

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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INNOVATION IN MASONRY.

THE BANQUET.

AT this season of the year, when time hangs heavily on the hands of many of us, it is not out of place to look back upon the past, to call to mind occasions when we have lost opportunities which appeared to promise well, or to think over what might have been, had events happened otherwise than they did. How many a retiring W.M. is there, who can look back upon the evenings he has spent as ruler of his Lodge, and not feel that he might have done better in this or that particular if he had had longer time at his disposal in which to elaborate a speech, or perform some task, which, by virtue of his office, fell to his lot to perform; while, on the other hand, how many brethren are there who cannot remember some well-prepared evening's entertainment being upset, in consequence of the lateness of the hour preventing the programme from being carried out, many of those who attended having been compelled to leave even before the toast list was fairly started upon? Our present object is to consider whether some innovation is not possible which will allow of an ordinary Lodge meeting being brought to a conclusion at a reasonable hour, and at the same time afford ample opportunity for the several toasts on the list to receive proper attention, while the majority of the brethren are yet present. The amount of time available for the Lodge banquet, and after proceedings in small places, is frequently governed by the arrangements of the local railway service, while in large towns numbers of the brethren having long journeys to make before reaching home, are forced to leave early on that account, and thus we find that many a meeting is broken up before the programme is completed. This breaking up of a meeting must be very discouraging to the W.M. and rulers of the Lodge, who may have prepared speeches which they hoped to give to large audiences, or it may be that a most enjoyable Masonic entertainment had been arranged for, to listen to which only a very small number of brethren remained. Visitors of distinction, Officers, and others who it was intended should be called upon to reply to special toasts had to be passed over, and altogether the meeting, which gave promise of satisfaction to all, turned out really a failure. Can this be prevented? We think it can, but it must be by a radical change being introduced into our regular system. It is very certain that the amendment cannot be secured by making the hour of meeting earlier than at present; for even now, with the great amount of work to be got through, many of the Lodges are summoned at most inconveniently early hours. We must, therefore, find some means of hurrying on the banquet or toast list. The former is really beyond the control of the Lodge officials, so that the latter course is really the one from which we must hope for relief.

We recently had occasion to give particulars of a banquet which took place in Germany (not of a Masonic character) and then found, so the report stated, that the rule in that country was to give the toasts during the progress of the banquet. We were at once struck with the idea that such a course could be most conveniently applied to Masonic gatherings, and we yet fail to see any very serious objection to it. If it were adopted it would be possible to dispose of the usual preliminary toasts, at least, before the conclusion of the banquet, and that, too, with-

out very much additional time being occupied, as there are invariably pauses between the courses long enough to allow of the proposal of a toast, or the reply of the brother associated with it. The banquet once concluded, the home toasts could at once be started upon, and it might then be possible to get fairly through the list before any great number of the brethren had been compelled to leave. How often is it that the toast of the Charities—one of the most important on the list, and yet usually found near the end—is proposed, and responded to, when more than half of the brethren have left, while it is almost the rule for the Officers, when their turn comes, to have to reply to empty benches? This might be prevented by the adoption of what, we are told, is the custom in Germany, and much more enjoyable evenings, because not so hurried, would be possible. Another improvement might follow the introduction of this innovation; the few who are given to long speech-making might, by arrangement, be called upon for their reply at a time when their remarks would be less wearisome. At all events we think that the innovation is worthy of a trial, and we shall be very pleased to hear the result if any of our readers decide on adopting it; we shall then be in a better position to judge of its ultimate success.

ANONYMOUS AUTHORSHIP.

AS an abstract question Anonymous Authorship is a knotty point. As a matter of fact, experience has shown that the advantages of anonymity are too great to warrant a change from the practice that is almost universal in journalism. The publication of a name, in some instances, gives power to the writer; but the bearers of great reputations are few compared with the vast majority whose title to be heard is the inherent value of their thoughts and style. Many a man has gained his first step on the ladder of fame by the force of his own individuality stamped upon his productions. His personality, instead of ensuring success, would, if known, most likely be the very means of destroying his chance. No doubt there are exceptions in the cases of men of genius. Probably the late Mr. Charles Dickens needed not the aid of secrecy to insure a hearing. He thought otherwise, and adopted the plan of submitting his first literary efforts to the test of a judgment unbiassed by personal considerations. Douglas Jerrold did the same, and discovered that he had the faculty of genius. In both instances the work made the names famous. It was the same in the case of Sir Walter Scott, who produced his earlier books anonymously. The list of authors and authoresses who have adopted the same course could be multiplied, but enough is here shown to prove that a name is not necessarily essential to power in writing. It might be added that in many instances the publication of the name of a writer might be fatal to the influence that would otherwise be exercised. The disclosure of the authorship of Junius' Letters would have robbed them of nearly all their sting. Those who knew the writer would easily find motives for his action, and those who did not know him would be ready to believe any ill-natured thing that might be said of him. We are not now urging that Junius was right; it is not necessary to judge him. He wrote powerfully, and it is

no unfair inference to suppose that the secrecy of authorship lent interest, if not strength, to what he wrote. It should always be remembered that between persons or parties attacked by an unknown writer stood the publisher and the law. How severe the latter was up to a very few years ago need not be discussed. The vice of scurrility is nothing like so prevalent as it used to be. The Grub Street type of pamphleteer is almost a thing of the past, and only exists in the shape of prints that no decent man would countenance. Even the lampoons of a former generation, written, as many of them were, by men of great ability, have now no counterpart, and the excrescences that occasionally disfigure polemical life are of a comparatively mild type indeed. There is a tendency to weigh what a man says and does; there is less questioning as to who a writer may be. His title to be heard rests upon what he produces, and not so much upon his rank, his name, or his fortune. Sometimes these favour an author, but there must be merit as well to gain a wide and acceptable hearing. Men who have secured high reputations which the fickleness of public opinion cannot injure or destroy may venture to sign their names to what they write; but these are comparatively few and consist of those who hold pronounced views on the subjects upon which they descant. Until they had reached the Olympian heights upon which they now stand, they were glad of the shadow of the mountain which concealed their persons, but did not prevent their sound from going forth. Many writers who need not fear publicity prefer the secrecy of the closet; they are content with the power they wield, and desire no popular applause. They shrink from being lionised, and they certainly do not court the abuse of the vulgar or the spite of the vindictive. There is less reason for the concealment of the names of writers in magazines; as a rule the papers are academical, and where they are not they are written in a cooler mental atmosphere, and in a style of deference to and respect for an opponent that is not usually followed in polemical discussions. Even in the case of magazines it is a question whether the anonymous writer does not gain the greater advantage, however mighty his antagonist may be. Both are bound by the same laws of courtesy, and the Editor will take good care that nothing personally offensive or libellous shall appear. He is responsible for the good conduct of the work over which he presides; he has charge of its honour, and in proportion as he guards his trust and secures good workmanship, so will be his own credit and the position his charge occupies in the literary world. He knows that to publish the names of some of his contributors would perhaps be injurious in some cases; in others it would be superfluous, for few would know them outside the circle of their acquaintances. A writer loses nothing by the practice of secrecy; indeed, in the majority of cases he is the gainer, for his work, done free from the gaze of the world, and the petty jealousies and envies of rivals, has earned him a reputation which nothing but his own act can forfeit. There is a time in the career of nearly all writers when anonymity is imperative; in the majority of cases it were better that the practice should be continued. When a man can run alone, when he has gained a name, there are plenty of publishers who would be glad to place his productions before the world, so that there would be no necessity to hide his light under a bushel.

Hitherto we have treated of authorship in connection, chiefly, with books and magazines. Many of the same reasons apply to newspaper writers, but there is one great difference. The work of the latter is ephemeral, while that of the former should be of a more lasting, if not of a permanent character. The newspaper writer, too, deals with the passions of men and parties, with current events, amidst heat and excitement. The writer of books and of magazine articles is under no such necessity; he, therefore, treats matters more philosophically and certainly has less regard for personality than the man whose duty it is to deal with men and parties. The more popular writer cannot very well have power without secrecy, and as the public are amply protected by safeguards, there is no harm done to any one. In the case of correspondents to newspapers the matter assumes another form. A letter sent to a newspaper has to run the gauntlet of the editor, whose duty it is to be satisfied that it contains neither scurrilous nor libellous matter, and that the writer supplies him with his name and address. That is all the editor claims, and if the subject treated be pertinent and courteous and there is room, it is usually inserted. The editor becomes sponsor for the

bona fides of the writer so far as they are disclosed on the surface. He may, or he may not, agree with the views expressed, that is immaterial, but by inserting a letter he implies that the writer is entitled to be heard, and if he is satisfied what right have the public to exact more? No such right exists, and it amounts to little less than impertinence on the part of our correspondent, who chooses, of his own accord to sign his letters, to condemn his opponent because he deems it convenient to write under a feigned signature. Anonymity does not imply baseness or cowardice; often it signifies self-sacrifice. Where a name can be given and it is likely to add weight to a communication, then not only is it desirable that it should be published, but it would be weakness were it withheld. The publishing or not of a name is entirely at the discretion of the writer, and this is a wise arrangement. The weak are equal with the strong, provided their case is just. Their claim to be heard does not rest merely on social position; money does not enter into the matter. Rich and poor, learned and unlearned, stand on the same footing in the Republic of newspaper correspondence. There equality is practised in its completest sense, and the humblest can air his grievance without the fear of the tyranny of the oppressor, or the scorn of the wealthy. The opportunity afforded by newspapers to the aggrieved to assert their rights, to defend their interests is one of the noblest attributes of the Press. It equalises conditions to a very great extent, and it makes intelligence, intellectual power and righteousness the arbiters of disputes. The rich man, the learned pedant, the philosopher and man of science, the wealthy merchant, the magistrate, the Member of Parliament may sign their letters to the newspapers. Their very names would be sufficient against Hodge or Giles were he to append his signature to any complaint in which his powerful neighbours were concerned. Give Giles or Hodge, however, the chance of being heard without reference to his social position, and his case will rest upon its merits. Anonymity protects just exercise of a privilege. The same reasons, although to a less degree, apply to many Freemasons. There are brethren in the Craft far abler than scores who wriggle through the chair and are dubbed Past Masters; who have not the time for the drudgery of office, nor for qualifying themselves for the high duties of the Master of a Lodge. These are little known outside of their own small circle, but the better they are known the more they are respected. They have intelligence and power, and sometimes the desire to express their views. They shrink from publicity, and yet they are entitled to be heard. It would be unjust to shut their mouths because they desired to conceal their identity; whereas the blatant man, who owes his position in the Craft more to his loud-talking and ignorant assumptions, has no such scruples; indeed, he is rather proud than otherwise of having the opportunity of proclaiming to the Masonic world, and the whole world of Cowans, too, that he has got a handle to his name, and therefore speaks with authority. It is not the name or title that gives the right to be heard.

The gourd is but a guinea stamp,
A man's a man for a' that.

Merit, and not rank and fortune, is the natural law of superiority; it is the very basis of the Craft, and upon that principle a newspaper editor ought to act. That he does so in most cases is proof that he recognises the principle, the value of which cannot be overestimated. In these columns we recognise no higher claim to be heard than the exercise of the principles upon which Freemasonry is founded, and these are Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.

