

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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FREEMASONRY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS, AND OTHER COUNTRIES ABROAD.

THE casual reference we made in one of our editorial notes last week to the establishment of a so-called Grand Lodge of New South Wales has induced us to lay before our readers as comprehensive a sketch as the narrow limits of space at our disposal will permit of Freemasonry in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, as well as in certain foreign countries with which the sovereign of the United Kingdom is on terms of amity. That a strong feeling of surprise will be felt on discovering the extensive ramifications which English Freemasonry has made throughout the British Empire, and even outside its limits, is more than probable, while it is certain that no English Mason can feel otherwise than proud on noting the vast amount of popularity enjoyed by the Craft, of which these wonderful ramifications are the indubitable evidence. It is an old saying that the sun never sets on the Queen's dominions, and this is as true of English Freemasonry as it is of English territory at home and abroad. To slightly alter an expression which is necessarily familiar to our brethren, the sun is always at its meridian in respect of English Freemasonry.

The reader will hardly credit at first sight the statement that of the eighteen hundred Lodges—there or thereabouts—which owe allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, not many short of five hundred are located in our Colonies or abroad. Yet a study of the figures we give in the course of this sketch will show this to be the case. What is still more striking is, that there is no division of the world which does not possess Masonic Lodges, acknowledging the kindly sway of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master. They are to be found in Gibraltar, Malta, the Ionian Islands, and European Turkey; in Asia, in North and South Africa, in North, Central, and South America and the West Indies; in Australia and New Zealand. Even Fiji can now boast of its Lodge of Masons, and who knows how long it may be before the Sandwich Islands, under the auspices of Bro. King Kalakua, will be as fortunately circumstanced? Taking as our guide the last edition of Grand Lodge Calendar, we find there were at the close of last year no less than 465 Lodges holding under the English Grand Lodge, and these, as we have said, are scattered over every division of the world. And since the Calendar was issued the number has been still further increased, warrants for no less than seventeen additional Lodges having been granted during the past three months. However, if we take the Lodges as they are arranged in the several Districts, and in the order in which they are given in the Calendar, we note that in the District of Gibraltar there are three Lodges, namely, St. John's, No. 115, warranted in 1767, and Inhabitants, No. 153, 1777, both of which were "Ancient" Lodges, and have received a Centenary warrant, and Friendship, No. 278, of the year 1789. In the Malta District there are seven Lodges, two having been warranted in the course of the present year, while the Tunis, No. 1717, and the Goletta,

No. 1835, Lodges date, the former from 1877, and the latter from 1879. The Senior Lodge, the St. John and St. Paul, No. 349, dates from 1815. In the Dominions of the Sultan are eleven Lodges, four at Constantinople, one at Ephesus, and six at Smyrna, the oldest, the Oriental, No. 687, dating from 1856, the last year of the Crimean war. There are two Lodges in the Ionian Islands, one in Corfu warranted in 1837, and the other in Zante; while in Egypt there are eight Lodges, the oldest the Bulwer Lodge of Cairo, No. 1068, having been warranted in the year 1865.

We next come to the East Indies, in the various divisions of which there are over one hundred Lodges. Bengal heads the list with thirty-six, of which two have received their warrants during the present year. Those who have read Preston will remember that Freemasonry found its way into India at an early date, and it will surprise no one therefore to be told that in Bengal there are no less than six, and in Madras three Lodges, which were constituted before 1813, the year of the Union. The oldest Bengal Lodge, Star-in-the-East, No. 67, of Calcutta, dates from 1740, but as it has not received a centenary Warrant, it cannot have worked continuously from its establishment. No. 109, Industry and Perseverance, also of Calcutta, was founded in 1761, and has received its centenary Warrant. The next four Lodges meet in Calcutta likewise, namely, Nos. 218, 229, 232, and 234, all of them having held under the "Ancients," the first two dating from the year 1797, and the last two from 1801. The number of Lodges in the capital of the Presidency is eleven, the other important cities which can boast of a Lodge or Lodges being Agra and Allallabad, with two each, Bareilly, Benares, Cawnpore, Lucknow, Meerut, &c. Bombay has nineteen Lodges, the city of Bombay itself boasting nine of them, whilst the oldest, Orion in the West, No. 415, is located at Poonah. British Burmah has nine Lodges, but the oldest, Philanthropy, No. 542, of Moulmein, was founded only as recently as 1847. Madras has nineteen Lodges, of which four meet in Madras, Perfect Unanimity, No. 150, dating from 1765, but having no centenary Warrant as yet; Universal Charity, No. 273, having been warranted in 1879, Lodge of the Rock, No. 260, of Trichinopoly, being two years older, its Warrant bearing date 1787. The oldest Lodge in the Punjab, which has nineteen Lodges, is the Himalayan Brotherhood, No. 459, of Simla, which was founded in 1839. The District of the Eastern Archipelago has three Lodges, one in the island of Penang, and two in Singapore, and there is one Lodge which meets at Kandy in Ceylon, and three at Port Louis in the Mauritius. In China, which has recently been divided into two Districts, there are eleven Lodges, two at Amoy, four in Hong Kong, one—of this year's constitution—at Foochow, one at Chin Kiang, and three at Shanghai. The oldest, the Royal Sussex, No. 501, of the year 1844, meets in the last-named city; the next in point of seniority being the Zetland, No. 525, of Hong Kong, warranted in 1846. Japan, which was erected into a District in 1873, has four Lodges.

South Africa now claims our attention, the aggregate of Lodges in the various Districts being close on fifty. The Western Division, which includes Cape Town, has six

EPPS'S (GRATEFUL COMFORTING) COCOA.

Lodges, the senior being the British, No. 334, of the year 1811, and meeting in Cape Town. The Eastern Division has twenty-one Lodges, the Albany, 389, of Grahamstown, founded in 1828, being the first on the Roll. Griqualand, of which R.W. Bro. Giddy is the District Grand Master, has five Lodges, and there are scattered about in other parts no less than eighteen other Lodges, the majority of them being in Natal, one meets in St. Helena, one at Cape Coast Castle, and one at Lagos. These latter, of course, should properly be described as on the West Coast, but they are grouped in the Calendar with the Natal and Transvaal Lodges, and we have not thought it necessary to take them out of the category in which they are placed.

In the West Indies and Central America there are some thirty Lodges, of which eleven are comprised in the District of Jamaica, one being of this year's creation. The first on the roll, the Royal, No. 207, of Kingston, was an "Ancient" Lodge of the year 1794, and so, too, was the next, namely, the Friendly, No. 239, also of Kingston, founded in 1809. There is also the Friendly Lodge, No. 383, of Montego Bay, which, however, is not included in the District Grand Lodge. The District of the Bahamas has only two Lodges, while the remainder are scattered about in the various islands, Antigua having two, Barbadoes one—the Albion, No. 196, an "Ancient" Lodge of the year 1790; Bermuda three—the Atlantic Phoenix, No. 224, "Ancient," of 1797, the Prince Alfred, No. 233, "Ancient," of 1801, and Loyalty, No. 358, of 1819; Curaçoa one Lodge, Dominica one, Grand Turk one, St. Thomas one—the Harmonic, No. 356, of the year 1818; and Trinidad five, the senior being the Royal Philanthropic, No. 405, warranted in 1831, and therefore just sixty years old.

In North America there are twelve Lodges. Four of these—namely, three at Montreal, and one at St. John's—constitute the District Grand Lodge of Montreal, the oldest being St. Paul's, No. 374, of Montreal, founded in 1824. Five Lodges make up the District Grand Lodge of Newfoundland, namely, one at Burin Bay, one at Fortune Bay, one at Grand Bank, and two at St. John's. There are also two in Cape Breton, and one in Nova Scotia—the Royal Standard, No. 398, of the year 1829, and meeting at Halifax. In South America are eleven English Lodges, four of which make up the District Grand Lodge of the Argentine Republic, while the remaining seven are scattered about, George Town, Demerara, boasting two—the Union, No. 247, "Ancient," of the year 1813, and the Mount Olive Lodge, No. 385, of the year 1827; Monte Video one Lodge, New Amsterdam, Berbice one, Pernambuco one, Santa Marta one, and Valparaiso one.

The rest of our Colonial Lodges are located in Australia, which has some 166 Lodges, and New Zealand, which has sixty-nine, while one has been quite recently warranted for Fiji. It will be readily understood that none of these are of very ancient date, the oldest—the Australia, No. 390, of Sydney, having been warranted only as far back as the year 1828. Of the Australian Lodges, there are forty-two in the District of New South Wales: Sydney, the capital of the Colony, having ten out of that number. Queensland has twenty Lodges, three of which meet in Brisbane, the capital. South Australia has eighteen Lodges, Adelaide the capital possessing four. Victoria, however, has no less than seventy-two Lodges on its roll, of which ten meet in the City of Melbourne. These four groups constitute as many District Grand Lodges, and there are besides five Lodges in Western Australia, which as yet have not been organised into a District Grand Lodge, and seven which form the District Grand Lodge of Tasmania, Hobart Town and Launceston having each two, and Hamilton-on-Forth, New Norfolk, and Sorrell one. Of the New Zealand Lodges there are fifty-one located in the South Island and twenty-eight in the North. Of the former, twenty-one constitute the District Grand Lodge of Canterbury, eleven that of Otago and Southland, six that of Westland, and there are three others which meet at Blenheim, Nelson, and Wakefield respectively. The twenty-eight in the North Island are arranged in two Districts, that of Auckland having thirteen Lodges and that of Wellington the remaining fifteen. The Grand Lodge of England may well be proud of its array of Antipodean Lodges.

Our sketch of English Freemasonry abroad is now complete, and if we were desirous of showing the full extent of the popularity attained by the Craft in the Colonies and elsewhere, it would only be necessary that we should enumerate the Lodges affiliated to the Grand Lodges of

Ireland and Scotland respectively. These together would furnish close upon 240 more, scattered, like our own, throughout India, China, Japan, South and Central America, and the West Indies, as well as in Australia and New Zealand. Thus, if we take the three jurisdictions together we find there are considerably over 700 Lodges which owe, and willingly pay, allegiance to the three oldest Grand Lodges in the World, the three, indeed, from which it may be asserted without fear of contradiction that all the other Grand Lodges now existing have originally sprung.

THE ANTIQUITY AND UNIVERSALITY OF MASONRY.

WE recently had the good fortune to discover, in the pages of an old magazine, the following essay on the "Antiquity and Universality of Masonry." As it contains certain opinions to which we have more than once given utterance as explaining the true character of that antiquity on which we so justly pride ourselves, we have not hesitated to reproduce it in full. It does not strike us as containing anything very novel, but, though we may have done so, it does not occur to us that we have ever come across it in the course of our Masonic reading, though there are many essays in which the writers have adopted a similar line of argument. However, whether new or old, it cannot fail to prove interesting to our readers, especially at a time when there is so little Masonic news stirring.

"It is an opinion prevalent amongst almost the whole of mankind that the greatest honours are due to antiquity. He who can trace back his line of ancestry to the most remote ages is considered superior to him whose origin lies buried with the bones of his forefathers in oblivion.

Nations as well as individuals have been equally anxious to deduce their origin from the earliest ages. Hence, the Chinese pride themselves upon their empire having existed thousands of years; hence Ireland boasts her Milesians; and hence other countries, not content with their present opulence or grandeur alone, claim greater glory from the distant years of their first founders. If such a pride is, therefore, so universal as to appear almost a principle inherent in human nature, it is not to be wondered at that the wisest and best constituted societies are not devoid of it.

Thus the Mason glories in tracing the origin of the Masonic Institution from the commencement of the world, in pointing out, amidst the religious forms and mystic rites, the true source from whence the present ceremonies of his art arise.

It is well known that science first arose in the East, and in Egypt was carried to the highest degree of perfection. To the Colleges of Thebes and Memphis all those who wished to be instructed in deep learning resorted, where the priests, with whom alone the treasure was deposited, communicated to such as were found worthy, those intricacies of learning which they concealed from the generality of mankind; lest, by becoming too common, they should be turned to a bad use: this society was evidently of a Masonic nature, though under a different appellation. The priests employed a peculiar kind of writing, and their temples were ornamented with various mysterious symbols, which, to the initiated, were full of instruction, but totally inexplicable to the profane, as in the Freemasons' Lodges of the present day.

From Egypt these customs passed into Greece, where schools of learning were established, under various sages, who, although they openly professed a particular system, yet reserved for the instruction of their favourite disciples alone certain principles of knowledge, which they concealed from the rest. In all the Eastern nations the candidates for admission into the sacred mysteries were proved by repeated trials; their prudence, fortitude, courage, judgment, were all put severely to the test, and one failure for ever condemned them to remain amongst the common herd of mankind. Twenty-one years elapsed before they could attain to the knowledge of the higher mysteries. During the first seven, they were commanded to listen, but not to speak; during the next seven they were permitted to inquire with prudence and diffidence; and during the last were gradually initiated, till, being

proved worthy of the trust, the veil was withdrawn, and they were admitted into the sanctuary.

