allow, frequent occasions in which personal motives and political differences influence the rejection of applicants and deprive those who have been received into our Fraternity of promotion in the Order, I have, unfortunately, witnessed myself several instances of the kind, but this should not be adduced as a charge against the institution, for it is diametrically opposed to the landmarks and genius of the Order, and those who are guilty of thus permitting their petty worldly prejudices to govern their conduct within the precincts of the Lodge, though they may be entitled to wear our badge and to use our distinctive appellation are in reality exotic men who, by their gross departure from the principles they hypocritically profess, forfeit every claim to be considered as either Masons or Christians, for they know not how to control their evil passions or to forgive their enemies; they have no charity. That Freemasonry will ever have its enemies is to be expected, therefore it behoves every individual member of the institution to exercise constant vigilance over all his words and actions; let us walk worthily in the path of our duty, making ourselves intimately acquainted with all the details of our Order, practising its requirements; let us not for an instant relax our exertions in the cause of truth until the benign principles of charity, morality and brotherly love shall be spread abroad throughout all the land; let us encourage each other in the good work of clearing the Temple from the rubbish that may have accumulated, then may the children of Masonry rise from the grave of lethargy, clothed in the glorious drapery of the Sons of Light, and, though last not least, in the admission and rejection of applicants let us act Masonically; let no man, be his station in

society the most exalted or his wealth untold, be admitted on account of either of those considerations; his habits and his character are the chief, if not the sole standards, by which he should be weighed or we influenced, nor should any person be rejected on personal motives, for to allow private pique or self-consideration to bias our votes would assuredly be a gross violation of those principles which we profess, and which should ever govern our institutions. Let the demons of evil passion and self-interest be for ever banished from our breasts, and let charity prevail, and thus, by the superior rectitude of our conduct, we shall silence the factious, obtain the praise of the worthy, and best recommend our ancient and honourable Order to the world, and ourselves enjoy a good conscience without offence towards God and man." The toast list was then proceeded with, the Chairman giving the Queen and the Craft, the Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family, the Grand Lodge of England, Ireland and Scotland, with their respective Grand Masters. By the Croupier, the P.G.L. of Glasgow. Bro. Aikman, R.W.M. of the Kenmuir Lodge, 570, as a very young member of that body, briefly acknowledged the compliment. Bro. Wheeler proposed Prosperity to St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 465. In the course of his reply the R.W.M. spoke of the rapid progress the Lodge had made, they first met in a room in a tavern, but soon moved to a Hall; since then their course had been onward and upward, they had grown too large for that place and had now procured the spacious hall and premises in which they were assembled, and if they continued to progress as they had for the past two years, adding each year about forty to their number, they would require to again enlarge their borders. Bro. Bell, in giving the toast of the Press, traced its history from the first rude types cut out of the bark of trees, and the printing of the first

Bible, by Gutenberg, in 1453, down to the present time, when we have 1754 newspapers. Bro. Wheeler replied, on behalf of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE. "The Ladies" was briefly proposed by Bro. Donaldson, and replied to in a humorous speech by Bro. Anand. Bro. W. Campbell Sec. proposed Absent Friends. The Croupier gave the Visiting Brethren, which was responded to by Bro. Graham of 199, St. Andrew's, Cumberland. The last toast was then given, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again." Bros. Gold, Davidson, Anand, Hamilton, Taylor, McCall and Wheeler contributed, by song and recitation, to enhance the pleasures of the meeting. The ball then commenced, and was kept up with great spirit till about four o'clock, all being well pleased with a night well spent.

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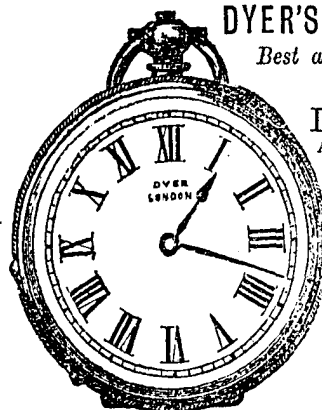
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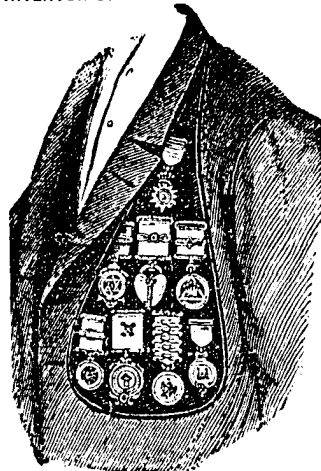
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