FREEMASONRY IN PORTUGAL.

THERE is one country where Masonic light has penetrated only with the greatest difficulty; for it was the seat of ignorance and superstition. This country was the paradise of monks, who there ceased not to build convents, and exercise the exclusive privilege of directing the minds of the King, the people, and his counsellors. That country is Portugal. From the Book of Constitution first published by the Grand Lodge in 1723, and at later periods to the extent of five separate editions, the last of which was in 1855, we learn that the Grand Lodge of London instituted at Lisbon, in 1735, a Provincial Grand Lodge, by the agency of Bro. George Gordon; but the seed was

sown on very barren soil. In the matter of persecution, undergone by all that attempted to disseminate Freemasonry in this country, it stands without a rival, except Spain; but this condition has of late years very much changed.

The Inquisition, under the protection of the King, tracked every person from far and near who were suspected of being Freemasons. Thus two lapidaries, one named John Custos, originally a Protestant from Berne, Switzerland, and the other named Alex. James Monton, originally a Catholic from Paris, having expressed the desire, to see a Lodge organised in Lisbon, fell into the snares set by the "holy office" and were thrown into prison. The accusation against them, charged them with seeking to introduce a Freemason's Lodge in Portugal, in violation of the bull of the Pope, which condemned their doctrines as impious and a heresy, and all Freemasons as beasts, Sodomites, &c. Under the order of the Cardinal Dacunha, grand inquisitor, they submitted nine times in three months to the most abominable torture that is possible to imagine. Subsequently they were forced to assist at an *auto da fe*, and finally were condemned to the galleys for life. Thanks to the aid of English Freemasons, however, they were enabled to escape and seek refuge in England. There was no doubt a vast number of our brethren that were caught in the snares of the Inquisition and who died under the torture, but it is very difficult to ascertain anything about them. The Inquisition was no less severe with the natives of the country, for we find in 1776 two Portuguese nobles, Major D'Alincourt and Don D'Ornelles Parracao, were imprisoned and tortured because they were Freemasons, although all vestage of of Masonry had disappeared for twenty-five years.

In 1802 an inquest was ordered against Freemasons in Portugal, and all who were suspected by this inquest were charged with conspiracy against the King and the Church and sentenced to the galleys for life. These measures were severe, but we find in 1805 a Grand Orient at Lisbon, with a Grand Master named Egaz-Moniz, but its ramifications were not very extended. Dissolved after the events of 1814, it was formed again in 1817 and sought to animate some Lodges; but Freemasonry continued to inspire the monks with terror, and yielding to their solicitations, King John VI. issued a decree dated at Rio Janeiro, 30th March 1818, interdicting Freemasons from assembling together under pain of death, (Findel, Leipsic). We know nothing of the lives destroyed under this decree; there must have been some. About five years afterwards it was modified by another, which, dated at Lisbon, 20th June 1823, stated that it was issued in consequence of remonstrances upon the subject having been addressed to the Government by many of the resident amassadors. By the terms of the last decree, the penalty was changed from capital punishment to five years' labour in the galleys in Africa. No proof beyond mere suspicion was necessary to cause the arrest of persons who were immediately punished under the penalties of these edicts. Foreigners, as well as natives, were proceeded against without any attempt to disguise the act; or the least attention being given to the many protests made by the agents of their respective countries.

Notwithstanding these interdictions, however, as well as the cruelties which were exercised under their authority, a Masonic body was constituted at Lisbon under the title of the Grand Orient of Lusitania, and also a Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite. The later sovereigns of Portugal, without having revoked the prohibitory decrees of Freemasonry appear to have tolerated the Fraternity, for there has been established another authority at Oporto under the name of Patts-Manuel, and subsequently a Provincial Grand Lodge of Ireland.

We can well understand that in such a country as Spain and Rome the clergy rule or desire to rule everything, for it is to their interest to keep the people ignorant. Of late years our beloved Fraternity has progressed to a great extent, many new Lodges having sprung into existence, and are in a flourishing condition, but we entertain hopes for a grander extension of Freemasonry in these countries.

—Hebrew Leader.

DUE THOUGHT AND EXAMINATION.

IT would be every way better if the important steps in life were more carefully considered. The majority of

people act too much from impulse. They do not give due thought and examination to the various enterprises in which they engage, and consequently they often meet with bitter disappointment. Failing to make due investigation, they become involved in conditions not at all to their liking, and which they would have escaped by a less rash course of procedure. It is always best to consider where any given path is likely to lead, and the nature of its surroundings as well.

A man proposing to become a Mason should give some careful thought and enquiry to the matter. He should seek information as to the aims, tendencies, plans and methods of Masonry, that having a right appreciation of its character and purposes, he may understand the measure of responsibility which he assumes by an alliance with the Institution. He should make due investigations for the purpose of forming a correct judgment as to the whether or not he will be likely to be helped in life by establishing such new relations. There is no need that he should proceed recklessly in a matter of so much importance. Books are available which give abundant information as to the principles of the organization—which clearly show within what lines it operates and what is the general order of its procedure. An intelligent enquirer has only to consult manuals and published proceedings to learn the nature of Masonic teachings and obligations; and from such sources he may also gain a good understanding of its ceremony and symbolism.

If after making such investigations, and giving due exercise to the thought, the judgment approves the taking of the step whereby one connects himself with the great Brotherhood, there is comparatively little liability to disappointment. The candidate knows in advance what to expect. He does not enter a Lodge with the idea that the object is merely to have a good time; or that he is to derive some material benefit from his new associations; or that he is to find privileges of any sort unaccompanied by corresponding duties. The well-informed candidate will anticipate just what he will find to be the fact, that Masonry is an orderly and devout system; that it enforces grand moral principles and seeks to repress the baser passions of human nature. He will find its fellowship large and free, its ministries and helps abundant; but he will also realise the correctness of his thought at the outset that Masonry imposes obligations and sets before its members a high standard of truth and duty.

It would certainly be better for the Institution, and for all concerned, if candidates would exercise due thought and careful examination before making application for the degrees. Let them not act by impulse, but take time to reach a satisfying judgment. Let them consider whether they are fitted by temperament, opinions, and sympathies, for membership in the Masonic Fraternity—whether they are prepared to assume the duties therein imposed and conform to the standards therein established—whether they will be likely to derive any added zest of life from such associations. If, after turning the subject over in their own minds they reach an affirmative conclusion, let them go forward with a confident expectation that they will both get good and do good by their connection with the great Brotherhood. Candidates of this class—those who enter the organisation after proper reflection and inquiry, and who rightly apprehend the distinctive features of Masonry—will surely find themselves at home in the Institution, and they may be relied upon to stand by it in the storm as well as in the sunshine. Their affection for it will not be likely to diminish, but rather increase, and their faithfulness to its interests will be steadfast to the end."—*Freemason's Repository*.

We have pleasure in announcing that Bro. A. Simner, J.D. of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, was admitted to the Freedom and Livery of the Worshipful Company of Loriners on the 10th of the present month. We congratulate our esteemed brother, and trust he will secure as much enjoyment from his new associations, as we have seen him derive from Freemasonry.

On Wednesday Bro. General Lord Wolseley was engaged for several hours in inspecting the School of Military Engineering. At night his Lordship was the guest of the Royal Engineers.

HOLIDAY HAUNTS.

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WALES, THE LAKES, AND SCOTLAND.

UPON arriving at the head-quarters of the London and North Western Railway, in London, the traveller might well pause in the courtyard and admire the magnificent Doric Archway, which spans the entrance to it, and which is without a compeer. He might too, contemplate the name the station bears, and cast his mind back for a while to the house built by Lord Arlington, at Easton, in Suffolk, during the reign of Charles II. This grand estate, which came into the family of the present holder, the Duke of Grafton, through marriage of the first Duke into the Arlington family, comprises 15,000 acres, and is not less than forty miles in circuit. Robert Bloomfield, the "Farmer's Boy," writing of Easton, says—

"Where noble Grafton spread its rich domains
Round Euston's watered vales and sloping plains;
Where woods and groves in solemn grandeur rise,
Where the kite brooding unmolested flies;
The woodcock and the painted pheasant race,
And skulking foxes destined for the chase."

We need not dwell upon the contrast between the Easton in Suffolk, and the Station bearing the same name. It is suggestive of thought, and the study might well engage attention for a passing hour or two.

Commercial men need no advice as to how they shall travel. It is part of their business to learn all about routes and charges, times and distances. The pleasure-seeker is differently circumstanced, and has to gather his information as best he can. Fortunately Railway Companies give maps with their time tables, and these should always be consulted. They appear to be, and sometimes are, very intricate, and require no little patience to master them, but the trouble would be repaid in the knowledge gained of the geography of the country, and especially of that part of it intended to be visited. The map accompanying the London and North Western time table is perhaps one of the most difficult to understand, taking a first glance at it, but the figures attached to every branch make the references comparatively easy to those who take a little trouble. The railway line from Euston to Bletchley is tolerably free from tentacles; on passing that Junction, however, they spread out, interlace and curve in a manner suggestive of an inky fly's trail over a sheet of white paper. We shall not attempt to give a guide to the iron maze, but we shall direct attention to the salient features. Before arriving at Bletchley, just past Harrow, a spur on the right goes to St. Albans, and another on the left to Rickmansworth. Further on a branch spreads out to Aylesbury, and another on the opposite side to Dunstable and Luton, the seats of the straw-plaiting trade. At Bletchley the line goes left to Oxford and right to Cambridge. At Blisworth the branches become more intricate. On the left one long spur goes to Stratford-upon-Avon, and on the right lie Northampton, Peterborough, Market Harborough, Stamford, Leicester, Newark, Nottingham, and a host of other towns. Again at Rugby do the lines branch out, one loop taking in Leamington, Warwick, Kenilworth and Coventry, and thence on to Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Stafford. Between these loops and the main line are numerous small lines embracing what is termed the black country, to see which the journey should be taken on a dark night. The church and the village of Kenilworth are worth seeing, but the remains of the castle are the chief attraction. Here imagination must build up the picture that this place presented when Queen Elizabeth was the guest of Leicester. It is a romantic spot even now; but what must it have been when, upon the visit of the Virgin Queen, it was "gorgeously hung for her reception with the richest silken tapestry, misty with perfumes, and sounding to strains of soft and delicious music." To conjure up the figures that once graced this charming spot, to fill up the canvas with the moving spirits of the time when Kenilworth was gay, when the walls of the Castle covered seven acres, would be an interesting study, especially with the aid of Sir Walter Scott, who has done so much in investing the ruins with enchantment. A walk to Coventry would be worth the time and exertion. The country is delightful, and the distance is only about five miles. Coventry is a place of great antiquity, and the story of Lady Godiva and Peeping Tom is well known. The pageant was revived only a few days ago, when an equestrienne personated the character of Lady Godiva, wife of Leofric, to the immense delight of thousands of spectators. The people for centuries past have been fond of processions and displays, and although the shows of the present day are but tinsel compared with those of former times, the old spirit remains. The town was renowned for the costly way in which religious dramas, called *Mysteries*, used to be mounted and played in the days of Corpus Christi. The times have changed, the manners are altered, but the Coventry people remain true to their traditions. According to the "Abbeys, Castles, and Ancient Halls of England and Wales," a splendid work, published by Warne and Co., "one of the richest and most interesting vestiges of the domestic architecture of the fifteenth century in Coventry, and perhaps in England, is St. Mary's Hall, erected in the reign of Henry VI." It has a grotesquely carved roof of oak, a gallery for minstrels, an armoury, and chair of state, which, with the great painted window, furnish a vivid idea of the manners of the age in which Coventry was the favourite resort of princes. A tapestry, made in 1450, measuring 30 feet by 10, and containing 80 figures, is a curious and beautiful specimen of the "drawing, dyeing, and embroidering of that period." We must leave Coventry and just take a peep at Lichfield, which is on the main line before leaving Stafford. As the birthplace of Samuel Johnson the town will always be memorable; but it possesses an attraction in its Cathedral which is irresistible. It is said to be "the most perfect in form of any ecclesiastical edifice in England." It has been the scene of strange tragedies and stirring events; heretics went