Many, however, never passed through the last seven years of probation, and others, having passed it, were not found qualified to have the great mysteries revealed to them; from this ancient custom it is probable that the Masons have borrowed their three degrees.

If we extend our views from the East to the Western or Northern regions, the same principle appears; the Druids confined the mysteries of religion, which were the mysteries of science, to themselves; they alone, of their whole nation, cultivated learning, and from the fear of its degenerating, writing was prohibited, and all their traditions were preserved by oral communication only.

I flatter myself these observations, trifling as they are, prove, in some measure, the antiquity of Masonry; since, whoever examines with attention the nature of the ancient sacerdotal institutions, or the manners of the Patriarchs, as recorded in sacred and profane history, and compares them with the Masonic Code, as far as the latter is permitted to be revealed, will find that they are all equally founded on the same system; and the further the search is pursued, the clearer will it appear that in all ages, and in all countries, Freemasonry has existed, though, from local circumstances, some variation must have arisen in the plan adopted. This investigation will likewise prove that the art, so far from being inimical to religion, morality, or social order, as its enemies have sometimes supposed, has its basis founded on these alone; and that he who is ambitious of becoming a TRUE MASON must first learn to be a GOOD CITIZEN and an HONEST MAN.

MASONICUS.

London, 1st May 1813.

SOCIAL FEATURES OF FREEMASONRY.

FROM THE VOICE OF MASONRY.

FREEMASONS are apt to neglect the social characteristics of our Institution. Great attention is often paid to the *work*, and the business transactions of the Lodge and Chapter are carried out with perfect exactitude, but beyond this the members of these bodies apparently care little, or naught. Some Masonic bodies even go so far as to elaborate the ritual into a species of melodrama or tragedy, with all the adjuncts of stage scenery, including the play thunder and dissolving views and lights. Of course this, in a large city, attracts—"draws houses," but it is not the Masonry that our fathers taught, nor is it the Masonry that is likely to produce a permanent or beneficial effect upon the mind of the neophyte. Scenic effect and gorgeous paraphernalia are all very well in their way, but they are of secondary importance. In such Lodges and Chapters the true spirit of the Institution is lost sight of, and the spurious coin passes as the pure metal. Of course, the work should always be done properly, impressively, and even with solemnity, but the philosophy and science of the Institution should never be slurred over.

In order to carry out the idea of "The Tie of Brotherhood" that we boast is a principal feature in the basis of our Institution, it is imperative that we cultivate, far more than we do, its social features, both inside and outside the Lodge room. It is not sufficient to formally receive a visitor and tell him to "be seated among the brethren," and then allow him, after Lodge, to grope down stairs alone, and find his way, as best he can, to his hotel.

Masons naturally desire to form Masonic friendships, and gain Masonic knowledge, when travelling in foreign jurisdictions, but, too often, they speedily find that the members of a vast majority of Lodges, at least on this Continent, are so engrossed with ritual and paraphernalia that they ignore those courtesies that render the Lodge room attractive to the visiting brother.

And if we neglect the pleasing amenities of life in the Lodge room, how much more are we apt to do so towards each other in the social every-day course of affairs? A brother comes to a strange place, and imbued with the cherished idea of the universality of Freemasonry, at once calls upon Mr. So and So, and Doctor This and That, because they are brethren of the Mystic Tie. Too often these gentlemen ignore the silken cord that binds the Brotherhood together, and after formally wishing their visitor success in his business, bow him out and leave him to battle for himself in his undertaking in a strange place. Yet, in all probability, these men are Masters of Lodges, or High Priests of Chapters, and nightly tell the neophyte that in every land he will find a brother. Is this the Masonry that wins for itself the love and enthusiasm of the young, the esteem, admiration and faith of the old? A few such practical illustrations of brotherly love soon dispel from the mind of the visiting brother the charm that once shed such a halo of light upon his Masonic lore. A cloud, dark, misty and gruesome has spread itself like a pall over his Masonic enthusiasm, and it is often a long and weary time before either the brilliant rays of the noon-day sun or the pale flitting effulgence of Luna's borrowed light disperses the blackened gloom and darkened shadow that has overspread his former love for Freemasonry. Why should Freemasons thus receive a brother?

But there is another class besides the visiting that is chilled and

disgusted by this neglect of the social features of Freemasonry, viz.: our younger brethren. Who has not witnessed the initiation of a candidate performed with much pomp and ceremonial but cold and inanimate? Again, who has not seen the work slurred over and abbreviated, and, *the actual work being finished*, known the newly pledged Mason to be allowed to sit down amongst the brethren and to leave the Lodge room without even a personal introduction to a single brother? Now, what can the young Mason think of such a reception? If the ceremonial is very fine, he views the Institution as a sort of Ritualistic Association; if it is slovenly, he thinks it a bore and a humbug. In either case he is disappointed, and as first impressions are really most important, we should make every effort not only to impress the mind of the neophyte with the solemnity of the ceremonial through which he is passing, but we should, in addition to this, cause him to understand that in future the Lodge room is his Masonic home, and that wherever he goes he is to welcome a Mason as a brother and in return to expect a brother's greeting. This is what should be taught the candidate the night of his initiation, and if he is then properly welcomed into the Masonic fold, he will, in all probability, at a future time, be glad to greet a brother from a distant jurisdiction in that Masonic spirit which is the essence of true Freemasonry.

That Masons frequently grossly neglect this paramount duty, both in the case of the neophyte and the visitor, in the Lodge room and out of the Lodge room, cannot be satisfactorily refuted. The effect is highly disastrous to the best interests of the Fraternity, and the result is evident from the fact that "the vast army of the unaffiliated" is daily on the increase, and brethren, losing interest in cold formalities and formal ceremonials, neglect the Lodge-room and Chapter, and either seek diversion in the asylum of the Commandery or of the Consistory, where a more cordial reception generally greets them. Thus, *les hautes grades*, the offshoots, the dream vagaries of the Institution, often usurp the place that ancient Craft Masonry should ever hold in the heart of every true Son of Light. But worse than this, good men who care naught for the tinsel and glitter of quasi and pseudo Masonry, drop out, when they find neither philosophy, science nor sociability cultivated in the Lodge room or the Chapter, and many, alas! thoroughly wearied of the monotony, forget and neglect their Lodge, and allow themselves to be suspended for non-payment of dues. It is lamentable to think that such is frequently the case, but it is, and Masons should make a great effort to change the current of Masonic thought in this particular. Man is innately a social being, and if we neglect this feature of our Fraternity, we are committing a gross outrage in the name of Masonry. Gentlemen join us because they have heard of the *universality* of Freemasonry; of the brotherly love that exists amongst its members, &c., and when they find that these things only exist in theory, they become disgusted and disappointed and leave the Craft.

How easily all this difficulty might be avoided if Masters of Lodges and others high in authority would only make a united effort to cultivate a more social spirit. Every night the brethren should be called off for refreshment. Men thaw round the social board: visitors and younger members form friendships there in a few minutes that it would take a lifetime to make amidst the formalities of the Lodge room. There is no necessity for much expense; in fact, that should always be avoided, but a pretty little *recherché déjeuner* is what is required. Fun, wit, repartee, toast, song and sentiment ever accompany a pleasant reunion of this kind, and, although we may laugh at the "knife and fork degree," and "the roast beef of Old England," the truth is that our old country brethren are a-head of us in this particular. The genial reception accorded to the visitor in an English Lodge is generally far warmer and pleasanter than the formal and precise greeting accorded to strangers by Lodges on this Continent. We should not therefore neglect "the social features of Freemasonry," either in the Lodge room or outside its sacred precincts. In both instances we are equally bound as gentlemen, as Masons, and as brethren, to accord to the neophyte and the visitor such a reception as shall at once make him feel at home. The duty of the Mason, so far as sociability is concerned, is two-fold, and if he neglects it he is actually guilty of a high misdemeanour towards the code of ethics of Masonry universal.

1. He should, by precept and practice, strive by every legitimate means to make every Mason that visits his Lodge or Chapter feel himself at home; his manner should be warm, his greeting cordial, the grasp of his hand fraternal.

2. Outside the Lodge room he should exert his influence and use every effort to forward the interests of a brother, and to make him feel that the bond of brotherly love is a magic tie and mystic spell that binds all true Freemasons within its silken triple network of friendship, love and truth. This is what we require more in Freemasonry, and if we only strive to attain and practice it, we shall soon find that the warm and lasting friendships formed through the cultivation of "the social features of Freemasonry" will be amongst the most precious treasures harvested after many years of labour within the golden receptacle of the granary of Honour, Virtue and Truth.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

WILL BE WORKED

At the Fidelity Lodge of Instruction, No. 3, held at the Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-square, W., on Thursday, 6th October, at 7 p.m. precisely. Bros. C. Koester P.M. 435 W.M., E. Farwig P.M. 180 S.W., J. Hemming 1287 J.W. First Lecture:—Bros. J. Harvey, E. Knight, B. Kauffman, W. Birrell, R. Cook, J. Paul, and W. J. Burgess. Second Lecture:—Bros. L. Jacobs, G. L. Moore, F. J. Wray, E. Farwig, and J. C. Smith. Third Lecture:—Bros. J. W. Smith, J. Hemming, and F. W. Sillis. C. Koester P.M. 435 Preceptor, F. W. Sillis W.S. 1744 Secretary.

J. E. SHAND & Co., Wine Merchants (Experts and Valuers). Well fermented old Wines and matured Spirits. 2 Albert Mansions, Victoria-street, London, S.W.

MASONIC RECEPTION OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION AT YORK.

WHEN we consider the great antiquity of Freemasonry, the numerous books which have been published in reference to it, the almost innumerable other works bearing on the subject, and the general interest felt in its history by brethren throughout the country, we can but feel surprised that so few public collections of relics of the Craft are to be met with. With, we think, but two exceptions, namely, at the quarters of the Supreme Council in Golden Square, and among the brethren of York, no systematic public organisations exist in this country for the acquiring and preservation of curiosities and relics of Masonic history. In these two cases it is true the collections are of sufficient extent to compensate in a measure for the apathy displayed by the remainder of the English brotherhood, but when we weigh what has been, and is still being done, by the brethren associated with them, we feel regret that their example is not followed more generally, or that some more regular support is given them than is at present the case. On this occasion we shall confine our remarks to the collection which exists at York—the property of the York and Eboracum Lodges, or of the brethren who are members of them. The best we can say of this collection is, that every Mason who has an opportunity of doing so should devote a portion of his time to an inspection of it. We feel assured that he will be pleased at having done so, even if, by a personal acquaintance with some of the relics of the past, he does not feel greater veneration for the Order itself. On the occasion of the reception of the members of the British Association by the brethren of York, which took place on Monday, at the Masonic Hall, great pains were taken to secure the loan of every item of Masonic interest known of in the district, and the presence of most of these, together with those in the possession of the York brethren themselves, formed an exhibition which we can but hope will one day become a permanent one in the city. It is doubtless true that private collectors are loth to part with the treasures of which they have, perhaps after great trouble, possessed themselves, yet in the interest of the general body, it is often found they are willing to do so, provided some suitable place can be found for their reception. This, we venture to think, the brethren of York would be willing to provide, if it was found their already-erected hall was either unsuited or insufficient for the purpose. We would suggest that each of the exhibitors on the recent occasion be invited to co-operate in some scheme which shall have for its object the permanent collection, in one building, of the many interesting relics which were then only lent, and this having been done, that brethren throughout the country be invited to co-operate in making at York a really national collection of Masonic curiosities. If this were carried out, and a catalogue of the articles already secured were published, we believe many responses would be made. At present brethren are really unaware of the class of things for which to seek, or if by chance they become possessors of an old Masonic work, are at a loss to know where to send it in order that it may be of service to the Craft at large. But if it once became known that York was the recognised centre, the feeling that their gifts might be lost would no longer deter donors or loaners to the general collection. From the prominent part York played in Freemasonry in the past, it would be particularly entitled to the honour of becoming the home of Masonic relics, while the collection already formed by its brethren, gives it a further claim to this distinction. It has further the advantage of being the home of some of the most enterprising students of Masonic history we can boast of in this country, and is in many other ways eminently suited as the centre for a Masonic museum.