from the prisons in its precincts to the stake, and around the walls "Chevalier and Roundhead fought with passionate intensity." Notwithstanding the damage that was done to the structure, the munificence of the present generation, and the genius of Sir Gilbert Scott have revived its claims to admiration and reverence. From Stafford the main line continues to Crewe, which we shall reach by another route. From Stafford the line branches off to the left to Shrewsbury, thence southwards, dividing at Craven Arms, one long spur going south-west to Landilo, where it once more forms a fork leading on the left to Llanelli and Swansea, and on the right to Pembroke. The other branch from Craven Arms goes to Hereford, debouching on the right for Abergavenny, Merthyr, Cardiff, and Newport. All these places have an interest of their own, and none greater than that of Shrewsbury. It is a fine old town, rich in timbered, gabled, and overhanging houses, which are preserved with a care worthy of their age and the times and manners they in no small degree represent. Shrewsbury might be fixed upon by those who desire to see Wales; indeed, it is admirably situated for the purpose. Llandilo is also a centre of attraction, the scenery is pretty, and some good angling is to be had in the locality. Llanelli is a thriving place, but it lacks the flavour of its near neighbour, Swansea. This town is beautifully situated between two lofty hills, and notwithstanding belching chimneys and the clang of metals, there is something about Swansea which pleases the stranger and excites pride in the natives. It is an ancient town, it has a splendid maritime position, and it affords good bathing. The last feature is not likely to induce visitors to go to Swansea for the simple reason that from a village it has become a large emporium of trade, and that of a character not conducive to pleasant sights and sounds. With all its drawbacks on the score of trade, the bay of Swansea and the surroundings possess attractions worth seeing. Carmarthen is situated on the other fork of the line and is a place of great interest and importance. It is finely placed on an elevation, commanding the river Towy, which here is wide and flowing, and adds a charm to the scene around. Tenby and Pembroke are on the same line. The former town is remarkably beautiful and is a very fashionable watering place. The water is clear, the sand firm and extensive, the air pure, and the whole country around abounds in charms for the artist and the antiquarian. Pembroke is an ancient town and has a remarkable past. It has a good dockyard, where some of the finest modern ships of the British navy have been built. But the ruins of what was once a grand castle, and the country round about, are the main features of Pembroke. Then there are Milford and Milford Haven, the former a comparatively new town, which has seen many vicissitudes in its short career. The Haven is considered one of the finest in Europe, and although the shores are not particularly picturesque, there is a grandeur about the vast expanse of water which delights the eye. On the fork from Craven Arms southward we may mention Ludlow and Hereford in the first instance. The beauty of the scenery about the former is well known, some portions are unsurpassed in the country, hills, forest, river, and valleys forming a magnificent whole. The ruins of the Castle stand boldly out on their rocky foundation, and it is from them that the view we have mentioned can be obtained. We cannot dwell upon the associations which cling around Ludlow, but we may mention that it was the home of the son of Edward IV., who held mimic court there when only twelve years of age. Young Philip Sidney was a frequent visitor at the Castle; it was there that Milton's *Masque of Comus* was represented for the first time, in 1634. The idea prevails that it was written at Ludlow Castle, but we incline to the belief that Milton wrote it at his father's residence in Buckinghamshire. Hereford is an old city on the border of Wales, and is surrounded by rich garden scenery, a distinguishing feature of the county. The Cathedral has a very old foundation, and the present structure is chiefly Norman and early English. There are some quaint things to be seen at Hereford, and some old memories to be recalled. The theatre, for instance, was the nursery of such distinguished performers on the English stage as Clive, Siddons, and Kemble. David Garrick was born there, and Nell Gwynne, the favourite of Charles II., first saw the light in Pipe-lane, in the old city. Abergavenny, situated in an amphitheatre, and surrounded by mountains, is a few miles farther south. Then there are Merthyr, Newport, and Cardiff, all so well known as centres of commerce. Around Abergavenny and the locality are many scenes of interest which we cannot even pause to catalogue. Leaving South Wales, and going back to Shrewsbury, the line goes west to Pontypool, thence by diversions to Aberystwith, situated about the middle of Cardigan Bay. It is a very popular watering place, and has many and varied attractions, including walks and drives; amongst the latter may be mentioned that to the Devil's Bridge, one of the sights of this part of Wales that ought not to be missed. It is a double arched bridge, one built above the other; the lower one is said to be the work of the Evil One; the other, no doubt, had a less canny origin. They are both perched high up in the rocks, and through a fissure beneath, 114 feet above the ravine below, rushes a stream of water from its narrow confines with a roar scarcely to be expected from so small a throat. The trees and verdant growth, and the hidden pools, which from a certain point of view, become a large lake, make up a grand picture. In the same direction, but farther on, are other attractions, amongst the noblest of which are the Plinlimmon Mountains. Returning from Aberystwith northward, the line goes to Aberdovey, Towyn, and Barmouth Junction. Here a spur juts out to Dolgelly, a point from which tourists can start in search of many charming scenes, including Cader Idris—the dale of the hazels. The whole locality is full of mountain scenery, rich and varied. Along the coast is Barmouth, a flourishing, pretty seaside resort, and beyond Harlech with its ruined castle on an elevated rock, its historic and warlike associations. It was here that Margaret of Anjou took refuge after the defeat of her husband at Northampton in 1460, and during the Wars of the Roses it was held by a mighty Welchman in the interest of the house of Lancaster, and sustained a siege which gave occasion to the spirited air entitled "The March of the Men of Harlech."

Portmadoc, a harbour of considerable importance, lies beyond. The line divides at this spot, one branch hugging the coast, the other going through Festiniog, Blaenau, Bettws-y-coed, Llanrwst, to Llandudno Junction. Around this net work of railways, and reached by spurs projecting therefrom, range the very choicest scenery in Wales. The praises of the valleys of Festiniog have been sung by Lord Lyttelton, and the falls of Cynfael have been described by Mr. Roscoe with a vigour worthy of their fierce and terrible nature. Bettws-y-coed is the reverse of the scene just mentioned. It is a quiet, lovely sylvan retreat, with all the elements of grandeur around. Within itself it combines much in which the artist and the angler delight, and is a favourite haunt of both. The coast line and its spurs lead to Llanberis for Snowdon, to the Menai Straits and its wonderful bridges, to Carnarvon, and to a thousand attractions which cannot be dealt with here. The whole district is full of charms for the tourist, of the mighty works of nature, and of her beauty too. Those who desire further information should provide a good guide book, one of the best we have seen being Black's, published in 1881.

Returning to Crewe, the main line divides into three great arteries. The one on the left goes to Chester, a famous old city at which a stay should be made. The walls of the old city should be perambulated, the quaint and outwardly uninteresting Cathedral visited, and the remains of domestic architecture of centuries ago would repay inspection. The line skirts the southern shore of the Irish Sea and embraces Rhyl, with a branch direct to Llangollen. Further on is Abergele and Conway, with a spur to Llandudno, clasped between the outstretched arms of the Great Orme's Head. Onward the line continues past Bangor to Holyhead, where an admirable service of boats are provided for the conveyance of passengers to Ireland. The middle of the three arteries goes north, divides on the left to Liverpool. The third goes to Leeds. Between the three are included all the principal places in Lancashire and Yorkshire up to Preston. Here a branch on the left leads to Lytham, Blackpool, and Fleetwood for Belfast by steamer. Still going north Lancaster is passed and Carnforth is reached. At this point commence the series of lines that cover the Lake District, to which we have referred in a previous paper. No word-painting can picture the delights of Cumberland and Westmoreland, they must be seen to be appreciated. We shall, therefore, leave them to be explored by those who seek to know them, promising them a treat that will survive as long as memory lasts. We pause a moment at Carlisle, the border station of the London and North Western line, before entering Scotland. It is a grand old grey town, abounding in historical interest and ought not to be missed. Some miles farther on a line branches off to Dumfries on to Stranraer, from whence a line of steamers cross the North Channel to Larne, thus shortening the sea voyage to Belfast, nearly always a rough one by the ordinary routes. At Carstairs the line divides, from which point one branch goes to Edinburgh and the other to Glasgow and Greenock. Lanark is not far from Carstairs, from which ancient town the falls of the Clyde can be visited, and many points of great interest, in which Wallace figures as a glorious central figure. Stirling is the next point of divergence. Here one trunk goes to Oban and the other to Perth. Then it branches out again, taking in Dundee, Brechin, Montrose, Aberdeen, Peterhead, and Fraserburgh on the one hand, and on the other Blairgowrie, Blair Athole, Lossiemouth, Inverness, Dingwall, and Strone Ferry, covering in fact nearly every part of Scotland. This bare outline could be filled in with descriptions of wild scenery, of lochs and mountains and of historic events that would require volumes to record. Our object is simply to stimulate the public taste, and having done that we must leave them to other resources which are ready to hand, and which will teach them that, in the three kingdoms, there are scenes of grandeur and of beauty which should at least be seen before fresh fields and pastures new are sought in foreign climes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:O:—

A PARTING SHOT.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Just a few last words in self-defence, and then, for the present at least, I shall take leave of Bro. Perceval. There is no need for me to pursue the matter farther with regard to the revision of the rules, and the proceedings arising therefrom, after the admirable letter which appeared in your last issue, signed by "A MEMBER OF THE LATE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES."

In the number of the CHRONICLE for 11th August, I am accused of misquoting Bro. Perceval in one particular case, and he says there are "other instances in which he ('WATCHMAN') has misrepresented the meaning of my text, though he may have nearly quoted the words correctly." This last charge I pass by with the remark that I have learned to regard Bro. Perceval's unsupported statements with suspicion. Not that he wilfully misstates an opponent, but because he cannot believe it possible that any one can be right who differs from him, and that all who do so are more or less guilty of moral turpitude. I am not disposed to accept condemnation without proof, and it is just what Bro. Perceval rarely gives, and in this instance omits altogether. I will say nothing of his mode of retreating from a discussion he provoked, nor his reason given for that step; those are

matters your readers can understand and appreciate; but I am not disposed to submit to what I think I shall prove to be an utterly groundless accusation.

It is quite true that on the 14th not 16th July, Bro. Perceval did write that "a Committee should be formed outside of the Board of General Purposes," and it is equally true that on the 21st of the same month, referring to the revision of the rules, I stated: "He (Bro. Perceval) has condemned the Board of General Purposes, and yet he would select six of their number for this delicate work." Were these quotations to stand alone, Bro. Perceval would have some reason to complain, but unfortunately for him they do not.

On the 16th June, a date probably forgotten when the letter four weeks later was penned, Bro. Perceval expresses his intention to move the following resolution in Grand Lodge at a certain time which he states: "That as the defined Rules and Regulations under which our Order is to be governed is a matter of the gravest importance to our well-being, and owing to the great delay that has hitherto taken place in bringing the matter to an issue, that a Committee should be formed, consisting of twelve members, six to be appointed by Grand Lodge, and six by the Board of General Purposes, to take in hand the reconsideration of the Revision of the Book of Constitutions, together with the suggested amendments and alterations, as soon as possible, and to lay the result thereof before Grand Lodge in December, for acceptance." The italics are mine. He closes the paragraph thus: "By these means both views of the case will be brought to bear, the purple and the blue." There is nothing in the foregoing resolution hinting a suspicion of the *bona fides* of the Board of General Purposes, the object, as I take it, being to facilitate the despatch of a troublesome business by a small committee, in which the Board and Grand Lodge should be equally represented. Nothing in the resolution could have prevented the Board of General Purposes from nominating six of their own number, or at least of selecting six nominees who knew and would represent their views. It is clear, beyond dispute, that on the 16th June, Bro. Perceval did not wish to go altogether outside of the General Purposes Committee, that was a conclusion arrived at later, when he became incensed at what he deemed their improper conduct. Then it occurred to him to shunt the Board, and to appoint a fresh Committee. My case therefore is abundantly vindicated. I was dealing with the whole subject. One of my charges against Bro. Perceval was inconsistency, and I venture to think that I have proved it up to the hilt out of his own mouth.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

WATCHMAN.

THE PRICKED WINDBAG.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have carefully read the letter of "A MEMBER OF THE LATE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES," but besides stating that the charges he makes against me are generally incorrect, while his answers are not only incorrect, but beside the question, I can but express my surprise at the unbounded assurance of an anonymous correspondent calling for an apology from me or any one else who gives his name, not for the sake of notoriety, but that it should not be said that such charges were made behind a "nom de plume." I decline to make any further remarks until called upon by those who alone have the right to demand an explanation from me.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

C. J. PERCEVAL, P.M. 1607.

ROYAL ARCH.

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PATRIOTIC CHAPTER, No. 51.

THE Quarterly Meeting of this Chapter was held on the 9th instant, at the Three Cups Hotel, Colchester. Ex. Comps. T. J. Ralling P.G.S.E. M.E.Z., E. Hennemeyer H., W. P. Lewis P.Z. Treasurer as J., J. J. C. Turner S.E., A. S. B. Sparling S.N., W. Sowman P.S., C. D. Marshall 1st Asst. Soj., S. Munson Janitor, George Harrison, John Dean, J. T. Bailey, and R. Little. Visitor—Comp. Clarke Abbott 809. Four brethren having been exalted to the sublime degree of R.A.M., the Officers for the ensuing year were elected as under:—Ex. Comps. E. Hennemeyer M.E.Z., J. E. Wisemau H., William Sowman J., T. J. Ralling I.P.Z. P.G.S.E. S.E., C. D. Marshall S.N., W. P. Lewis P.Z. Treasurer, J. J. C. Turner P.S., Munson Janitor. The M.E.Z. stated that since the last meeting a Grand Chapter had been formed for the Province, and he had pleasure in proposing as a joining member the Grand Superintendent, E. Comp. A. Philbrick, Q.C., P.G. Soj. England, who they were proud to claim as a native of Colchester. There being no other business, the Companions adjourned to the festive board, and spent a pleasant hour and half in social intercourse.

DANCING.—To Those Who Have Never Learnt to Dance.—Bro. and Mrs. JACQUES WYNNMANN receive daily, and undertake to teach ladies and gentlemen, who have never had the slightest previous knowledge or instruction, to go through every fashionable ball-dance in a few easy lessons. Private lessons any hour. Morning and evening classes.

PROSPECTUS ON APPLICATION

ACADEMY—74 NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.

BRO. JACQUES WYNNMANN WILL BE HAPPY TO TAKE THE MANAGEMENT OF MASONIC BALLS. FIRST-CLASS BANDS PROVIDED.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH WALES (WESTERN DIVISION).

THE Annual Meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, under the banner of St. David's Lodge, No. 366, at the New Masonic Hall, Milford Haven. Prov. Grand Lodge was opened soon after twelve o'clock by the Rt. Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, Colonel Lloyd-Phillips, who was supported by a very fair attendance of Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers. After Provincial Grand Lodge had been formally opened, Colonel Phillips expressed the pleasure he felt at meeting the brethren of his Province on this occasion, a pleasure intensified by the fact that a part of the day's work was to be the consecration of the new Masonic Hall which has recently been erected by a few of the members of No. 366. It was most gratifying to recognise the spirit of enterprise that had been the means of raising so noble an edifice. The ceremony of Consecration was then formally proceeded with and completed. The business of Prov. Grand Lodge was next taken. At an early stage of the day the roll of Lodges had been called, when it was found that all were represented. In the absence of Bro. C. Rice Williams, M.D., Prov. G. Sec., the minutes of last Prov. Grand Lodge meeting were read by Bro. J. Jenkyn Jones. The Prov. Grand Master explained that at their last meeting the sum of £26 5s had been voted for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, it had, however, been pointed out to him that an additional five guineas would secure an extra vote, and that it was desirable as many votes as possible should be obtained for the Province, he had therefore taken upon himself to authorise the payment by Prov. Grand Treasurer of the larger amount, viz., thirty guineas, and he now asked the members to sanction this increased outlay. This was unanimously agreed to, and with this addition the minutes were confirmed. The Prov. Grand Treasurer's accounts showed a balance in favour of Prov. Grand Lodge of £26 13s 10d. The Prov. G. Treasurer was complimented by the Prov. Grand Master for the zeal he had displayed, and the brethren passed a cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Jenkyn Jones for his past services. Bro. Jones acknowledged the compliment paid him, and on being re-elected, expressed his willingness to still further exert himself in the work of the Province. The Prov. Grand Officers were then invested, as follow:—

Bro. Edward Hamer P.M. 1072	...	G. Senior Warden
Geo. W. Ford P.M. 990	...	G. Junior Warden
Rev. J. Papkin Morgan Chap. 671	...	G. Chaplains
Rev. H. H. Gibbon S.D. 366	...	
J. Jenkyn Jones P.M. 476	...	G. Treasurer
W. R. Roberts W.M. 366	...	G. Registrar
C. Rice Williams P.M. 1072	...	G. Secretary
John Evan Jones W.M. 671	...	G. Senior Deacon
Nathan John P.M. 378	...	G. Junior Deacon
Joseph Boyett W.M. 990	...	G. Sup. of Works
E. A. Saunders W.M. 378	...	G. D. of C.
G. A. Hutchins W.M. 476	...	G. Assist. D. of C.
John W. Penney W.M. 1748	...	G. Sword Bearer
Joseph H. Thomas Org. 1177	...	G. Organist
Samuel Read S.W. 464	...	G. Pursuivant
James Williams 366	...	G. Stewards
B. W. Davis 464	...	
C. W. A. Edwards 990	...	
W. O. Hulm 1748	...	
W. H. Gibley 990	...	
A. E. Baldwin 366	...	
John Williams	...	G. Tyler.

The following Report of the Prov. G.L. Committee was then presented:—"The Committee met at the St. Peter's Lodge, Carmarthen, on the 6th July 1883. The Committee have pleasure in stating that from the Reports sent in by the Lodges for the past year, the general state of Freemasonry in this Province is highly satisfactory, and in a prosperous condition. The Committee have pleasure in recommending Wor. Bro. J. Beavan Phillips P.M. 671 P. Prov. S.G.W. for re-election as the Charity Commissioner for the ensuing year, and Wor. Bro. Aaron Stone P.M. 671 P. Prov. J.G.W. as Assistant Charity Commissioner, and that votes of thanks be accorded them for their valuable services and the great zeal which they have displayed in the cause of Freemasonry in the Province.

That the sum of ten guineas be paid annually, commencing 1st January last, to the Charity Commissioners towards the expenses of their department.

That the most cordial thanks of the Province be given to Worshipful Bro. Aaron Stone, in recognition of his services as Steward on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys during the past year, and congratulate him on having aided in making up the largest amount ever collected in one year for that Institution, and the Committee further recommend that the usual Gold Bar be added to Bro. Stone's Charity Jewel, and presented to him at this Provincial Grand Lodge.

That Worshipful Bro. Jonathan Marsden P.M. 476 P. Prov. Grand Chaplain be elected Steward to represent this Province at the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls for the year 1883-4.

That Lucy Smith, daughter of our late Worshipful Bro. George T. Smith P.M. 1072 P. Prov. S.G.W. be adopted by the Province as a Candidate this year for admission to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

That the sum of twenty guineas be voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls."

The Committee's Report was unanimously adopted *en bloc*. The brethren then proceeded to St. Catherine's Church, where divine service was celebrated. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Popkin Morgan, who selected for his text Philippians iv. 8:—

"Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report;

if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Our rev. brother proceeded as follows:—

It is to me, brethren, both as a Mason and as a Christian, a subject of much satisfaction that we, the Masons of this Province, should as a body make the public recognition of the importance of worshipping God, which is implied by our attendance here to-day.

It is no secret that in our Lodges one Supreme God is acknowledged as the object of our worship; nor is the world ignorant that we profess to point men for guidance to the law of God which prescribes charity and purity as the truest ritual of religion. Our attitude towards religion is, I repeat, no secret; but by attending at Church to-day we advertise, we blaze abroad, our recognition of God and our respect for religion. We shew that, although not necessarily a Christian, still less a churchman, the Mason is one who wishes to do honour to the temples where God is worshipped and to encourage the combined efforts of mankind to offer their Maker the homage due from His reasonable creatures.

But, brethren, though your attendance here to-day does not imply that every individual Mason is a Christian and a Churchman, my place in the pulpit of this church does imply both my Christianity and my Churchmanship. I dare not therefore confine myself to-day to those parts of religion which all Masons accept as Masons, but I stand here as a minister of Christ's Church to preach the Gospel of Christ's kingdom. Masonry, though founded on Divine Laws, is a Human Institution. There is an Institution founded by God Himself upon the same Divine Laws, teaching those laws with God's authority which Masonry stamps with man's approval, and doing what Masonry can never do, giving strength from on High to perform the law of God. Masonry incites us to the imitation of good men and true; Christianity offers inspiration to make successful imitation possible. Masonry tells us of duties, and points to God as the giver of strength to perform them. Our Holy Christian Faith shows us in Christ Jesus the way to God's very presence. Yes; the strength of Christianity stands in the revelation of God's love made by Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Son of God. Here, brother Masons, you will find the best of all patterns of one faithful unto death, and that not in the interests of the good and religions, but for the sake of recovering the lost, the wicked, the rebellious, and out of love to all mankind. Such is the boundless charity we should aim at attaining to; not merely a disposition to do good to worthy men and Masons, but a determination that though some may not act as brothers towards us, we will do the brother's part to every fellow-man. Is our fellow man sinful? Charity covers the multitude of sins, overlooks his faults, and refuses to take offence. Charity consists as much in forgiveness as in almsgiving, and finds its object not only in the good and kind, not only in the poor and unfortunate; but perhaps most conspicuously of all in the enemy, whom Jesus bids us love. This is the test case of Charity. If we can forgive; if we can love our enemy, we may be sure that we have indeed obtained from God "that most excellent gift of Charity." No other test is certain. A man may give his wealth to the poor, his body to be burned for an opinion, and yet not have Charity; but surely he has Charity if he can love his enemy.