The reception of Monday took place, as we have said, at the Masonic Hall, in Duncombe-place, where at seven o'clock a Lodge of Emergency was opened by the W.M. of No. 236. The spacious hall was filled to its utmost capacity, there being upwards of three hundred brethren present, while in the centre of the Lodge, and around the walls, were arranged the various exhibits of the day, of which the following is a list:—

Curious old silver Masonic jewel, letter G in centre, and emblems—very finely cut. Date unknown—lent by Mrs. Tissiman, Scarborough. Curious old jewel, Mark and Craft combined; an old York Mark member's medal F.H.C., &c. Seems to connect Craft with Mark, rare,

lent by Bro. R. Boggett P.M. 1605 P.G.S.B. Very fine gilt medal 1767, supposed to have been struck at the foundation of a R.A. Chapter, lent by Bro. R. Boggett P.M. 1605 P.G.S.B. North and East Yorkshire. Antique silver star, very old, about 1790, lent by Bro. R. Boggett P.M. 1605 P.G.S.B. Curious old silver Masonic jewel, rather rough in cutting, date about 1790, lent by Bro. Tissiman 236, York. Unique oval silver Masonic jewel about 1790, badge as Craft R.A., K.T. and "Rosa Crois," remarkable, lent by Bro. R. Boggett P.M. 1605 P.G.S.B. Old brass tobacco-box, Masonic emblems, 1800, (puzzle to open), lent by Bro. J. T. Sellar W.M. 1611, York. Copies of "toasts lists," &c., (Masonic Shakesperian, musical, &c.), Eboracum Lodge 1611, lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland P.M. 1611. History of the "Knights of Malta," by Mons. L'Abbé de Vertot, 71 heads of Grand Masters, Maps, &c., 1728, lent by J. S. Cumberland, P.E.P. York. Engraving of Foundation of Royal Order of the Freemasons in Palestine, by P. Lambert de Lintot, 1789, lent by Humber Lodge 57, per W. Bro. Dr. Bell D.P.G.M. Fine silver presentation Masonic jewel, presented to John Moore, 42nd R.H.R., St. Andrew's Lodge 243. Jewel, old, lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland P.M. 1611. Very fine Rose Croix Collar Jewel, of early date, lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland 18, M.W.S. Hilda Chapter. Old Snuffbox, Masonic Emblems, Eboracum 1611, York. Antique Masonic Jewel, presented by Bro. Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett P.M. P.P.G.S.W. North and East Yorkshire, lent by Eboracum 1611, York. Fine Old Mug (Leeds ware), Masonic Emblems, old, lent by Eboracum Lodge 1611, York. Very fine Old Glass Goblet and two smaller Glasses, beautifully cut, with Masonic emblems, 1800, lent by Bro. J. T. Sellar P.M. 1611, York. Old Masonic Pitcher, St. George's Lodge 225, London, lent by Eboracum 1611, York. Pair of very fine Masonic Glass Goblets, from North Germany, 1780, lent by Bro. J. S. Walton P.M. Very curious old Engraving of a Freemason, made out of the materials of his Lodge, 1754, lent by Humber Lodge 57. Two Wax Impressions of the Seals of the Old Globe Lodge 200, lent by Bro. R. H. Peacock, Scarborough. Round Table Top, dark marble, beautifully cut, with Masonic emblems, exceedingly fine, lent by York Lodge 236. Engraving, published by P. Lambert de Lintot, emblematical of character, Grand Lodge and Knights Templars, 1789, lent by Humber Lodge 57. Engraving of Apron in commemoration of Earl Moira Acting G.M., 31st March 1813. Humber Lodge 57. "French Ritual," lent by Bro. R. H. Peacock, Scarborough. Very rare silver Masonic Medal, supposed to be second English issue, date 1766, lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland P.M. 1611. Curious old Masonic apron (nothing known of it) lent by Bro. R. H. Peacock Scarborough. Fine oval silver presentation medal, about 1790, presented to the great grandfather of present owner, lent by Bro. G. C. Caster, Peterborough. Gilt R.A. jewel (John Hirst) 1796, lent by Bro. John Church, Sheffield. Centenary jewel, Palladian Lodge 141, 1862, lent by J. S. Cumberland, P.M. 1611. Very rare silver Masonic jewel, supposed one of first English medals issued in "Marvin's" Book of Medals, 1750, lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland P.M. 1611. Honorary member's jewel, "Mary Commandery 36," Philadelphia, U.S.A., lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland. Fine pierced silver Masonic medal, emblems beautifully cut, 1740-50, lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland P.M. 1611. Old coins struck by the Grand Masters of the Order of Malta, 1780 to 1796, lent by Bro. T. B. Whytehead. Old Masonic Play Bill, 1791, lent by Eboracum, 1611, York. Curious old silk handkerchief, with Masonic emblems all over it, in a dilapidated condition, lent by Bro. R. H. Peacock P.M. 200 Scarborough. Engraving, dedicated to the Duke of Cumberland, by P. Lambert de Lintot, Master of Lodges 531, 787, lent by Humber Lodge 57. Bitumen cup, very beautiful, presented by Wor. Bro. Dr. Bell D.P.G.M., lent by Eboracum 1611, York. Photo of Masons' Marks from Stones at Ancient Carthage, presented by W. Bro. A. M. Broadley P.M., &c., Tunis, lent by Eboracum 1611, York. Fine old black letter Bible, formerly the property of Grand Lodge at York, 1761, lent by Eboracum 1611, York. Small American Rose Croix jewel, modern, lent by J. S. Cumberland 18 M.W.S. Hilda Chapter. Old Scotch apron, lent by Bro. B. P. Ord P.P.G. Org. Northumberland. Curious old Masonic engraving in commemoration of the Union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, lent by Bro. Marshall, Leeds. Scotch Master Mason's apron, curious, old, lent by the Eboracum Lodge, York. Photographs, Ancient Carthage and Neighbourhood, and series of seven curious Masonic Cartoons, lent by the Eboracum Lodge. Doyle's Fellowship, Guernsey, 1820. Masonic cartoon, Woman's inquisitiveness and its result. Bronze K.T. badge, lent by Bro. T. B. Whytehead. Antique old silver loving cup, formerly belonging to the Grand Lodge of All England, lent by Mrs. Newstead, Selby. Pen and ink sketch of H.R.H. the late Duke of Sussex M.W.G.M., lent by Bro. R. Boggett. Framed series of etchings of Masonic emblems. Old Masonic plate, and curious old poignard, formerly used by the Tyler of the Lodge. Fine old Tyler's sword, formerly belonging to the Royal Oak Lodge, Ripon, lent by the De Gray and Ripon Lodge. Knight Templar's sword, presented by Sir Knight John Dornan on the occasion of the visit of the Mary Commandery 1878, lent by the Ancient Ebor Preceptory. Unfinished carved stone from Ancient Carthage, lent by Eboracum Lodge, York. Series of fine portraits of the Grand Masters of the Order of Malta, lent by Bro. Whytehead. Six engravings, in commemoration of the Institution of Girls (Royal Cumberland), 1788, lent by Bro. J. P. Bell. Old silver verge watch, fine Masonic emblems, painted by hand on face, still goes, date 1783, lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland. Freemasons at work, engraved by Lambert, lent by the Humber Lodge. Scotch Moira aprons in frame, 1813, lent by De Grey and Ripon Lodge. Curious cartoon of the procession of the Scald Miserable Masons, 1742, and fine old Masonic flagon, used as a loving cup. Flagon stand, very beautifully designed and emblematically finished, with names of subscribers for the purchase; lent by the Eboracum Lodge. Beautiful illuminated address, together with a charity jewel, presented to Bro. J. S. Cumberland for his labours on behalf of the Masonic Charities. American Masonic medal, to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone for the Egyptian Obelisk, New York, October 1880; lent by Bro. J. S. Cum-

berland. Beautiful silver-enamelled P.M.'s star, presented to the late Bro. Metcalfe by the brethren of the Keighley Lodge, seventy years ago, lent by the De Grey and Ripon Lodge. Beautiful silver-enamelled star, very early date, lent by Bro. J. Laughton P.M., Lincolnshire. Three medals 1790, to commemorate the election of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, lent by Bro. J. S. Cumberland. Marvin's work on Masonic medals, lent by Bro. Cumberland. Bro. M. C. Peck Provincial Grand Secretary N. and E. Yorks, contributed the following:—Small case containing fine bronze medal, struck to commemorate the election of the Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV.) as M.W.G.M., and the Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV., as First Grand Principal. It is engraved in Oliver's "Revelations of a Square," which is shown with it. Masonic token, commemorating election of Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M., 1790. Medal, struck in commemoration of the defeat of the French by the burning of Moscow 1812. Medal, Admiral Vernon, taking of Portobello. Large gilt Masonic jewel, representing Craft and R.A. emblems on either side, date 1767. The Silver seal of the Minerva Lodge made in 1796. The two silver jewels (sun and moon) worn by the Deacons of the Minerva Lodge before the Union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813; Clavel's *Histoire Pittoresque de la Franc Maçonnerie*, with fine steel plates; Clavel's *Almanack de la Franc Maçonnerie*; Macoy's *Masonic Manual*, painted and beautifully illustrated; Lawrie's *History of Freemasonry and G.L. of Scotland*; Ahimon *Rezon*, 2nd edition, with engraved front and title, London 1764; *Constitutions of Thos. Harper*, with engraved front., 1807. This work states that Ancient Masonry consists of four degrees. *Numotheca Numismatica*, by Ernst Zacharias; a rare work, containing fine plates of Masonic Medals, &c.; Dr. Oliver's *Signs and Symbols*; Grimsby 1826, with autograph letter from the author; *Manuel General de la Franc Maçonnerie*, by Teissier; a curious old Apron, with Masonic emblems, engraved by Cole.

The Lodge having been opened in the three degrees, the Provincial Grand Officers and Grand Officers were received and saluted according to their rank. The Worshipful Masters of the York and Eboracum Lodges then tendered a fraternal greeting to the visiting brethren, after which the Very Rev. the Dean of York, G.C., and Chaplain to the York Lodge, on behalf of the two Lodges, gave an address. He had very great pleasure in adding a few words to the welcome which had been given by the Worshipful Masters of the York and Eboracum Lodges. The brethren of York had very great pleasure in seeing so many distinguished brethren present, brethren he might say hailing from all parts. The meeting was held under very favourable auspices, taking place under the very shadow of a building which, if not the noblest, was at least one of the finest monuments of the skill of our ancient Craftsmen. At the present day the object of the Craft was not so much the cultivation of material structures, but rather something higher. The present occasion, when they were surrounded in York by the most learned members of the British Association, was admirably suited for such a meeting as the brethren of the Craft had provided that day. The brethren of York fraternally welcomed their visitors from all parts, and hoped they would go away gratified and interested. Bro. J. Glaisher, Past Grand Deacon of England, replied on behalf of the Grand Lodge Officers and Visitors. He had on many occasions been present at Masonic Lodges held in connection with the meetings of the British Association, and had a lively recollection of the splendour of some of those receptions; but that given by the York brethren stood out from them all as the brightest he had ever known. As a Mason he really felt so proud of what he had seen that night that he experienced some difficulty in expressing his thanks. He felt that every brother present would recollect the reception given by the Freemasons, and that the gathering of that night would ever be fixed on the memory of them all. Heartly good wishes having been tendered by the visiting brethren—who comprised representatives of a large majority of Provincial Grand Lodges, and not a few Foreign Grand Bodies—the W.M. proceeded to close the Lodge. Refreshment was then partaken of, and later on a *Conversazione* was held in the Lodge room, the following being the programme:—

GLEE—"Strike the Lyre"—Cook; the Masonic Glee Party—Bros. Wilkinson, Todd, Kirby, Sanderson, Lee, Humphreys, Marshall, and Cumberland.

ADDRESS—On Records and Antiquities belonging to York Lodge, by W. Bro. J. Todd P.M. 236 P.P.G. Reg.

SONG—"Madoline"—Nelson; Bro. J. E. Wilkinson.

ADDRESS—By W. Bro. T. W. Tew D.P.G.M. West Yorkshire.

GLEES—*a.* "Evening's Twilight"—Hatton; *b.* "Absence"—Hatton; Bros. Wilkinson, Todd, Sanderson, and Cumberland.

ADDRESS—By W. Bro. J. P. Bell D.P.G.M.

QUARTETTE—"Of a' the Airts"—Shore; Bros. Wilkinson, Todd, Marshall, and Cumberland.

ADDRESS—By M.W. Bro. Hyde Clark P.M. W. Grand Master of Columbia.

SONG—"Village Blacksmith"—Weiss; Bro. J. S. Cumberland.

GLEE—"Hail Smiling Morn"—Spofforth; Masonic Glee Party.

QUARTETTE—"Beware"—Hatton; Bros. Wilkinson, Kirby, Sanderson, and Marshall.

CONCLUDING ADDRESS—By Bro. T. B. Whytehead P.M.

GLEE—"As the Moments Roll"—S. Webbe, 1749; Masonic Glee Party.

"God Save the Queen."