But let us now, brethren, take the advice of our text. Let us for a very few moments think on, that is let us give up our whole mind to "whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report. If (in the teachings of Masonry) there be any virtue and any praise, let us (I say) think of these things.

And there is much instruction in virtue most worthy of praise, symbolically conveyed by our Masonic Rites. On the very day when we first saw Masonic Light we were taught most graphically the necessity of temperance and fortitude. We learnt the dangers of rashness on the one hand and timidity on the other. How many a man, forgetting the obligations of temperance, has rashly rushed upon a career of unregulated indulgence, which has pierced him through with many sorrows, and brought him, it may be, to utter destruction of Body and Soul. How many a man, on the other hand, by timidly withdrawing from the straightforward path of duty, has suffered the penalty of becoming a dead and useless member of society that might as well have been strangled at his birth! On the occasion, too—I mean the occasion of our Initiation—the virtue of a cautious prudence was inculcated, and we were reminded of the danger of entrusting our secrets to unworthy and untrustworthy persons. We learnt, also, that the true seat of Charity is the heart and not the purse; that poverty is not a thing to be ashamed of; that the richest should learn to sympathise with the most destitute by putting himself in his place. And not the least important lesson at this time imparted was the lesson of Truth. How unutterably more horrible falsehood and perjury are than the worst of all misfortunes—ay, than death itself in all its horrors, is a lesson familiar to every Mason. Let us all, brethren, strive to extend this principle of Truth into every word we utter and every statement we make, however trivial; that the yea of a Mason may be indeed yea, and his word as good as his bond. Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, Charity, Sympathy, Truth! These are indeed precious virtues to which Masonry incites her apprentice! How shall we attain to them? Masonry and Christianity alike answer—by dependence on God, who works in us to will and to do of his good pleasure. He is the G.A.O.T.U., not only of the material, but of the moral Universe as well. In his hand the heavy gavel of adversity and the sharp chisel of pain are used not as weapons of destruction but for the perfecting of His servants. So from being, as it were, rough unhewn stones in the quarry of human nature, they become bright polished ashlar meet for the walls of God's Temple on high, the House not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. But—mark this well—upon our Fortitude and Patience it depends whether we are perfected or shattered beneath the Master Builder's strokes, made fit for heaven, or only to be cast into the refuse-heap of the lost and ruined.

But let us pass on. Who of us brethren can truly say that he did not experience some slight sense of disappointment, at least, when

he passed from his apprenticeship to the Fellow Craft Degree? Even this is not without its lesson; and the lesson of it is that life is an uphill journey, that knowledge and wisdom are but slowly acquired, that there is no royal or magic road to skill and learning, that the structure of a good and worthy life can only be built up by a fixed determination at its very outset to act honestly and "on the square," and by unceasing industry and perseverance. Only to the industrious and persevering searcher will nature yield up her secrets, and science—which is knowledge—take up her abode in our understanding. I pass still onward to the day that saw us raised to a higher degree yet. Any disappointment we may have felt when we were passed was now amply atoned for. How great the solemnity with which we were now taught the new great lessons of Faith and Hope. How much fuller an idea of Charity or Brotherly Love was set forth, extending even to the laying down of life for the brethren, the most extreme case of Christ's royal law "To do to others as we would they should do unto us." I have said we were now taught Faith. At an earlier stage we had been taught to rely and depend on God in the affairs of life; but who can go on doing so if all is dark around him, if adversity defeats all his industry, if all friends fail, and death itself looms before him? The fidelity of many a good man to God, to purity, and to his fellow-man, has brought him in this world no recompense save suffering, and even in some cases, torturing death. How, in spite of these proofs to the contrary, can he still rely on God's rewarding him? Ah! if death bounded all, and the compass of man's thoughts would open no further than the brink of the grave, this could not be Faith in God, and hope of happiness would in that case necessarily perish when death was seen approaching. But from beyond the grave God draws us towards Himself. God illumines death itself with light, "Though I pass through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." This is the Mason's Faith. But he has more than Faith, he, like the Christian, has hope of Immortality, hope of Resurrection. Bro. Mason, this hope of a life beyond the grave, a life that will give to all who died here unrewarded, the full reward of their toils, ay! far more than any of us deserve, to those who have really learned to live in Faith in God, this hope, I say, of which Masonry and natural religion in every land teaches something, is made by the gospel of Christ into a sure and certain expectation. For Christ has risen from the grave. The Most High has thereby set His seal to all that Jesus taught. We know from Christ's own lips that He who was thus raised from the dead to His Father's right hand will take to Himself and to the Father's presence all that put their trust in Him. Amen.

The collection amounted to £5 15s 6d. A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. James Boaden for the use of his church, and the amount collected was placed in the hands of a committee of the St. David's Lodge for disbursement. After several other matters had received consideration Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

CLARENDON LODGE, No. 1769.

THE annual election meeting of this popular and eminently practical Lodge was held on Tuesday evening last, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, when there was a goodly muster of members and visitors, under the presidency of Bro. John Soper, the genial Worshipful Master. Amongst those present were Bros. H. W. Mayes S.W., George Croxton J.W., J. Stanley Treasurer, James Cooper P.M. Secretary, T. B. Linscott S.D., Thomas Grove P.M., Charles Thompson I.P.M., E. Abercrombie, M. Ker, C. Thomas Prov. Grand Tyler for Herts Tyler. The Visitors included Bros. J. Farmaner P.M. 28, J. Jackson 1287, W. Grix 28, and others. Lodge having been opened in accordance with ancient rites, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, after which Lodge was advanced to the second degree, and Bro. Walter Criz, of Durham, Natal, who had been initiated into the Old King's Arms Lodge, No. 28, was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, the working being executed in masterly manner by the Worshipful Master, assisted by his Officers. The voting subsequently took place for W.M. for the ensuing year, and the choice of the brethren fell unanimously upon Bro. H. W. Mayes, whose zeal and ability in the discharge of duty in the minor chairs was suitably and deservedly acknowledged. Bro. Stanley was requested to continue in office as the Secretary of the Lodge, an office he has filled with so much satisfaction to all concerned, and Bro. Stanley accepted the renewal of confidence with a few well-expressed words of encomium which had been proffered to him for his little services. He begged the Lodge's acceptance of a case in which the books might be more conveniently kept, and this was received by the brethren with applause, with a resolution that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes, acknowledging the handsome present which had been made to the Lodge. Bro. C. Thomas Prov. G. Tyler Herts, was unanimously re-elected Tyler, and an Audit Committee was appointed. After the transaction of some formal business, Lodge was closed amidst an abundance of hearty good wishes, and the brethren and visitors adjourned to the banquetting-room, where a sumptuous repast was served, in a style which has made Bros. Ritter and Clifford famous at this old established City resort. The arrangements were under the personal superintendence of Brother Henry Mills, and elicited expressions of unqualified satisfaction. After dessert, the customary Loyal and Craft toasts were honoured, due recognition being given to the valuable services rendered by the Most Worshipful Grand Master the Prince of Wales, and the other rulers of the Craft. Brother C. Thompson I.P.M., in proposing the health of the Worshipful Master, said this was the last time he should have the honour of discharging that congenial duty, and in one sense he must confess he was rather sorry for it. He could only say that their excellent Worshipful Master had discharged his duties in a most able manner during the year, and that under his rule harmony and good feeling had pervaded everything appertaining to the

Lodge. It was most satisfactory that the brethren had voted to him a Past Master's jewel on his retirement from the office he had so well and worthily filled, for no man more richly deserved such a recognition of services rendered to his Lodge. They all trusted that Bro. Soper might be spared many years, not only to favour the Lodge with his presence, but that he might have good health and long life to wear the jewel which had been so deservedly voted to him on his retirement from the chair. The W.M. in acknowledging the very cordial manner in which the toast had been received, said he feared at one period that he should have to go through his year of office without any work to do; but thanks to his friend, Brother Grove, who had found him some employment this evening, his fears had not been realised. Although the work was not done quite to his own satisfaction, yet he had done the best he could, and trusted the brethren would kindly overlook any little shortcomings of which he might have been guilty. He assured the brethren he had the true interest of the Clarendon Lodge closely at heart, and he should do all he could in the future, as he had done in the past, to advance its prosperity. In a small and select Lodge like this, there was a difficulty in obtaining employment sufficient to keep the Master and his Officers always in a state of ready proficiency; but he hoped his successor would have a few candidates, and that his year of office might be a happy and successful one. He then proposed the health of the Visitors, to whom he extended a most hearty and cordial welcome. The Visitors briefly responded, uniting in expressions of pleasure at the reception they had met at the hands of the brethren, and their appreciation also of the working they had witnessed in the Lodge-room. The W.M. next gave the healths of the Past Masters, thanking them for their uniform courtesy and kindness, and for the valuable assistance they had rendered him during his year of office. Bro. T. Grove P.M. in the course of a happy speech, referred to the laudable ambition which prompted every Mason to pass the chair of his Lodge, and expressed the pleasure it afforded him to stand in the ranks of the Past Masters, although he had now responded to the toast so many times that he had very little to say in relation to it. He hoped to live many years to enjoy that esteem which he felt he now possessed, and those good wishes which were so frequently expressed towards him. He could assure them he should do the best he could to deserve their good wishes, and that his interest in the well-being of the Lodge was unabated. The Immediate Past Master also replied, echoing the sentiments which had fallen from Brother Grove. To be a Past Master of the Clarendon Lodge was one of the chief pleasures of his life. The Past Masters were at all times pleased and willing to do anything in their power for the furtherance of the Lodge, and for the assistance and instruction of the brethren. They were glad to be called upon at any moment, should an Officer, through any cause, be absent from his post, and he hoped he might live to see all the brethren now present passing to the highest position to be obtained in the Lodge. The Worshipful Master then proposed the healths of the Treasurer and Secretary; in doing which he referred to the suit and service rendered by Brother Stanley as Treasurer, and jocosely expressed his belief that that brother had a wonderful amount of money now in hand. He only hoped that a considerable portion of those funds would be devoted to charity. Their Secretary was also most indefatigable in the performance of his duties, and well looked after the interests of the Lodge. Brother Stanley, in responding, said it was a pleasure to fill the post of Treasurer to the Clarendon Lodge, and he knew they would believe him when he said he was desirous of saving himself as much trouble as possible. Being one of the founders of the Lodge, he looked upon it as one of his family, and he only hoped he might live to see it crowned with every success. The W.M. then proposed the healths of the Officers of the Lodge, alluding to the zealous and useful services rendered by all those who held positions of responsibility below the chair. Bros. Hayes and Croxton responded, the latter in a characteristically humorous speech; and the official list was closed in befitting manner by the Tyler. The proceedings were interspersed with some excellent singing, and a most harmonious and enjoyable evening was passed.