It was not until a late hour that this programme was got through, but the interest evinced in the proceedings throughout showed the appreciation with which the efforts of the brethren were regarded. In conclusion, we can but give credit to those who were really responsible for the arrangement of the proceedings, viz., Bros. A. Buckle, J. S. Cumberland (Joint Secretaries of the Reception Committee), and T. B. Whytehead. To these three brethren may fairly be attributed the honour of having brought the meeting to so successful an issue, and we hope that the work they have done, may bear fruit, which will hand their names down to future generations in connection with the Masonic Museum we hope to see established. We have pleasure in reproducing elsewhere in our columns the paper read by Bro. P.M. Todd; and giving here the concluding address of Bro. Whytehead, who spoke as follows:—

It would not be right to break up this most pleasant gathering without some expression of feeling of the pleasure expressed by the Brethren of York at the success of their undertaking, and of their hope that their visitors will have nothing to regret in the memory of the evening they have passed under their roof. Such gatherings as the one in which we have taken part this evening are of unquestionable value, taken from any point of view. To those who are young in Masonry, the Association with brethren of age and experience must have an improving effect, and should urge them to follow in the footsteps of those whose labours have already made them famous. To those who are themselves active workers in the mines of Masonic research, the same association cannot but afford much pleasure from the advantage derived from the exchange of ideas, and from the encouragement afforded to perseverance in the paths they have already entered, whilst to those still older brethren who as yet have failed to find in Masonry anything of sufficient interest to engage their real attention, the display around them, as well as the addresses they have heard, will, I hope, prove that the Royal Art has an inner life and interest unknown to those who never penetrate behind the outer shell of our daily ceremonies. At this late hour I do not wish to detain you, but should not like to miss the opportunity of saying a word or two on the importance of close research into the real origin and history of Freemasonry. The day has long gone by for the repetition of the old fables which for a century and a half satisfied the members of our Order, and the danger seems to be that we are running into the opposite extreme of discrediting everything which cannot be absolutely proved by chapter and verse. Of the two mistakes, perhaps credulity may be the worst, but nothing could be more fatal to the elucidation of such a necessarily obscure history as that of Freemasonry than the absolute rejection of everything legendary. Nevertheless, I am perfectly satisfied that much may yet be discovered from the careful investigation of old documents, diaries, correspondence, and early newspaper files. From day to day discoveries are made of more or less importance, and the columns of the Masonic press frequently record such finds. Brother Lukis, of Ripon, made such a discovery a short time since in the diaries of Dr. Stakeley, and last week I had the pleasure of announcing Brother the Hon. Orde-Powlett's discovery of a monumental slab of the 17th century, recording the death of a Freemason, in Wensley Churchyard, North Yorkshire. It is from an accumulation of small facts that complete histories are formed, and there are doubtless plenty of material yet to be discovered to throw light upon our descent from the mediæval guilds. I hold in my hand a copy of a paper published in York in 1775, *Etherington's York Chronicle*, which came into my possession a few days ago, containing three consecutive advertisements of considerable interest.

MORIAH LODGE, No. 176,

Of Free and Accepted Masons, under the constitution of the Ancient Grand Lodge of England.

The members hereof are desired to meet the Master, Wardens, &c., at the house of Mr. William Blanchard, the Star and Garter, in Nessgate, York, on Wednesday, the 27th inst., being the anniversary of St. John. Dinner on the table at two o'clock.

TANCRED, Provincial Grand Master.

The Free and Accepted Masons, under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, are desired to meet the Brethren of the Apollo Lodge, at the George Inn, Coney Street, York, on Wednesday, 17th December, being the anniversary of St. John. Tickets to be had at the bar of the said inn. Dinner at 2 o'clock.

STAPILTON, Grand Master.

Free and Accepted Masons are desired to meet the brethren of the most Ancient Grand Lodge of All England, at the York Tavern, on Wednesday, the 27th inst.

BEWLAY, }
CONSTT, } Grand Wardens.

Dinner on the table at two o'clock.

The warrant for the Moriah Lodge was first issued to brethren of the 1st Regiment of Yorkshire Militia at Sheffield, and was afterwards removed to York, where it met at the hostelry named in the advertisement. It was under the authority of the Athol Grand Lodge, the Seceders, in 1738, from the Grand Lodge of England. The Apollo, as Dr. Bell has told you, was under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, Stapilton was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge at York. Thus we have three Lodges under three different constitutions celebrating St. John's Day at York in 1775. From time to time the files of the York papers of last century contain notices of the Freemasons sufficient in fact for the outline of a history of Masonry in this city did not other records exist. The importance of examination of old files in other counties where Lodge archives are not to be found should not be overlooked. I had hoped to have seen here to-night my friends and co-students, Bros. R. F. Gould and W. J. Hughan, the former our greatest Masonic statistician, and both of whose published works are of inestimable value to the Masonic investigator. It is satisfactory to know that those brethren are now engaged in the production of a new history of Masonry, which will embody all the latest discoveries. Brethren, we have been delighted to have had the opportunity of greeting you in open Lodge, and of extending to you our hospitality; and on behalf of the Masons of York, I may assure you that if you have experienced as much pleasure from your visit as we have done in your reception, our pains will not have been in vain. For ourselves, we shall ever remember with gratification our Masonic gathering at York in 1881.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Zetland R.W. Prov. Grand Master North and East Yorkshire, upon the invitation of the Kingston Lodge, 1010, will hold the annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge at Hull, on Wednesday, 5th October. The R.W. the Mayor of Hull has kindly consented to the meeting being held in the Town Hall. Prov. Grand Lodge and the brethren will go in procession to Holy Trinity Church, where a sermon will be preached by the Hon. and Rev. the Dean of York, Grand Chaplain of England. The banquet will be held at the Public Rooms.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:o:—

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—One of "Mars's" suggestions in his letter of the 30th ult. is, I think, an excellent one. He asks if some plan could not be devised by which, while a majority of our Lodges of Instruction were set apart for elementary coaching, a minority were reserved for those who are ambitious of obtaining a degree of knowledge somewhat above the average. This might very easily be done. As he points out there are some 110 of these Lodges in the Metropolitan District. There are several cases in which two or even more Lodges meet in the same house, while in most neighbourhoods the places of meeting are all easily accessible, any one, taken at hazard, not being more difficult to get at than any other similarly selected. If some, then, were promoted (say) to the rank of Master Masons' Lodges of Instruction, as is the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, a very considerable improvement on the present system would be effected at a very trifling expense in the way of change.

I am,

Faithfully and fraternally,

MASTER MASON.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I could have wished to have seen a proof of my letter in your issue of the 27th ultimo, before its insertion. Although the substance of the letter would have been the same, I should have made certain alterations which might have rendered my meaning perhaps a little clearer; for instance, line 24, "Superior Schools or Lodges of Improvement, where the more hidden mysteries could be taught." Again, 25 and 26, and "due credit should be given to those who are willing gratuitously to impart the superior knowledge they possess," again, in line 50, the words "the widow or" should have been left out, but I trust your readers will be able to understand the gist of the several points of my letter. I have read with great interest Bro. "Mars's" second letter, he still forgets they are simply Lodges of Instruction and nothing more, that new and young members are constantly coming in, and that they especially are the class for whom the instruction is intended. The lectures and the different sections are meant to, and do in a great measure, explain the meaning of our different ceremonies, and these, if attentively listened to, will afford the necessary instruction as to the fundamental principles, objects of research, and desired end of our ancient and highly honourable Order. Anything beyond this requires that which I hope this controversy will aid in obtaining,

superior Schools or Lodges, same as ordinary schools, where the students are divided into different classes and taught by different masters in accordance with the extent of their attainments, and then complete their education—if it ever is completed—either at one of the universities, with private tutors, or by self imposed studies in after life. At Lodges of Instruction the groundwork is laid, whence by careful study farther improvement in our ritual can be acquired, of course all the easier under superior guidance. I consider myself fortunate in having been under the able preceptorship of Brother Cottebrune, who does not content himself with the mere verbiage and other essential parts of our ritual, but is sufficiently master of the subject to, and does, explain the why and the wherefore, for as your readers are perfectly aware, there is a general connection in our whole system, and its several parts are dependent one upon the other.

I remain,

Yours fraternally,

C. J. PERCEVAL.

August 29th 1881.

BRO. PERCEVAL'S AMENDMENT.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Bro. Perceval must be gratified at the result of his first attempt to dispense with the confirmation by Grand Lodge of its approval of grants over £50, to this extent, at least, that though he did not succeed in carrying his point, he received so large a measure of support. I trust, under the circumstances, he will, sooner or later, renew his attempt, for I am sure that the more the matter is considered, the more apparent will it be to the Craft that when a considerable sum has been recommended and approved, it should be paid over without further delay. I think with "L.E.R." that we cannot do better than leave the chief conduct of these matters to the Lodge of Benevolence, whose members, as he very truly says, have so much "wisdom, experience, and discretion." If we cannot trust them to fulfil the responsibilities entrusted to them, without requiring from Grand Lodge a double approval of their recommendations in certain cases, then it seems to me the Lodge of Benevolence is not properly constituted, and should in some way or other be strengthened. However, I fancy most brethren think the fault to which the delays complained of are attributable lies with the Constitutions, which exact more caution than is necessary, rather than with the Lodge of Benevolence, for a too lax administration of the Fund.

Fraternally yours,

R.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

11 Bridge-street, Westminster, S.W.
8th September 1881.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Were I to say I was not disappointed at the result of yesterday's division on my amendment to Bro. Nunn's motion, it would be untrue; for I am more,—I am dissatisfied with the result of the count, as given by the tellers. So satisfied was I that I had a considerable majority—say about one and half to one—when the brethren had divided, that I sat down perfectly content, and was astounded when I heard the numbers given out. Though defeated in my first attempt, I shall most certainly not drop the matter, but try again. At the next Grand Lodge I shall bring forward a resolution—"That in all cases where a division is called for, there shall be a count out in a manner somewhat similar to that practised in the House of Commons, and that two tellers shall be chosen from either side." The method adopted yesterday was most unsatisfactory and impracticable; whereas, to count correctly, there should have been two tellers for each side, chosen from the body of the Lodge; not two only, and those from one side. I do not doubt for one moment the endeavour to make a correct count, but at the same time I very much question the accuracy of the return, and shall, in the meantime, consult with my friends as to the proper course to pursue in December next.

Yours fraternally,

C. J. PERCEVAL.

LODGE WORK AND LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—There is only one passage in Bro. "ALDERMAN'S" letter of last week, to which I think exception can be taken. Every one recognises that our present Lodges of Instruction were "established for the especial purpose of preparing and perfecting brethren in the necessary work of regular Lodges;" but I cannot bring myself to admit that "these Institutions must remain as they are, or their usefulness is gone." I have said already that a knowledge of our ceremonial can only be acquired by "frequent" repetition; but I do not go so far as to assert that the repetition must be "constant." On the contrary, I believe that an occasional lecture, in which the more difficult passages or references were explained, while it must afford some relief from the monotonous routine of repetition, would likewise at the same time, and to a very appreciable extent, facilitate the acquisition of the requisite knowledge. But I shall doubtless make my meaning clearer if I illustrate it, so I will select for my purpose the famous Forty-seventh proposition of the first Book of Euclid. In the ordinary course of things a certain youth at school has this set him as a task, and he is given to understand that he must learn it so perfectly as to be able either to repeat it to the Master or write it out from memory. Well, he succeeds in

time, and after some difficulty, and when the trial comes, he repeats or writes it out faultlessly. But as he is only at the beginning of his mathematical studies, it cannot be said that he understands much of what he has learnt. He has succeeded in committing it to memory, and, unless he is called upon to repeat it frequently, it is very certain that sooner or later, as his memory is more or less retentive, he will begin to forget it. This, however, would not be the case had the tutor been at the pains of explaining the several steps taken in order to demonstrate the correctness of the proposition. Once these steps are thoroughly understood and the youth's memory plays only a secondary part. He reasons out the sequent stages, and no longer has to trust only to his memory. Now much the same would happen in the case of the young Masonic student, who would master the difficulties of a ceremony or lecture with far less difficulty if he were able to reason them out for himself than if he had only to look to his memory to work it. Thus, if the programme of work were varied to the extent of introducing an occasional explanatory lecture, I think the usefulness of our Lodges of Instruction would be materially increased.