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Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

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* * Ladies, and "Lewises"—being minors—similarly qualified, and all Vice-Presidents, will receive FOUR Votes for every Five Guineas so contributed.

Contributors of less than Five Guineas, to the "SPECIAL FUND," will be entitled to Votes as under ordinary conditions.

FIRST AND LAST APPLICATION.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

YOUR VOTES AND INTEREST are earnestly solicited on behalf of AMY MARGARET LEE, daughter of the late Bro. THOMAS VINCENT LEE, of the Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13.

MARGARET J. LEE, Bull and Last, Highgate Road, N.

NOTICE.—FIRE AT FREEMASONS' HALL.

THIS fire has not touched in the least any part of the Freemasons' Tavern, and will not cause the slightest interference with any arrangements made or pending for Masonic or other Banquets, Balls, Public Meetings, or any purpose for which the establishment is devoted. Orders can now be received for Masonic and Regimental Dinners, Public Festivals, Private Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, Evening Parties, Balls, Soirees, &c., and the Spacious Hall is, as usual, available for Election and other Public Meetings.

The business will in every respect be conducted as heretofore.

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4th May 1883.

FIRE AT FREEMASONS' HALL!

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London: C. MITCHELL and Co., Red Lion-court, Fleet-street; and Simpkin and Co., Stationers' Hall-court.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

NORTH WALES AND LAKE DISTRICT.—The Summer Service of Trains in the Lake District, and on the North Wales Coast is now in operation. The Express leaving Euston at 10.30 a.m. will be found the most convenient for Llanudno, Rhyl, Penmaenmawr, Aberystwith, Barmouth, Dolgelly, &c., as well as for the English Lake District.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class Tourist Tickets, available for two months, are issued at all the Principal Stations on the London and North Western Railway.

For full particulars, see Tourist Guide (121 pages with Maps, price One Penny), which can be obtained at the Stations, or on application to Mr. G. P. NEELY, Superintendent of the Line.

G. FINDLAY, General Manager.

Euston Station, August 1883.

Lymington Villa, Clapham, S.W.
July 1883.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am personally interested in the undermentioned case, the applicant being related to me. The sad circumstances under which the application is made are such as to justify the most strenuous exertions on the part of those who can sympathise with misfortune, and desire to mitigate unmerited distress.

If you will help me at the ensuing Election, I shall be very greatly obliged to you. The promise of your proxies and of your interest in support of this case will be highly esteemed and remembered should occasion arise.

Yours very truly and fraternally,

JAMES STEVENS P.M. P.Z.

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. OCTOBER ELECTION, 1883.

The favour of your VOTE and INTEREST is respectfully and earnestly solicited on behalf of

KATHLEEN ALICE GIBSON, AGED 8 YEARS.

Daughter of Brother CHARLES GEORGE GIBSON P.M. 223, 189 (now in Australia), who from unfortunate circumstance is unable to contribute anything towards the maintenance of his Wife and Six Children.

The case is strongly recommended by

- W. Bro. Isaac Latimer, J.P., P.M. 189 P.P.G.S.W. Devon.
- W. Bro. William Derry P.M. 156 P.G.J.W. Devon.
- W. Bro. J. Edward Curteis P.M. 70, 189 P.P.G.S.W. Devon, V. Pat. R.M.I.B. V.P. R.M.B.I.
- W. Bro. A. McPherson Walls P.G. Std., Vice-Pres.—Lloyds.
- W. Bro. E. F. Storr P.M. 23, 1679, P.Z. 1044, Z. 192, Mayday Villas, Bartholomew Road, Kentish Town, N.W.
- W. Bro. E. C. Mather P.M. 23, 71 Fleet Street.
- W. Bro. J. Farmaner P.M. 23, 485, 3 Coleman Street, E.C.
- W. Bro. J. Hainsworth P.M. 28, 8 Coleman Street, E.C.
- W. Bro. T. J. Thomas P.M. 28, 133 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.
- W. Bro. T. Grove P.M. 1769, 173 Bishopsgate Street, E.C.
- W. Bro. Thomas Fairweather P.S.W. 22, 15 Watling Street, E.C.
- W. Bro. James Stevens P.M. 726, 1216, 1426, P.Z., &c., Clapham, S.W.

Proxies will be thankfully received by those marked thus (*); also by the Mother, Mrs. C. G. Gibson, 14 Endsleigh Place, Plymouth.

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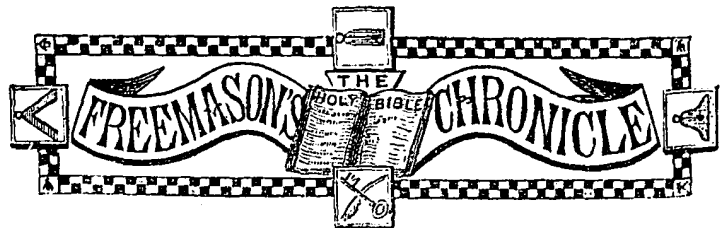
ON

THE HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

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RANDOM NOTES AND REFLECTIONS.

CAN Quakers be Freemasons? Most brethren would answer—No! Strictly and logically the reply would be correct, but actual practice in this, as in many other instances, shows that there is no rule without an exception, and that Quakers sometimes escape from the confines of their narrow faith. We are not aware of many Quakers of the present day being Masons,

although many striking changes have taken place, in their mode of dress especially. The broad-brimmed hat of the male, and the peculiarly-shaped bonnet of the female members of the sect are often discarded, the young members of the fraternity mix more in the world and are less distinguishable than they were formally. Notwithstanding this change, we are not aware that Quakers generally have taken to Masonry, whatever Quakeresses may have done in the case of that spurious body in America yclept the Order of the Eastern Star. Bro. D. Murray Lyon relates the case of a Quaker of the name of Thomas Cumming, who was reported during the celebration of the Feast of St. John the Baptist in 1741, as being guilty of an indignity to the Lodge of Canongate-Kilwinning, and he was refused admission until he had given satisfaction for the offence he had committed. The *Voice of Masonry*, Chicago, gives a very interesting case. The August part says:

During those troublous times of the Anti-Masonic crusade, a Quaker leader, in one of the New England States, was not only a Mason himself, but had six sons who were members. The members of his church discovered, by some means, that he had been initiated, and sent Abraham and Joseph to advise with the erring Levi, and secure from him an assurance of fidelity to the discipline of the Society. The Committee waited upon him, explained their errand, and the spokesman said, "Levi, we understand that thou art a Freemason?"—"I have had the reputation, Abraham, of being a Freemason for these twenty years." "But, wilt thou tell us, Levi, whether thou art a Mason?"—"No, Abraham, I will not tell thee whether I am or not."—"Shall we tell the meeting, Levi, that thou dost renounce Freemasonry?"—"No, Abraham, I will not. I will see thee condemned first."

Levi's firmness triumphed, and he continued a pillar of his church, and remained faithful to the Craft. It was somewhat about the time of this anecdote that the Quakers took it into their heads to legislate against our Fraternity, and imposed a penalty of excommunication against any member who became a Mason and persisted in his affiliation. Quakers could disown, although they could not swear, but they found it difficult to classify the article they had framed under one of the heads of their testimony against sins of commission. The journal we have already referred to states that the following was a way in which they got over the difficulty:—

After a long discussion and consideration of the subject, they inserted it under the head of Gaming and Diversions. The gaming, perhaps, was in the chances of admission, and the diversion, the social pleasures of the Lodge.

—:o:—

In the foregoing we have alluded to the androgynous "Order of the Eastern Star," which, says the *Keystone*, proposes to erect a house for itself. Our contemporary adds:—

We sincerely trust it will be a large one, large enough, in fact, to hold the entire sisterhood, and that they may all be persuaded to enter this Home, and to assume a vow never again to enter the world. We proffer our condolence to the Grand Patrons, when they shall be deprived of the society of the Grand Matrons.

—:o:—

Masonic charity is not confined to members of the Craft. We have had many instances of the generous character of the body. We gave a very interesting specimen last week of the good work done by the brethren at Pensacola, we now quote another. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, at one of their Quarterly Communications, appropriated three hundred dollars to Jewish refugees in Philadelphia, and one hundred dollars to the sufferers by a recent fire at Chester, in Pennsylvania.

—:o:—

Bro. J. Ross Robinson, S.G.W. of the Grand Lodge of Canada, has presented the Lakeside Home to the Hospital for Sick Children at Toronto, Canada. It was opened in the early part of last month, and patients were removed to it at once. Attached to this handsome gift is the condition that it, as well as the hospital proper, shall be open, without any charge, to the children of Freemasons. This is another instance of the catholicity of the charity of the Brotherhood.

—:o:—

Last week we referred to the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida, and quoted from the remarks of the M.W. Grand Master, Bro. W. E. Anderson. The following is worthy of being reprinted:—

"Freemasonry is increasing in numbers, but is it increasing in intelligence, in moral worth and reputation as rapidly? * * We

should scrutinise our material more closely, not be content with mere negative character, but require real active worth in our candidates. * * We make Masonry too common, that is the great danger ahead of it. If it ever suffer shipwreck, that is the rock upon which it will go to pieces. It has successfully resisted all external enemies, the danger lies within its own body * * Each one of us should be his brother's keeper. Our regulations and the spirit of our Institution condemn profanity, intemperance, dishonesty, looseness of life, and every breach of the moral law. And yet we and the world know Masons who are profane, intemperate, and immoral. Those who see a brother take a step upon the downward road, and neglect to raise the voice of friendly warning and restraint, fail in their duty. He who admonishes as a Mason has behind him a mighty moral influence, of which he can scarcely estimate the weight.

—:o:—

St. John's Lodge, No. 219, of Pittsburgh, was constituted in 1846, and in recording its history and work the *Keystone* gives some particulars which ought to stimulate some of the brethren on this side of the water to greater vitality in good deeds. Among the many things this Lodge has done we may state a few. In 1866 it purchased a fine cemetery lot, containing 3,624 square feet, which has been handsomely improved; it now contains the remains of twenty-seven worthy Master Masons, and has cost the sum of 4,405 dollars. They also suggested a "Masonic Consolidated Charity Fund," which during the past twenty-three years has been in successful operation, and there has been paid out of it for charity, in that period, the sum of 15,606 dollars. To many local calls it responded most liberally, and when a Masonic orphans' home was proposed the Lodge voted 1,000 dollars towards it; but the plan failed at the time. During the past twenty years St. John's Lodge has dispensed in charity no less than 12,177 dollars. Our contemporary says that this Lodge "requires no affiliation fee. It limits life membership to Past Masters by election of seven years' standing, and members of twenty years' good standing."

—:o:—

Just a dark touch by way of contrast. Grand Secretary Hedges, of Montana, says:—"There are some Masons that haven't got a dollar's worth of Masonry in them." And, adds the *Toronto Freemason*:—"We know many that haven't got half-a-dollar's worth, and can produce documents to back this statement up." That is rather warm for subscribers, but we fear the implied censure is deserved.