A *ain*—and here, at all events, I have the sympathy of Bro. ALDERMAN—a further improvement would undoubtedly follow, if some, at all events, of our Preceptors were replaced by brethren of higher educational attainments. Bro. ALDERMAN tells us, that when he hears the vowels so unceremoniously *exasperated*, he feels like one who has had the misfortune "to sit on the business end of a tin tack," and if his attendance at Lodges of Instruction is at all as regular as mine was some three or four years ago, I am afraid he must experience those unpleasant sensations pretty frequently. It is one of the conditions of success in education that the pupil shall be able to look up to his tutor with respect, if not with reverence. But what possible respect can I entertain for a Preceptor when all the time I am listening to his instruction I am busily engaged in repressing my inclination to laugh at his errors of pronunciation. It is no joke, I can assure you, to sit under a Gallio who is continually murdering his native language. If all the Preceptors were like a few I might name, Lodges of Instruction would be still more useful for training purposes than they are now. On the other hand, in the case of those Lodges in which the presiding spirits are certain other Preceptors, whom it will be better to pass over as nameless, the wonder is, not that young brethren attend them, and make some slight progress in learning our ceremonies, &c., by rote, but that there should be any decently educated brethren who muster up courage to attend.

Fraternally yours,

"MARS."

BRO. R. HIRST engages to provide, at short notice, an efficient Band for Annual Banquets, Dinners, Excursions and Quadrille Parties. For terms apply to "R. Hirst, The Three Crowns, 237 Mile End Road, E."

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THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY LANE.—At 7.30, YOUTH.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 8, PROMENADE CONCERTS.

HER MAJESTY'S.—At 8, HAVERLY'S MONSTER TROUPE OF REAL NIGGERS. Wednesday and Saturday, at 2 also.

ADELPHI.—At 7.15, A LAD FROM THE COUNTRY. At 8, IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.

HAYMARKET.—At 7.30, EAST LYNNE. At 9.30, BLUE AND BUFF. PRINCESS'S.—At 7, A PHOTOGRAPHIC FRIGHT. At 8, THE LIGHTS OF LONDON.

GLOBE.—LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.

GAIETY.—At 7.5, OPERETTA. At 7.20, FAST COACH, At 8.30, FORTY THIEVES.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.45, QUITE AN ADVENTURE. At 8.15, CLAUDE DUVAL.

CRITERION.—At 8, WITHERED LEAVES. At 8.45, FLATS.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8, UNCLE SAMUEL. At 8.30, PATIENCE.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 8.30, THE COLONEL.

FOLLY.—At 7.15, HIS LAST LEGS. At 8.30, IMPRUDENCE.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.30, FARCE. At 8.15, BRONZE HORSE.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—This day, ATHLETIC SPORTS, MAZEPPA, CONCERT, &c.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—This day, CONCERT. On Thursday, FIREWORKS, &c. Open Daily. Aquarium, Picture Gallery, &c., &c.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—Messrs. MASKELYNE AND COOK every Evening at 8. Wednesday and Saturday at 3 and 8.

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1st September 1881.

A MOVEABLE GRAND LODGE will be held under the auspices of the Britannia Lodge, No. 53, at the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, Sheffield, on Thursday, the 22nd inst. Grand Lodge will be opened at 2.30 o'clock precisely.

BUSINESS.

Installation of V.W. Bro. J. W. WOODALL as R.W. Provincial Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire; and Installation of Bro. S. H. GATTY Worshipful Master elect of the Britannia Lodge, by the M.W. Grand Master, assisted by his Grand Officers.

The Banquet will take place at Five o'clock. Tickets, 12s 6d each, inclusive of Wine.

Application for which must be made to Bro. H. A. STYRING, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, Sheffield, on or before Monday, 12th inst.

By command of the M.W. Grand Master,

FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G.J.W.)

Grand Secretary.

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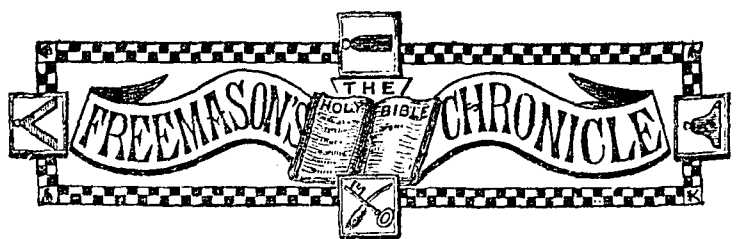
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**LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF
A NEW HALL AT MERTHYR.**

ON Tuesday afternoon there was a very considerable gathering of Masonic Brethren at Merthyr, which would doubtless have been larger but for the unfavourable weather. The occasion which brought the brethren together was in connection with the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the New Masonic Hall for the Loyal Cambrian Lodge, No. 110 (of which Brother Edward Henry James, of Dowlais, is the present Worshipful Master), by the Worshipful Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, Dep. Prov. Grand Master. The

building, has already been proceeded with to a very considerable extent, and will, it is anticipated, be completed by the end of the year. It is being built under the auspices of the Merthyr Improvement Company, and in conjunction with the new Merthyr Club and other buildings, of which block it forms a portion. The Lodge was opened at two o'clock, in the Temperance Hall, members of the Provincial Grand Lodge and visitors of distinction assembling in the ante-room; brethren not being members of the Provincial Grand Lodge had places assigned for them in the Lodge room. At the conclusion of the Lodge business a procession through the town to the site of the new Masonic Hall was formed, under the direction of the Provincial Grand Directors of Ceremonies, brethren appearing in the usual Masonic costume—black dress and white gloves, and with Craft clothing and jewels. The procession started down the High Street at three o'clock, in the usual Masonic order, and headed by part of the Rifle Volunteer band, the display made exciting very considerable interest in the town. On reaching the site of the new building at the bottom of High Street the brethren at the head of the procession halted, opening right and left, facing inwards, so as to leave room for the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master to pass up the centre of the avenue just formed, he being preceded by his standard and sword bearers. The band occupied a position which was assigned them, the Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Officers, and others taking part in the ceremony, occupying the front rank round the stone a space being left clear; the rest of the brethren in the procession took up positions indicated to them by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The Masonic brethren taking part in the proceedings were as follow: Officers and members of the Loyal Cambrian (Merthyr) Lodge:—Bros. E. H. James W.M., John Jones I.P.M., E. Clay S.W., D. J. Hirst J.W., Nestor R. Williams Chaplain, J. D. Williams Treasurer, C. Russell James S.D., R. R. Davies J.D., G. F. Harris D.C., J. J. Jones I.G., J. E. Davies and J. S. Jones Stewards, T. J. Dyke P.P.S.G.W., E. Lawrence P.P.G.O., T. W. Goodfellow P.G.S.B., C. Wilkins P.P.G.T., D. Rees Lewis P.P.G.R., C. Harris, T. Hansard, M. L. Evans, B. Jones, F. Wilkins, D. J. Williams W.M., P. Williams, T. Flocks, L. Richards, J. W. Gann, J. F. McClune, W. H. Priest, T. Williams, J. Jenkins, W. Owen, H. Jolliffe, A. Gann, T. Harris, D. J. Williams, S. Sandbrook, and W. James. Visitors—Bros. J. Matthews P.M. Bute Lodge P.S.G.D., G. H. Nash P.M. Bute P.P.G.D.C., G. M. Watson P.M. Glamorgan P.G.J.W., John Guthrie W.M. Windsor, D. Hopkins, J.P., P.P.J.S.D., W. D. Jones G.W. P.G.S., J. A. Whittle W.M. Brecknock, G. E. H. Teale Secretary Brecknock, W. J. Lewis P.M. St. David's, Titas Lewis W.M. St. Quintain, W. Lewis W.M. St. David's, G. W. Blackwall Cambrian, G. W. Palmer Cambrian, E. Fish S.S. Indefatigable, R. P. Hunter I.P.M. Merlin, Thomas Dickson W.M. Merlin, William R. Perrott Merlin, D. R. David P.M. Afon, J. Jones Chaplain Afon, J. M. Smith W.M. Afon, Isaac George S.D. Afon, A. P. Fabian P.P.G.S.W. Glamorgan, Thomas Walters P.G. Chaplain Caradoc, Thomas Thomas P.P.G.M. Talbot, J. Jones P.G. Secretary Afon, W. Dobbs P.G.S. Wales, J. O. Lewis, Robert Jones P.M. P.G.D. Afon, F. Lewis Organist 651, T. Phillips Cambrian, D. C. Jones W.M. Caradoc, J. C. Brigham P.M. P.P.G.P. Canynoges (Bristol), W. J. Morgan W.M. Indefatigable, E. H. Howard Organist Merlin, R. Thomas Steward Merlin, J. Spragne J.D. Merlin, B. Phillips St. George, W. A. James St. Quintain, Walter Evans W.M. Loyal, C. A. Thompson W.M. Bute, A. Arthur J.W. Windsor, J. Padey Secretary Windsor, J. Hitchings W.M. Ogmores, Alfred G. James St. Quintain, J. Rees P. Prov. G.J.W. Caradoc, Alexander Peters I.G. Cambrian, W. J. B. Fry D.C. Windsor, H. Calaminus Windsor, A. Jenkins Tyler Windsor, T. Phillips P.G.M. St. David's, J. J. Morgan P.P.G.S.D. Monmouthshire St. George.

The Prov. Grand Chaplain (Dr. Walters, Llansamlet), having offered up a short prayer, the whole company joined in the chanting of the anthem—"Great and marvellous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty. Who shall not fear Thee, O Lord, and glorify Thy name? for Thou only art holy." "Glory to God in the highest; let all brethren cry aloud, Praise the Lord." So mote it be. The latter expression formed the response intoned by the congregation. The anthem, as well as all the other musical parts of the ceremony, was accompanied on the harmonium by Bro. E. Lawrence P.P.G.O.

Bro. E. H. James, the Worshipful Master of the Loyal Cambrian Lodge, then stepped forward, and in addressing the Worshipful the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, said he had the pleasure, on behalf of the members of his Lodge, in asking him to lay the stone in the manner customary to Masonry.

The Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in complying, addressed the brethren at some length, remarking that he had much pleasure in acceding to the request, and took the opportunity of expressing to the brethren of the Loyal Cambrian Lodge the pleasure which it gave him to be present on that auspicious occasion, to lay the foundation stone in that district of a room to be devoted to the principles of Freemasonry. Since he had undertaken his office in the government of that important Province, one of the principal things he had endeavoured to do was to see in every district a room specially devoted to Freemasonry, and he was pleased to say that in a very great respect his wishes had been fulfilled, inasmuch as when the present Hall was completed there would be only five Lodges out of fifteen in the Province not having a Hall specially devoted to Masonry. But this was not the only gratifying and auspicious element affecting Freemasonry, or to the brethren and those who took an interest in it. In laying that stone their thoughts were naturally divided between the past condition of the Lodges and their future condition and welfare. That Lodge, like every other in the kingdom, and every society in the kingdom, had had days of adversity and days of prosperity. That Lodge, at one time, it must be acknowledged, did not take its proper place in the Masonic part of the Province. He himself remembered that it was difficult at one time to get a sufficient number together to conduct the ordinary business of the Lodge, and that twenty was considered a good

average number at special meetings. But he was glad to see these days of adversity had passed away, and that under the guidance of several Past Masters of the Lodge, they had succeeded in bringing about a different state of things. He was pleased that day to congratulate them upon their present prospects, and he hoped the erection of the building would be completed in a manner creditable to the builder and worthy of the members of the Lodge and the Order.

The Provincial Grand Secretary then read the inscription upon the engraved plate about to be placed between the two large stones, which was as follows:—

"This Foundation Stone of the Masonic Hall, Merthyr Tydfil, was laid with Masonic Honours, on Tuesday, 6th September 1881, by Bro. M. Tennant, the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province of South Wales (Eastern Division). E. H. James W.M., E. Clay S.W., D. J. Hurst J.W., E. A. Johnston Architect, J. Gabe Builder.

Bro. D. Rees Lewis P.P.G.R. (on behalf of the Prov. Grand Treasurer) having, by command of the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, deposited in the cavity various coins of the present reign, copies of the local newspapers, Bye-laws of Provincial Grand Lodge and of the Loyal Cambrian Lodge, also a list of present officers of the Loyal Cambrian Lodge, and copy of the programme, all of which were sealed up in a bottle, the inscribed plate was placed over the cavity with the inscription downwards. The cement was then spread on the surface of the lower stone by the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the upper stone was slowly lowered and adjusted by him. Being satisfied in these particulars, he then gave the stone three knocks with a small mallet, delivered to him by the Worshipful Master of the Loyal Cambrian Lodge, No. 110, and the stone was declared to be duly laid according to ancient custom.

The elegant silver trowel presented to the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. M. Tennant, Deputy Provincial Grand Master South Wales Eastern Division, on his laying the corner stone of the Masonic Hall for the Loyal Cambrian Lodge, No. 110, Merthyr Tydfil, September 6, 1881."

The dedication ceremony then took place; the brethren bearing the corn and wine now approached, and presented the vessels in order to the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master; they were thrown over the stone with the customary ceremonies, symbolical of the building being dedicated to Masonry, virtue, universal benevolence, in the name of the "Great Architect of the Universe, to whom be all honour and glory." After each dedication a short and suitable passage of Scripture was read by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, and verses were sung, all present joining in, accompanied by the harmonium.

The architect (Mr. E. A. Johnson) next presented to the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master the plan of the building, and explained the details thereof.

The Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in returning them to the architect, said: I have great pleasure in returning you the plans of this building, feeling assured you will carry them out to the satisfaction not only of yourself, but of the Lodge. I am only sorry I cannot congratulate you as a brother on this occasion.

A series of three verses in praise of Masonry were then sung to the tune of the National Anthem.

The impressive ceremony was concluded by the playing of "God save the Queen," and the order of procession having been re-formed, the brethren walked back again, headed by the band, to the Temperance Hall, where the Lodge was duly closed.

Subsequently the brethren dined together at the Bush Hotel, where their wants were in every way satisfactorily supplied by host Alexander, and a pleasant evening was spent, under the presidency of the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, Bro. E. James, of Dowlais.

The ceremony attracted a large concourse of spectators, the weather fortunately proving auspicious. When the block of buildings has been completed, one of the greatest improvements in the town will have been achieved. The architect is Mr. E. A. Johnson, Abercavenny, and the builder Mr. G. Gabe, Merthyr.—*South Wales Daily News*.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys met on Saturday last, at Freemasons' Hall. There were present: Bros. J. Joyce Murray (in the chair), Abner Torkington, Donald M. Dewar, S. Rosenthal, Alfred Williams, Charles Sanders, F. W. Ramsay, M.D., Arthur E. Gladwell, G. P. Britten, Richard Morris, D.D. (Head Master), H. Massey, Raynham W. Stewart, James Winter, Edw. Baxter and F. Binckes (Secretary). The various minutes having been read, three boys were placed on the list for the election in April 1882. Three grants were made:—One the usual £5 outfit to a late pupil of the Institution; another the maximum sum of £40, which the Committee now have the power to give to exceptional cases; and a third £10 towards the board of an elected boy who is being educated out of the School, on account of ill-health, at the expense of the Institution. Bro. Binckes having informed the Committee that since last meeting the Secretarial offices built by Grand Lodge for the Institution had been occupied, and were in working order, the proceedings were brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

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UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. General Brownrigg, Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, presided. Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire, acted as Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Hugh D. Sandeman Past District Grand Master of Bengal as Past Grand Master, Col. Cole as Grand Senior Warden, and the Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes as Grand Junior Warden. The attendance of brethren was very large for the September meeting. Besides the confirmation of the minutes, the confirmation of grants recommended by the Lodge of Benevolence, and the adoption of the Report of the Board of General Purposes, there was but one other item of business—a motion by Bro. Joshua Nunn, and an amendment by Bro. C. J. Perceval, both directed to an alteration of one of the rules in the Book of Constitutions relating to the Lodge of Benevolence. Bro. Nunn's motion was, to alter the rule by giving power to pay as much as £50 the day after the Grand Lodge next succeeding the meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence whereat a larger grant than £50 had been recommended to any case instead of deferring the payment of the whole amount till after the confirmation of that Grand Lodge's minutes by the following Grand Lodge. His second proposed alteration was, that any vote or recommendation for a sum exceeding £20 (instead of £10 as at present) should not be affected until confirmed at a next or subsequent meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence, except in cases of recommendation to Grand Lodge; but the Lodge may at once pay any sum not exceeding £20 (instead of £10) on account of any vote or recommendation of the Lodge exceeding that sum. Bro. Perceval's amendment was that any applicant seeking relief from the Lodge of Benevolence, and being voted such a sum as requires a second confirmation by Grand Lodge, shall, within twenty-four hours, or immediately after such grant has been once confirmed, be entitled to receive the same in full without any further delay, save only £10, or such portion (if any) of £10 the grantee may have received on account. Bro. Joshua Nunn explained his motion, and said that if carried it would give the brother for whom the grant was recommended the advantage of having £50 to go on with for the three months between the two meetings of Grand Lodge which were required to confirm a grant which was more than £50. If £75, or £100, or more was granted by Grand Lodge, Grand Secretary would be able to pay at least £50 on the morrow, and the balance would remain till after the second confirmation. There might be exceptional circumstances in which Grand Lodge might be asked to give a larger sum than was first voted; it very rarely happened, but it had occurred, and it was as well to be prepared for the event. With respect to the alteration of £10 to £20, he had felt that it was of greater service to a brother to receive the money at once instead of waiting to have it confirmed at the next meeting of the Board. The motion was seconded by Brother Clabon, who stated that whereas twenty years ago the Lodge of Benevolence was dealing with £3,000 or £4,000 a year, it was now dealing with £8,000. Up to the last two or three years the sums voted during the year did not amount to one year's income, and the consequence was that about £50,000 was accumulated. For the last two or three years, however, nearly the whole of the income had been voted, although this was quite right, he hoped the brethren would not touch the accumulated capital, but keep it as a sort of nest egg, and he also hoped that the brethren would not vote for a larger sum than £50 being paid the day after the Grand Lodge had confirmed the recommendation of the Lodge of Benevolence. The £50 would be quite enough to provide for a brother's immediate necessities, and it must be remembered that cases had occurred in which Grand Lodge had had to negative recommendations that had been made. Bro. Perceval, in support of his amendment said the Lodge of Benevolence thoroughly sifted cases which came before it, and the Brethren in Grand Lodge had the advantage of having them before them for more than a week before they came on in Grand Lodge. Therefore, when a case had passed these two ordeals, the brother was entitled to have the money paid to him at once. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart seconded the amendment, which was also supported by Bros. A. E. Gladwell and F. Binckes. Bro. James Mason supported the original motion, but Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson thought that the amendment was but carrying out to its legitimate conclusion the gracefully progressive step of Bro. Nunn. Bro. Clabon reminded the brethren again of the cases in which the Lodge of Benevolence had erred in the first instance, and suggested that prudence was the better part of charity. Bro. Nunn thought his motion was a very liberal one, and that the Brethren should give the Lodge of Benevolence credit by leaving the matter in such a form as that they would be able to deal with the cases. Bro. Perceval replied, contending that where there were only a few cases of Brethren being unjustly relieved, those where the Brethren would be disappointed at not being able to get large sums within a short space of time were too many to be counted. Grand Lodge divided, when the numbers were—for the amendment 113, against 150. The amendment of Bro. Perceval was, therefore, lost. The motion of Bro. Joshua Nunn was then put and carried, and Grand Lodge was closed.

The North London Chapter of Improvement, No. 1471, has resumed its meetings. The Companions assemble every Thursday evening at the Jolly Farmers Tavern (corner of Church-road), Southgate-road, N., at eight o'clock. This being the only Chapter of Improvement in the North of London, the attendance of newly exalted Companions is invited, with a view to their advancement, as of the existence of this means of instruction they may possibly be unaware. Comp. T. C. Edmonds is the Preceptor.

RECORDS, &c., IN THE ARCHIVES OF THE YORK LODGE.

BY BRO. TODD P.M. 236.

ON the present occasion, when the York brethren are honoured by the company of several who are distinguished not only in the Craft to which we belong, but also in the scientific world, as well as by a large assemblage of brethren from this and other provinces, it has been thought that it would not be uninteresting in producing for their inspection the records and antiquities in the possession of the York Lodge, if a few words descriptive of those records were also placed before them. In Masonic history, the ancient city of York has from a very early period held an important and prominent position; indeed, there is no place more interesting to the Masonic student than the city which, by tradition and the evidence of the ancient manuscript contributions, is marked as the early seat of Masonry in this county. Nearly all the old Constitutions, of which there are upwards of twenty in existence, mention York as the place where in early times the meetings or assemblies of the Craft were held, and from these meetings or assemblies there is little or no doubt that the Grand Lodge of All England formerly held in the city was originally constituted. The history of the Grand Lodge has been ably written by Bro. Hughan, the well-known Masonic writer, in his Masonic "Sketches and Reprints," published in 1871. I need therefore only observe that after a long and somewhat chequered career it finally ceased to exist in the year 1792. After its dissolution the valuable records and antiquities of the old Grand Lodge were transferred to the York Lodge in whose hall we are now assembled, for safe custody. The most important of these records consist of the Ancient MS. Constitutions, the minutes of proceedings of the Grand Lodge, a large account of correspondence, and a number of miscellaneous documents, and with these were handed over the greater portion of the regalia used by the Grand Lodge when in active working in York. As regards the MS. Constitutions, these were originally in the archives of Grand Lodge, and according to the inventory of its property, taken in 1779, six in number. Of these five are now in the possession of the York Lodge. The first which is numbered is supposed to be of the date of 1600 or thereabouts, and is unquestionably the most interesting as well as the oldest of all the documents. It is composed of four pieces of parchment sewn together, and measuring 7 ft. in length. It is endorsed, "Found in Pontefract Castle, at the demolition, and given to the Lodge, by Francis Drake, A.D. 1736." Dr. Drake, the eminent antiquarian and historian of York, was at that time a prominent member of the Grand Lodge, and took an active part in its proceedings. The demolition of Pontefract Castle commenced in April 1649, but how this document found its way there, and how long it had remained in that fortress, it is impossible to ascertain. It was not, however, destined to remain at York. After having been presented to the Grand Lodge by Bro. Drake, it was in fact lost sight of for a long period, until discovered a few years ago by Bro. Hughan, in the Archives of the Grand Lodge of London, along with another of the York MSS., and mainly through the exertions of Bro. P.M. Hollon, the senior member of this Lodge, both were restored to its custody in 1877, the year its centenary was celebrated. The Roll No. 2 is the most modern of the York MSS., and is also written on parchment, and is headed "The Constitution of Masonry, 1704." It is, I believe, the only one of the York Constitutions in which the word "Freemason" is made use of, the word "Mason" generally occurring. Both the MSS. 1 and 2 contain an Anagramme on Masonry, that in the latter being of a similar character to the former. The manuscript No. 3 is unfortunately missing, and up to the present time has not been traced. It is referred to in the Inventory of 1779 as a Parchment Roll of Charges on Masonry, 1630. No. 4 MS. is dated 1693, and appears to have been written by Mark Kypling, and there are also several signatures of officers or members of the Lodge attached to it. It is written on a roll of paper 10½ feet long, and was given to the Grand Lodge by Brother George Walker, of Wetherby, in 1777. There is a peculiar clause in this MS., providing for the admission of females, which is as follows:—"The one of the elders taking the booke, and that hee or shee that is to be made Mason, shall lay their hands thereon and the charge shall be give." Brother the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford is of opinion that this MS. is in the earliest form of all the Masonic Constitutions, and represent in its traditions a form probably even anterior to 1491, and coeval with the Guild of Masons mentioned in the York Fabric Rolls, the passage relating to female membership pointing to a very early period of Guild history and organization. The MS. also contains a special charge to apprentices, and is altogether a most interesting document. The MS. No. 5 is a long roll of paper, containing neither date nor signature, but its date is supposed to be about the year 1670. It is evidently a copy of MS. No. 1, except that it indicates the book on which apprentices, were sworn to secrecy to be "Ye Holy Scripture." This also occurs in the MS. 1794. MS. No. 5 was published by Bro. Hughan in last month's "Masonic Magazine." No. 6, the last of the MSS., which was discovered in the Grand Lodge of London, along with No. 1, is mentioned in the York Inventory also. A parchment roll or Charge whereof the bottom part is "awanting." The date of it is about 1680, and its contents are similar to the earlier Roll, but the conclusion is certainly different to all the known Mason MSS. It is as follows:—"Doe all as you would be done with, and I beseech you at every meeting and assembly you pray heartily for all Christians." Time does not permit of a further description of these interesting and valuable MSS. Most of them have been printed in the pages of the Masonic Magazine, or in the works of Bro. Hughan, who has done so much towards opening out the field for Masonic investigation, and all of them, being evidently transcripts of much older documents, are well worthy of a careful and attentive perusal. I come now to the minutes or proceedings of the old Grand Lodges, the first being a parchment roll, commencing 19th March 1712, when it appears that several members were sworn and admitted. There are also several minutes of Lodges held prior to the revival in London in 1717, when Sir Walter Hawksworth, Bart., and Charles Fairfax, Esq.,