—:o:—

General Tom Thumb was a universal favourite when in England, and the news of his death in the middle of last month was received with regret in this country. Charles H. Stratton, the real name of this small wonder, was a Brother Mason of noble rank and held in high esteem. We English Freemasons can hardly understand the public ceremonies that are practised in America in the name of the Order. They seem to be peculiar to the country and to be regarded with great favour, a circumstance that is somewhat curious among a people who boast the simplicity of Republicanism. The remains of Brother Stratton were taken to Bridgeport, Conn., in charge of members of the Craft, Knights Templar, and those of the Scottish Rite of the Northern Jurisdiction. The widow, *née* Lavinia Warren, accompanied them. The body was placed in St. John's Episcopal Church at night and guarded by the Knights Templar until morning, when the doors were thrown open to the public. The corpse was clothed in black, decorated with the jewel of the 32°, and the surrounding floral gifts were elegant and numerous, consisting of crosses, crowns, and Masonic emblems, gifts of P. T. Barnum and W. R. Higby 32°. Over ten thousand persons visited the church to see the deceased, who, although diminutive in size, was mentally and physically a true man. The cloth-covered walnut casket bore a plate inscribed: "Charles H. Stratton, aged 45 years, 6 months, and 11 days." The remains were interred in Mountain Grove Cemetery, the full Masonic services being performed by St. John's Lodge, No. 3. There was no speech-making, but the crowd was great and the interest manifested in the proceedings very keen. "A marble monument marks the resting place," says the *Hebrew Leader*, "the shaft being 20 feet high, and bears the name 'Stratton.'"

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Chest and Stomach Complaints.—The source and centre of almost every ailment is impurity of the blood; dislodge this poison, and disease departs. Holloway's Pills exercise the inestimable power of thoroughly cleansing each component of the blood, and rendering the fluid fit to perform its important functions. They cope most successfully with chest diseases, stomach complaints, liver disorders, and many other maladies, which were once the besetting dangers of mankind at certain seasons in town and country. The directions for use enable everyone to regulate the operations of these Pills with the greatest nicety. Chronic invalids, valetudinarians, and all whom other treatment has failed to relieve, are respectfully invited to try Holloway's celebrated medicine, which will strengthen and cure them.

THE PROGRESS OF FREEMASONRY.

THE steady and regular advance of Freemasonry in this country cannot, perhaps, be better illustrated than by a statement shewing the number of Lodges (of those now on the list) which were warranted each year in the past. We have, therefore, much pleasure in placing before our readers the following table, which has been compiled by a well-known correspondent, and which gives the information in a plain, straightforward manner. Our correspondent has subdivided the Lodges under four distinct heads:—London, Provincial, Foreign, and Military, and gives, besides the annual total, the aggregate at the close of each year. It must, however, be distinctly understood that these figures do not, in many cases, represent the actual number of Lodges warranted in any year, as those Lodges which have ceased to exist are not taken into account, but it will give a very good idea as to how the present grand array of English Masonic Lodges has arisen, and will, we feel sure, be useful in other ways. There are doubtless many curiosities which will suggest themselves to the student of Freemasonry on a perusal of this table.

Year	London	Provincial	District	Military	Yearly total	Aggregate
T.I.	9	—	—	—	9	9
1721	1	—	—	—	1	10
1722	4	—	—	—	4	14
1723	4	1	—	—	5	19
1725	2	—	—	—	2	21
1728	1	—	—	—	1	22
1730	1	—	—	—	1	23
1732	—	2	—	—	2	25
1733	1	4	—	—	5	30
1735	2	2	—	—	4	34
1736	1	2	—	—	3	37
1737	1	—	—	—	1	38
1738	2	2	—	—	4	42
1739	1	—	—	—	1	43
1740	—	—	1	—	1	44
1742	1	—	—	—	1	45
1747	—	1	—	—	1	46
1751	1	2	—	—	3	49
1752	2	2	—	—	4	53
1753	3	5	—	—	8	61
1754	1	5	—	—	6	67
1755	2	4	—	—	6	73
1756	2	4	—	—	6	79
1757	2	3	—	—	5	84
1758	1	3	—	—	4	88
1759	2	3	—	—	5	93
1760	2	1	—	—	3	96
1761	1	3	1	—	5	101
1762	1	6	—	—	7	108
1763	1	4	—	—	5	113
1764	2	5	—	—	7	120
1765	4	4	1	—	9	129
1766	2	4	—	—	6	135
1767	3	3	1	—	7	142
1768	5	2	—	—	7	149
1769	1	4	—	—	5	154
1770	—	1	—	—	1	155
1771	1	3	—	—	4	159
1772	1	3	—	—	4	163
1774	1	1	—	—	2	165
1775	3	—	—	—	3	168
1776	1	1	—	—	2	170
1777	2	6	1	—	9	179
1778	—	2	—	—	2	181
1779	1	1	—	—	2	183
1780	—	3	—	—	3	186
1781	—	1	—	—	1	187
1782	—	1	—	—	1	188
1783	—	3	—	—	3	191
1784	2	2	—	—	4	195
1785	3	3	—	—	6	201
1786	1	2	—	—	3	204
1787	3	2	1	—	6	210
1788	2	8	—	—	10	220
1789	3	7	2	—	12	232
1790	3	4	1	—	8	240
1791	1	3	—	—	4	244
1792	—	7	—	—	7	251
1793	1	10	—	—	11	262
1794	—	8	1	—	9	271
1795	2	4	—	—	6	277
1796	—	4	—	—	4	281
1797	2	12	3	—	17	298
1798	2	—	—	1	3	301
1799	—	5	—	—	5	306
1801	—	—	3	—	3	309
1806	—	4	—	—	4	313
1809	—	3	1	—	4	317
1810	—	5	—	—	5	322
1811	—	2	1	—	3	325

Year	London	Provincial	District	Military	Yearly total	Aggregate
1812	—	4	—	—	4	329
1813	—	4	1	—	5	334
1814	—	9	—	—	9	343
1815	—	—	1	—	1	344
1816	—	1	—	—	1	345
1817	—	1	1	1	3	348
1818	—	1	1	—	2	350
1819	—	4	1	—	5	355
1820	—	2	—	—	2	357
1821	—	3	—	—	3	360
1822	—	3	—	—	3	363
1823	—	3	—	—	3	366
1824	—	4	1	—	5	371
1825	—	4	—	—	4	375
1826	—	—	1	—	1	376
1827	—	4	1	—	5	381
1828	—	1	4	—	5	386
1829	—	6	1	—	7	393
1831	—	3	2	—	5	398
1832	—	2	—	—	2	400
1833	—	2	2	—	4	404
1834	—	8	1	—	9	413
1835	—	5	—	—	5	418
1836	1	5	3	—	9	427
1837	—	4	2	—	6	433
1838	—	9	1	—	10	443
1839	—	6	2	—	8	451
1840	—	6	—	—	6	457
1841	—	5	1	—	6	463
1842	—	4	2	—	6	469
1843	—	3	2	—	5	474
1844	1	9	4	1	15	489
1845	1	4	6	—	11	500
1846	1	5	3	1	10	510
1847	2	6	5	—	13	523
1848	1	4	2	—	7	530
1849	1	5	2	—	8	538
1850	—	5	7	—	12	550
1851	—	9	2	—	11	561
1852	—	8	3	—	11	572
1853	1	8	4	—	13	585
1854	—	6	5	—	11	596
1855	1	7	6	—	14	610
1856	—	16	8	—	24	634
1857	5	20	10	—	35	669
1858	7	9	15	1	32	701
1859	2	18	10	—	30	731
1860	4	20	11	1	36	767
1861	11	19	15	—	45	812
1862	5	14	14	—	33	845
1863	2	31	12	—	45	890
1864	2	34	12	—	48	938
1865	2	22	12	—	36	974
1866	2	29	17	—	48	1022
1867	8	29	22	—	59	1081
1868	3	31	12	—	46	1127
1869	10	21	11	—	42	1169
1870	8	26	11	—	45	1214
1871	11	21	10	—	42	1256
1872	2	23	10	—	35	1291
1873	8	27	18	—	53	1344
1874	6	25	13	—	44	1388
1875	16	36	13	—	65	1453
1876	24	29	15	—	68	1521
1877	25	24	24	—	73	1594
1878	12	32	21	—	65	1659
1879	12	20	21	—	53	1712
1880	1	16	21	—	38	1750
1881	7	23	31	—	61	1811
1882	5	14	13	—	32	1843

The installation meeting of the Beadon Lodge, No. 619, was held on Wednesday, the 15th August, at the Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich, when Bro. R. P. Forge was installed as W.M. A report of the meeting will appear next week.

According to present arrangements the Earl of Carnarvon M.W. Pro Grand Master, will sail for Canada about a week hence, accompanied by the Countess of Carnarvon and Lord Porchester. The stay in Canada will extend over a month or six weeks.

The Rev. Dr. Moffat, the celebrated African missionary and traveller, died on Thursday evening, the 9th inst., in his eighty-ninth year, fifty of which had been spent in his missionary efforts in the interior of Africa. The funeral took place on Thursday last, in Upper Norwood Cemetery, where Mrs. Moffat was buried a few years back.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville, London, N.

The Fisheries of the World. London: Cassell and Co., La Belle Sauvage Yard, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

THIS new publication, just issued by the well-known pioneers of popular literature, whose business has now been transformed into a limited liability company, bears an ambitious title; but we are bound to admit that the promise of its opening page is most thoroughly carried out, and that it is one of the very best serials ever issued from the press of La Belle Sauvage Yard. The author knows his subject, and writes with a facile pen, while the illustrations are better than in any of Messrs. Cassell's book of the same class that we remember. We honestly recommend the work, which is full of practical and scientific information, amusing anecdotes, and pleasantly-conveyed history to all who take an interest in our great fisheries, and believe in fish as food for both body and brain. Taken in connection with the grand and honestly won success at South Kensington, it has a special value at the present time, while it must be remembered that long after the doors of the International Fisheries Exhibition are closed for ever, this publication will still be issuing in regular monthly instalments, and will keep the subject before the public. The opening pages, entitled "A Discursive Chapter," and dealing with a thousand and one subjects, are particularly good; whilst those which follow on fish and fisheries in ancient days prove a very intimate knowledge, on the part of the author, of classic lore and old-time records. A few brief extracts may be permitted here, although such "extraction" is hardly fair to the work.

"We, in England," says he truly, "looking at the matter impartially, have very little of which to complain in regard to the price or quality of fish. It is really cheaper in London and other of our cities and towns than it is in almost any capital in Europe, barring only those of the Northern nations. Order a salmon-cutlet or a sole in Paris, and the chances are very great, in respectable, though not the highest-class, restaurants that you will pay from three to five or more francs for your audacity. If it is fresh, congratulate yourself. Oysters have sold for as much as a paper rouble—as much as a shilling—a-piece in St. Petersburg. But what are these to the prices obtained in ancient Rome! The equivalent of six pounds sterling was sometimes paid for a single pound of fish; turbot has sold for the astonishing high figures of £48, £64 and £240! Fish was half the time a luxury for millionaires only—

Who'd for some shining scales a sum devote
Enough to buy net, fisherman, and boat.