were Grand Masters, or as they were then termed Presidents. In the Inventory of 1779, previously referred to, is mentioned a Masonic folio manuscript book, containing sundry accounts and minutes relative to the Grand Lodge; and as the date of this minute book is twelve years earlier than the formation of the Grand Lodge of London, and it would no doubt show that Speculative Masonry was in active existence in York at that period, it is earnestly to be hoped that this minute book will yet be discovered. From the records in existence it appears that Dr. Francis Drake was initiated at a private Lodge at the Star Inn, Stonegate, on the 6th September 1725, and in December of the same year was chosen Junior Grand Warden. On St. John's day 1726, he delivered his celebrated charge at a Grand Lodge held in the Merchants' Hall, York, which was afterwards printed, and a copy is still in the possession of this Lodge. From 1734 to 1761 the minutes are preserved, but in the latter year the Grand Lodge was revived by six of the surviving members, Bro. Drake being elected Grand Master. The members from this date to 1775 are very carefully entered. The minute book commencing 27th December 1774, and ending 31st July 1780, and the minutes of the Grand Chapter at York, commencing Feb. 1778, and ending 10th September 1781, were discovered by Bro. Hughan amongst the records of the Grand Lodge of London, and were restored to us in 1877. The latter book is interesting, as containing a minute of a R.A. Chapter having been held in the Crypt of York Minster on Sunday, 27th May 1778. The minute is as follows:—York Cathedral, 27th May 1778. The Royal Arch Brethren whose names are undermentioned assembled in the ancient Lodge, now a sacred recess within the Cathedral Church of York, and then and there opened a Chapter of Free and Accepted Masons in the most sublime Degree of Royal Arch. (Here follow the names of nine brethren.) The Chapter was held, and then closed in usual form, being adjourned to the first Sunday in June, except in case of emergency. In the Grand Lodge minute book, under date of February 1780, is a Record of Proceedings of the Companions of the Honourable Order of Knight Templars, and subsequently a resolution was agreed to affirming the authority of the Grand Lodge over the five Degrees in Order of Masonry, viz:—1st, Entered Apprentice; 2nd, Fellow Craft; 3rd, Master Mason; 4th, Knight Templar; 5th, Royal Arch; being the only Grand Lodge in Great Britain which recognised Knight Templary. There is also a certificate issued by the Grand Lodge, signed John Brown, G.S., as follows:—Admitted (1st degree) 26th Jan. 1779; raised (2nd degree) 29th February 1779; raised (3rd degree) 27th September 1779; raised (4th degree or R.A.M.) 27th Oct. 1779; Knight Templar (5th degree) 29th November 1779. This is believed to be the earliest official document in Great Britain and Ireland showing the connection of Knight Templars with Freemasonry. The minutes of the Grand Lodge end with an entry of 23rd August 1792, which records the election of officers, Bro. Edward Woolley (whose portrait hangs in the banqueting-room) being elected Grand Master, Bro. George Kitson paid Treasurer, and Bros. Richardson and Williams Wardens. Amongst the records will be found a list of Masons made in the Grand Lodge from 1712 to 1734, and from 1764 to 1790, a large number of them being members of the principal families in the North of England. From 1761 to 1790 about 200 members were initiated. The earliest record of the working of the Royal Arch Degree in York was, until recently, supposed to be an entry relating to a most sublime Chapter having been opened 8th February 1778, although there is mention of that degree in the Treasurer's book a few years earlier. Last year, however, as Bro. Whytehead and myself were looking over the books in the possession of the Lodge, we discovered an old minute book of that degree, commencing 7th February 1762, thus showing the actual working of the R.A. Masonry sixteen years earlier, by the members of the Grand Lodge of York. The date of this, it will be observed, was very shortly after the revival of the Grand Lodge before referred to, and I am not aware of any earlier records of the working of the R.A. degree than those contained in the minute book thus discovered. There is also, amongst the records of the Grand Lodge, a sheet of parchment, endorsed, "Old Rules of the Grand Lodge at York, 1725," which contains nineteen articles respecting the conduct of business and refreshment (the latter having evidently been an important matter) at the meeting of the G. Lodge. Some of these are of a very quaint and original character, and differ considerably from the Constitutions of the G. Lodge of London. In the Book of Miscellaneous Records and Documents will be found part of a minute book of the Honourable Order of Knights Templars, assembled in the Grand Lodge room at York, Sir Francis Smyth G.M." The first entry, under date of 18th February 1780 (according to Bro. Hughan) is the earliest record of Masonic Templars in England. There is also a form of ritual, entitled, "Royal Union Band of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Order of Aaron," &c. (whatever that may have been), and to which only Knights Templars appear to have been eligible for admission. The Order of "Knights of the Tabernacle" is mentioned in 1780. The book also contains various interesting matters relating to the proceedings of the old Grand Lodge, extending over a number of years. Amongst the furniture and paraphernalia of the Grand Lodge may be mentioned the large silk banner, with the arms of the Grand Lodge, which is in a very excellent state of preservation; a large painting of the Crypt of York Minster, which is now hung on the Lodge staircase, a mahogany pedestal cushion, with crimson velvet cover, given by Bro. Sir Thomas Gascoigne, Bart.; three columns of the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders, with silver sockets; three Gavel placed on the pedestals of M.W. the W.M. and Wardens of the York Lodge; also a pair of Gold Compasses, Plates for Summons, Seals of Grand Lodge and Chapter, and other relics, which are placed on the table for the inspection, with descriptions referring to them. I would also refer the brethren to a complete set of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of London, with one exception, some of which formerly belonged to the Grand Lodge of York. In conclusion, I need hardly say that the records and antiquities of the old Grand Lodge of York are highly prized by the Lodge in whose custody they now remain, and whilst it cannot be otherwise than a matter for regret that an

institution composed in a great measure of the first families in Yorkshire and the North of England, after having been in existence for so long a period should have become extinct, it is some satisfaction to be able to record that the Craft, of which we are proud to be members, continues to flourish in the ancient Metropolis of the North of England.

THE VISIT OF KING SOLOMON.

BY BROTHER ROBERT MORRIS, LL.D.

The tradition embodied in this poem is well known to the Orientals, viz.: that King Solomon promised the Freemasons in his dying moments that in the fullness of time he would return to them and demand a strict report from them of the manner in which they had done the work of Masonry in his absence.

In the far East 'tis said—

And I have heard it there from reverend men,
That Solomon, though dead,

Will on the appointed day come forth again!
Will rend the tomb its crumbling wall that rears,
And break the silence of three thousand years.

'Tis said that he will stand

Upon the sacred hill, upright and square,
And summon all our Band

Who're subject to his will to meet him there:
And when his Gavel falls, from every part
He'll call the workmen of the Mystic Art.

Masons! suppose to-night

In far Jerusalem of ancient fame

First source of Mason's Light

Glorious, thrice-blessed above all other name—

Suppose our king, the wisest of the three,
Should rise and stand and summon you and me!

'Tis said that he will inquire

Who has best worked and who has best agreed:
And how the mystic fire

Has cheered their gloom and helped the poor in need!

Suppose our Master in this way should speak
To us, what answer, Brethren, should we make!

If David's son were here to-night,

We Master Masons need not shame

Even at the ancient source of Light

To call King Solomon by name:

For we can show him, should he come,
Kentucky's pride, the ORPHANS' HOME.

Yes, we can show a noble Hall,

Larger by far than was the one

That Hiram built, and how the call

Was answered by the Craft alone:

For there the desolate heart is light

With works of Masonry to-night.

We'll point to where the dead are lying

In sweet repose 'neath sprigs of green—

Laid with celestial hopes undying,

Guarded by angels though unseen;

Waiting in their sweet verdant home

Till we their loving ones shall come.

We'll show him how God's holy law

Upon ten thousand altars lies

From whence our daily bread we draw

To shape eternal destinies:

And o'er the East the sacred sign

That speaks the Presence all divine.

We'll show him in each household band

The Mason-father, brother, son,

Skilled to obey and to command

As taught them by King Solomon:

No happier hearts are seen on earth

Than those that grace the Mason's hearth.

We'll show him,—but there is no need—

These works abundant prove us true:

Our royal Master sure will read

In these the things that Masons do:

The orphan's smile, the widow's cheer,—

This is the feast prepared him here.

Come when he may—at noon or night,

He'll find our faithful hearts prepared,

Working the utmost hours of light

Waiting the promise of reward:

In sure belief when man shall die

There is a better Lodge on high!

The Voice of Masonry.

A Convocation of the Burdett Chapter, No. 1293, will be held this day (Saturday), at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, when the Principals and Officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

The Confidence Lodge of Instruction will resume its weekly meeting on Wednesday next, at the Railway Tavern, Fenchurch Street, at 7 o'clock.

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.

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SATURDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER.

- 199—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1607—Loyalty, Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill.
1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
Sinn Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham.
1556—Addiscombe, The Surrey Club, West Croydon
R.A. 1293—Burdett Chapter, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.

MONDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER.

- 45—Strong Man, George Hotel, Australian Avenue, Barbican, at 8 (Instruc.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
1366—Highgate, Gate House Hotel, Highgate
1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 9 (Instruction)
1489—Marquiss of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In.)
1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 7. (Inst.)
1623—West Smithfield, Cathedral Hotel, St. Paul's, at 7 (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road
1693—Kingsland, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)

- 40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, Hastings
75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth
104—St. John, Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport
151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields
292—Sincerity, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
297—Witham, New Masonic Hall, Lincoln
411—Commercial, Flying Horse Hotel, Nottingham
481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
502—Rectitude, Town Hall, Rugby
589—Druids of Love and Liberty, Masonic Hall, Redruth
665—Montague, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis
721—Independence, Masonic Chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
797—Hanley, Hanley Hall, Dartmouth
827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dowsbury
893—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall
949—Williamson, St. Stephen School, Monkwearmouth, Durham
1021—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Custom House Buildings, Barrow-in-Furness
1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
1237—Enfield, Market-place, Enfield
1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1436—Sandgate, Masonic Hall, Sandgate
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
1474—Israel, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham
1592—Abbey, Suffolk Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds
1611—Eboracum, Queen's Hotel, Micklegate, York
1618—Handyside, Zetland Hotel, Saltburn-by-Sea
1790—Old England, Masonic Hall, New Thornton Heath
R.A. 148—Elias Ashmole, Chapter Rooms, Warrington
R.A. 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
M.M. 1—Egerton, Royal Rock Hotel, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
M.M. 171—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
K.T. 1—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
R.C. 1—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool

TUESDAY, 13th SEPTEMBER.

- 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
167—St. John, Holly Bush, Hampstead.
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
840—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1369—Royal Arthur, D. of Cambridge, 316 Bridge-rd., Battersea Park, at 8 (In.)
1381—Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1471—Islington, The Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, at 7 (Instruction)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30. (Instruction)
1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8 (In.)
1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst.)
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst.)
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
131—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro
184—United Chatham of Benevolence, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Kent
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
272—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Main Bridge, Boston.
284—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, High-street, Warwick
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-st., Newc.-on-Tyne (Instr.)
448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
473—Faithful, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone
510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Tisbury.
603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton
626—Lansdowne of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham
696—St. Bartholomew, Anchor Hotel, Wednesbury
726—Staffordshire Knot, North Western Hotel, Stafford
829—Sydney, Black Horse, Sidenp
903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport
1250—Gilbert Greenhall, Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington
1314—Acacia, Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent
1325—Stanley, 211 Great Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
1414—Knole, Masonic Hall, Sevenoaks
1465—Ockenden, Talbot Hotel, Cuckfield, Sussex
1545—Baildon, Masonic Room, Northgate, Baildon
1713—Wilbraham, Walton Institute, Walton, Liverpool
R.A. 43—Fortitude, Great Western Hotel, Birmingham.
R.A. 265—Judea, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley
R.A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
R.A. 991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington Quay, Northumberland
M.M. 6—Adams, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness

WEDNESDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER.

- Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
223—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)

- 539—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst.)
720—Pannure, Ballam Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E., at 7.30 (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Inst.)
861—Whittington, Red Lion, Pippin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1274—Burdett Courts, Lamb Tavern, opposite Bethnal G. Junct., at 8. (Inst.)
1283—Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, Highbury, at 9 (Instruction)
1445—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, at 7 (Instruction)
1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1601—Wanderers, Black Horse, York Street, S.W., at 7.30 (Instruction)
1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
R.A. 178—Harmony, Royal Hotel, Wigan.
R.A. 1260—John Hervey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
M.M. Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 7 (Instruction)

- 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham-street, Rochdale
146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
225—St. Luke's, Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich
274—Tranquillity, Boar's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
281—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster
288—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
483—Sympathy, Old Falcon Hotel, Gravesend
567—Unity, Globe Hotel, Warwick
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
668—Benevolence, Private Rooms, Prince Town, Dartmoor
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton
753—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 7.30. (Instruction)
795—St. John, Ray Mead Hotel, Maidenhead
851—Worthing of Friendship, Sterne Hotel, Worthing.
852—Zetland, Albert Hotel, New Bailey-street, Salford.
854—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham.
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
1031—Fletcher, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
1060—Marmion, Masonic Rooms, Church-street, Tamworth.
1064—Borough, Bull Hotel, Burnley.
1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1209—Lewises, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate.
1249—Denison, Grand Hotel, Scarborough.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
1342—Walker, Hope and Anchor Inn, Byker, Newcastle.
1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill -street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool
1398—Baldwin, Dalton Castle, Dalton-in-Furness
1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham.
1434—Nottinghamshire, George Hotel, Nottingham.
1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction.)
1520—Earl Shrewsbury, Public, Rooms, Cannock, Stafford.
1547—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1643—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne.
R.A. 24—De Swinburne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
R.A. 709—Invicta, Bank-street Hall, Ashford.
M.M. 56—Temperance, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
M.M. 174—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham.
M.M. 192—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, The Parade, Berwick.

THURSDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER.

- 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7. (Instruction)
27—Egyptian, Heracles Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
211—St. Michael's, The Moorgate, Moorgate Street, E.C., at 8 (Instruction)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
902—Burgovne, Cock Tavern, St. Martin's-court, Luigate-hill, at 6.30. (Inst.)
1158—Southern Star, 108 Blackfriars-road, at 8 (Instruction)
1227—Upton, Spotted Dog, Upton, E.
1278—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park
1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington Road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
1614—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James Street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (Inst.)
1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
1729—Temple Bar, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street
R.A. 754—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
R.A. 1471—North London, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Inst.)
M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Bell Hotel, Shoreditch. (Instruction.)

- 42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
56—Howard, High-street, Arundel
98—St. Martin, Town Hall, Burslem
203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street, Ashton-under-Lyne
343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston
345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn
367—Probit and Freedom, Red Lion Inn, Smallbridge
523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester
600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
605—Combermere, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead
663—Wiltshire of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.
971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley
1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford
1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool
1320—Blackheath, Green Man, Blackheath
1327—King Harold, Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town
1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon
1432—Fitzalan, Wynstay Arms, Oswestry
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Deara House, Lindley
1530—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
1612—West Middlesex, Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction)
R.A. 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
R.A. 219—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
R.A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebbden Bridge
R.A. 337—Confidence, Commercial Inn, Uppermill
K.T. 1—William de la More, Town Hall, Bootle.

FRIDAY, 16th SEPTEMBER.

- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
760—William Preston, Feathers' Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8 (Instruction)
933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8 (Instruction)
1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7 (Instruction)
1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
228—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8 (In.)
365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
642—E. Caruarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 8. (In)
R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8 (Inst.)
152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
453—Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket
541—De Loraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle

993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme
 1096—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George street, Leeds
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 1773—Albert Victor, Town Hall, Pendleton
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A. 403—Hertford, Shire Hall, Hertford.
 R.A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield
 R.A. 837—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 R.A.—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, at 5
 M.M. 123—Callender Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire.
 K.T.—'e Furnival, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield
 K.T.—Jacques de Molay, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

SATURDAY, 17th SEPTEMBER.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., at 8. (Instruction)
 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1824—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Piccadilly, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sini Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 1556—Addiscombe, Harewood House, High Street, Croydon.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

York Lodge, No. 355, Brighton.—The regular meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 6th instant, at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton. The banner, with the arms of His Royal Highness the Duke of York, was suspended over the Master's chair. Bros. G. Nash W.M., W. H. Gibson S.W., G. Lockyer J.W., W. Hudson P.M. Treasurer, J. Ridge Secretary, Nye J.D., G. R. Godfree I.G., H. Payne Steward, A. Crook Organist; P.M.'s W. T. Nell P.P.G.W., A. J. Hawkins P.P.G.S.B., Eborall P.P.G.P., C. Hudson, Packham I.P.M., J. W. Stride P.P.G.J.W., V.P. Freeman P.G. Sec, Sandeman. Visitors—J. Hughes 87, J. Burrell 1821, T. C. Woodman 271, J. B. Hannay 1821, Newsome 1821, W. H. Chambers 1466, A. Burrows 186, M. Lelen 1821, D. Sherwell 813, Burtal P.M. 929, T. Berry 1821, Biggs 77, Parnell 1829, H. M. Levy P.M. 188. Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. It was announced that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex would be held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on the 7th of October, under the presidency of the R.W. Bro. Sir Walter Burrell, Bart., M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Sussex. Mr. James Terry, Chief Constable of Brighton, who had been previously balloted for, and unanimously elected, was duly initiated into the Order, very impressively. Bro. Eborall P.M. gave the charge excellently. Bro. Packham I.P.M., by the courtesy of the W.M., passed Bro. Gibbs to the second degree. Mr. G. W. Ashdown was proposed for initiation at the next meeting. Heartly good wishes were tendered by the visitors, and the brethren adjourned to Bro. Paige's, the Unicorn Tavern, North-street, where a very sumptuous and enjoyable supper was provided, at the invitation of the W.M. The catering reflected great credit on the worthy host. The W.M. genially presided, and proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, including the Right Worshipful Bro. Sir Walter Burrell Provincial Grand Master. They were honoured, he said, by the presence of a brother whom every one in the Craft respected; he was an old and valued member. He referred to Bro. Freeman Prov. Grand Secretary, whose name he would associate with the toast. Bro. Freeman thanked the W.M. for his hospitality, so readily accorded to every member of Provincial Grand Lodge. The W.M. now remarked that he had had that evening very great pleasure in initiating three gentlemen connected with the town of Brighton—Bros. Terry, Gibbs, and Schofield. The members were proud to see them among them. Bro. Schofield was the first to respond; he was followed by Bro. Terry, who thanked the W.M. for so kindly proposing his health. He always had an ardent wish to become a Freemason, and this wish was now gratified. He had been thirty-seven years connected with the town, and hoped to become a useful member of the Order. Bro. Packham I.P.M. had great pleasure in proposing the next toast; it was one they would all feel a pleasure in honouring. It was the health of the W.M., who was well known to the brethren. It was the aim of Bro. Nash to promote the interests of the Craft in general, and of this Lodge in particular. He (the speaker) hoped to meet him in the Lodge for many years, in health and prosperity. The W.M., in reply, thanked Bro. Packham for his kind expressions, and the brethren for the manner in which the toast had been received; he had likewise to thank the I.P.M. for his kind assistance. Bro. Packham had rendered him great service. In fact, he felt indebted to every member of the Lodge; all had placed confidence in him, and thus it was that he stood in his present exalted position. The toast of the Visitors came next on the list. The W.M. had especially to welcome Bro. Chambers, who had not only done great service to the Navy, but also to the Craft. There were several other visitors, and he would couple with the toast the names of Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. 188 and Bro. Briggs 77. After those brethren had severally responded, the W.M. proposed the toast of the Wardens and Officers. Bro. Gibson S.W., was also S.W. of another Lodge, and Bro. Lockyer J.W., who is likewise in office elsewhere, know their duties thoroughly; in fact, these remarks will apply to every Officer, as all who witnessed the proceedings that evening could testify. Bro. Gibson S.W., in response, said he felt great pleasure in working under so excellent a Master. He hoped to be called upon to occupy the chair in due course. Bro. Lockyer followed; he felt it was an honour to be associated with such a Lodge, which was a credit to the Craft. He thanked them all very sincerely. The brethren separated at an early hour, after spending a very agreeable evening. Bros. Crook and Packham contributed to the harmony.

Crusaders Lodge of Instruction, No. 1677.—At the Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. A meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was held on Thursday, 1st inst., when there were present Bros. Weedon W.M., J. Gibbs S.W., Samuel Goode J.W., W. J. Hunter P.M. 1677 S.D., T. Pingston J.D., J. Carnaby I.G., Robt. D. Cummings Preceptor, H. Halliday Hon. Sec., S. W. Reddall, Edgar E. Horne, W. C. Gay, T. Goode P.M. 1288 I.P.M. 1677, A. Mill-

ward, J. Crossbie, J. Fletcher, T. Vernon, G. W. Tillett P.M. 572, W. J. Goode, C. G. Payne, E. Hemsley, and A. Bonner P.M. 569 S.C. 1444. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hemsley acting as candidate. Bro. Crossbie, a candidate for passing, answered the necessary questions and was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. The Lodge was closed in the third, and called off. It was afterwards proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that Bros. Crossbie, Hodges and Bonner become members of this Lodge of Instruction. P.M. Hunter gave notice that he would at next meeting move, that the minute altering the time of Lodge meeting from 9 o'clock to 8.30 be rescinded. Bro. J. Gibbs was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was then closed in due form.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—At the Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, on Tuesday last. Bros. Edwards W.M., Dignam S.W., Glass J.W., A. Clark S.D., Olly J.D., Cnshing I.G., Past Masters J. Lorkin Secretary, and Wallington Preceptor; Brasted, Wardell, C. Lorkin, Carr, Clark, Gosling, Holdsworth. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. T. Clark acting as candidate. Bro. C. Lorkin worked the first, second, third, and fourth sections, assisted by the brethren. Bro. J. Little, of Lodge 1607, was elected a member. Bro. Dignam was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week.

Cornwallis Lodge No. 1107.—The regular meeting was held on Wednesday, at the Lullingstone Castle Hotel, Swanley, Kent, under the presidency of Bro. J. J. Michael W.M. Three brethren were passed to the degree of F.C., and various matters of interest to the brethren discussed.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—At a meeting held at the Feathers' Hotel, Ealing, on Thursday, 1st instant, Bros. G. Coop W.M., C. Andrews P.M. S.W., J. Green J.W., C. E. Porter S.D., H. Youens J.D., H. E. Tucker Treasurer and Preceptor, J. Wells Secretary, C. Bellerby I.G., W. Rickwood P.M. 192, J. J. Clarke, H. Stephens, J. Owen, T. Smith, J. R. Fernee, S. Smout jun. After preliminaries, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Smout candidate. This being the first meeting of the season, the brethren proceeded to appoint the Officers for the ensuing year. The following were unanimously elected:—Bros. H. E. Tucker Treasurer and Preceptor, J. Wells Secretary, E. C. Porter and C. Andrews P.M. Audit Committee. Bro. Andrews was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and then Lodge was closed in due form, and the meeting adjourned.

On the 8th instant, Bro. C. Andrews P.M. W.M., supported by Bros. Green, Jones, Coop, Millson, Smith, Tucker, J. Wells, E. C. Porter, Murch. After preliminaries, the W.M. put the questions leading to the third degree. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of installation. Bro. J. Green was appointed W.M. for the next meeting.

Panmure Mark Lodge, No. 139.—The Installation meeting was held at the Balham Hotel, Balham, on Monday, the 5th inst. Bro. H. Baldwin P.P.G.A.D.C. was ably and impressively installed by Bro. T. Poore P.G.I.G. Bro. Baldwin appointed his Officers as follows:—Bros. Mitchell S.W., Arkland Prov. G. Sword Bearer J.W., J. J. Gibson P.P.G.S. of W. I.P.M., G. Lilley P.M. Treasurer, C. Pulman Sec., Basnett R. of M., J. Walmsley M.O., J. Vincent S.O., Whittaker J.O., J. H. Hawkins S.D., Wigg J.D., Allen I.G., Arnold Steward, and Thomas Tyler. The only visitor was Bro. H. Lovegrove, Grand Superintendent of Works Middlesex. The proceedings, which were very successful, passed off to the satisfaction of the brethren.

Bro. Osborn, the W.M. of the Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge will rehearse the ceremony of installation at the Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, on Monday, the 26th inst. On Monday, 19th instant, a well-known brother has promised to attend, and read a paper on some subject of interest to the Craft.



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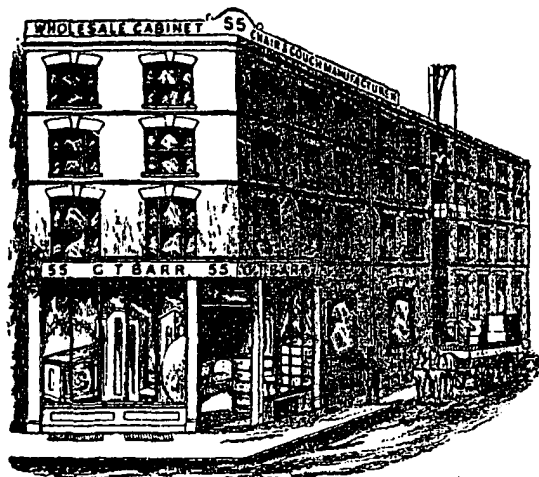
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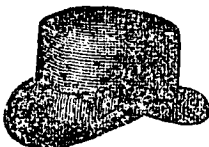
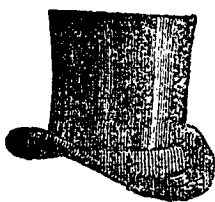
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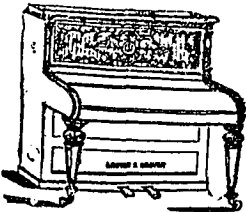
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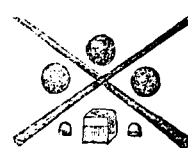
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