But they would have them. Licinius Crassus, a great slave dealer, once gave a little dinner party, which is stated to have required some 10,000 tables to accommodate the guests, and "stood" unlimited oysters to the whole crowd! There is a story of one Cassidorus, who sold his slave in the morning that he might sup on a *muræna*, the purchase of which cost him all he got by the bargain. Martyn says of him:—

No fish, insatiate, fills that maw of thine:
'Tis not on fish, but man! on man you dine!

Badham, whose classic knowledge is as great as his fish lore, speaks amusingly of the dread experienced by diners out, lest the fish should not go round. Many poets, like Chæribus, spent all their *musæ* money on fish; the grave tragedians, like Nothippus, followed the example. Zeno, founder of the Stoics, was once dining at the house of a great fish fancier, and on a noble dish being put before him, immediately seized it, and observing his entertainer look glum (well he might, since it was the whole dinner!) "What opinion," said the philosopher, "do you think your guests here must conceive of one who cannot indulge his friend for a single day in his well-known weakness for fish?" The dithyrambic poet, Philoxenus of Syracuse, after eating part of an enormous polypus, and being seized, with indigestion, called in a physician, who urged him straightway to arrange his affairs, as he would not hold out till the evening. "My affairs are long since settled," sighed the bard; "My dithyrambics, now as perfect as I could make them, I dedicate to the Muses who inspired them, and leave Venus and Bacchus my executors. But see! already Charon beckons, and bids me put into his boat whatever I may want in the transit; quick, then, as time presses, bring me the remains of my cuttle!" The Sepia (cuttle) from which we derive the pigment of the same name, is said to be very good eating.

Scarce fish then, as now, was considered a very acceptable present, and was not uncommonly, from its great value, used as a bribe. There is a story of a famous Roman epicure, whose servant learned at a fish market that a fine fish of rare quality had been sent by the dealers there as a present to the chief magistrate of the city. To the Court he hired on pretended business, but in reality all the time fishing for an invitation. There he found it had been forwarded to a great banker, to whose establishment he followed it with no better success, for it had just been presented to an eminent cardinal. He toiled painfully in the hot day to the palace of his Eminence, where he found it had again started out on its travels. At length he cornered it in the house of a lady who was too wise to give it away—introduced himself, and made himself sufficiently agreeable to receive an invitation to dinner as a reward for his perseverance.

There seems, however, to have been a considerable difference of opinion at different times in regard to which fish deserved the first rank. Turbot was generally, but by no means always, popular among the epicures; and sturgeon, which is, after all, not a delicate fish, held a very high place, which seems incomprehensible. It was often paraded through the streets at festivals, and in triumphal processions, with a crown on its head. Some fish were supposed even

to improve by keeping: any one familiar with Paris might come to the conclusion that a similar idea prevailed there. The Greeks were never so nice in regard to their food as were the Romans, and seem to have been indiscriminate in their regard for fish. "Go to market, and get a fish for dinner," said an Athenian to his slave. "What kind, master?" "Why, good old fish, of course; none of your baby food for me." Sword-fish was by them considered as equal to veal.

Speaking of the middle ages, the writer continues:—Some of the fish dishes sound like good eating, and a cunningly seasoned lamprey pie or herring pasty on a fast-day might easily make one forget the absence of the game or joints. By an ancient charter, the Corporation of Yarmouth was bound to send a hundred herrings, baked in four-and-twenty pasties, annually to the King. Gloucester, a learned writer tells us, citing a number of old authorities, was long famous for its lampreys, but the Norman epicures fancied that those of Nantes had a richer flavour. This fish was scarce in the reign of King John, and the Countess of Blois could not find any in England of a flavour to suit her delicate appetite. The King, to oblige her, issued a licence, to one Sampson, to go to Nantes to purchase some for her ladyship's use. In 1231, a ship freighted with lampreys for the table of Henry III., left Nantes, and was wrecked off the Isle of Wight. The news was conveyed to the King, who dispatched a notice to the Sheriff to compel all who found any of these coveted lampreys to immediately surrender them to his majesty's use. As late as the time of Queen Elizabeth, Lord Berkeley used to send lamprey pies as presents to the judges and other distinguished persons. Among the Friday dainties may be classed the lucca, a favourite fish with Edward I. He kept a store of them in a slow-pond, at Langley, and had them sent up from the country, "in bread," to keep them fresh—a common way of preserving fish in those days of tardy communication. Not that fish-eaters were always very delicate about that; if we are to credit Peter of Blois, who grumbles, in one of his chatty epistles, that the fish served up at the table of Henry Beaulerk was four days old. "Yet," says he, "its high flavour does not lessen its esteem; and as for the cooks, they care not whether the unlucky guests are sick or not!"

Many a sailor will tell you that whale-brain fritters are not to be despised, and our Arctic explorers have by no means turned up their noses at walrus. The whale was not merely eaten by the simpler Saxons, but was highly appreciated by the more fastidious Normans. In 1264 we find Henry III. ordering the purchase of a hundred pieces of whale for the royal table. Whales found on the coasts were perquisites of royalty, and those at the mouth or banks of the Thames were claimed by the Lord Mayor. Edward III. rewarded three poor sailors with a present of twenty shillings for the discovery of a whale near London Bridge. The Normans had many ways of serving it. Sometimes it was roasted and brought to table on the spit; but the favourite way was to serve it with green peas. The tongue and tail were considered delicacies. But the sea-swine of the Saxons, *porco marino* of the middle ages, and porpoise of ours, was of all blubber delicacies the most esteemed. It figured on royal tables, and was looked upon as the most acceptable present. In 1491, the bailiffs of Yarmouth sent a fine porpoise as a present to Lord Oxford, whose favour they desired, accompanying it with the message that if they had had any other "deyntes" they would have sent them also. At the marriage of Henry V. the guests were treated with "rostit perpes," and it was also among the dishes at the coronation feast of Henry VII. The King was probably fond of this dish, for it was served up at his table on the feast day of St. George, and my Lord Cardinal courted his majesty's favour by sending a fine porpoise to the palace. The cooks not only roasted and boiled, but made it into pies and pasties; and a learned "maister coke" gives a receipt for a delicious "pudding of purpasse," whilst another tells us how to serve it up in fermented; the wheat was to be seethed in milk, in which finely-chopped almonds had been boiled to thicken it; the porpoise was to be dishd up smothered in this delicate sauce, which was also coloured with saffron. Mustard was regarded as an excellent condiment for use with porpoise. This coarse and oily fish was used by the greatest of the land till late in the sixteenth century, after which it appears to have gradually fallen into disrepute. It was found on the tables of Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth, and there is a little historical banquet at which Wolsey, Somerset, and other lords of the Star Chamber assisted in demolishing a porpoise which cost eight shillings. Nothing seems to come amiss; all was fish that came into their net; and the stronger and more highly flavoured, the greater was the relish. Surfeited with delicacies, they craved a novelty, from the same reason that George II., who at least lived in an age of refinement, is said to have preferred oysters stale and of strong flavour.

These are but a few brief samples of the contents of a work, which when completed will form a valuable addition to our stock of literature on natural history, incident, and adventure. Succeeding chapters contain descriptions of the great fish markets of the world; while in Part III. just issued, we are introduced to the International Fisheries Exhibition itself, in dealing with which there is an evident desire shown by the author to do full justice to its many excellent and important exhibits. A perusal of the early numbers of this work will be sufficient to place the reader on terms of intimacy with one who is evidently a traveller and a scholar, whose observation and research cover the vast area of the waters of the globe, and whose study of the nature and habits of those denizens of the vasty deep bring to light many a feature of interest and pleasure which hitherto had been obscure. We fancy in some of the pages we trace the handiwork of some other of the works of Cassell's which have made themselves famous, and none more so, perhaps than the volumes on "The Sea," so beloved by boys, and so admired by "children of larger growth." Be that as it may, there is already sufficient in the production of the first three monthly parts to whet the appetite for further instalments, and we opine that when the work is finished, an addition of no mean value will have been made to the popular and educational works which have emanated from the well-known firm whose name stands at the head of this notice.

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 Meetings, &c., as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

—:O:—

SATURDAY, 18th AUGUST.

- 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1361—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Elbury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 Special Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 M.M. 205—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 140—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Rottoms, Eastwood
 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel Twickenham
 R.A. 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Hampton

MONDAY, 20th AUGUST.

- 22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, George Hotel, Australian Avenue, Barbican, at 7 (Instruc.)
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 186—Industry, Bell, Carter-lane, Doctors-commons, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Dantford, at 8 (Instruction)
 1425—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington, at 8 (In.)
 1439—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In)
 1607—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Farringdon Hotel, Farringdon-street, E.C., at 8 (Inst.)
 1693—Kingsland, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1691—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1910—Shadwell Clerks, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill
 R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
 M.M. 238—Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge
 331—Phoenix Public Room, Truro
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
 424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury
 925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New street, Birmingham
 934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield.
 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport
 1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
 1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover
 1238—Gooch, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 40—Emulation, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 R.A. 100—Friendship, Crown and Cushion, Great Yarmouth
 R.A. 120—Palladian, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford
 R.A. 128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bury, Lancashire
 R.A. 277—Tudor, Freemasons' Hall, Union Street, Oldham
 R.A. 286—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
 R.A. 1051—Rowley, Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, Lancaster
 M.M. 9—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, South Molton, Devon
 R.C. 23—William de Irwin, Weston-super-Mare

TUESDAY, 21st AUGUST.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 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)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 763—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 880—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston at 8 (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1339—Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1391—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge
 1446—Mount Edgecombe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7 (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
 1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, 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)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30
 R.A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction)
 126—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 244—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 418—Mentoria, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley
 448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 779—Ferrers and Ivanhoe, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
 1006—Tregulow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall
 1052—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1276—Warren, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead, Cheshire
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable
 1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6 (Instruction)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool
 1764—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton
 1941—St. Augustine's, Shrewsbury Arms Hotel, Rugeley
 R.A. 41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath
 R.A. 105—Fortitude, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
 R.A. 792—Oliver, Masonic Hall, Osborne Street, Great Grimsby
 M.M. 266—Amherst, Masonic Hall, Sandgate

WEDNESDAY, 22nd AUGUST.

General Committee of Grand Lodge and Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6

- 15—Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Horse Shoe Inn, Newington Causeway, at 8. (Inst)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 229—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crown-street, Camden-town, 8 (In)
 538—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tavern, Page Green, Tottenham
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 863—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 1321—Emblematic, Goat and Star, Swallow Street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 1415—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, at 7 (Instruction)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 518 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst)
 1540—Chaucer, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
 1601—Wanderers, Adam and Eve Tavern, Palmer St., Westminster, at 7.30 (In)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1791—Creston, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)
 R.A. Camden, The Boston, Junction Road, Holloway, at 8.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)
 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Dutton
 220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
 274—Tranquillity, Bow's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
 290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
 625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
 721—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 750—Friendship, Freemason's Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton
 778—Bard of Avon, Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
 1039—St John, George Hotel, Lichfield
 1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
 1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire
 1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1723—St. George, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, Bolton
 1967—Beacon Court, Ghuznee Fort Hotel, New Brompton, Kent
 R.A. 42—Unanimity, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire
 R.A. 261—Sincerity, Masonic Hall, Taunton
 R.A. 328—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Torquay, Devon
 R.A. 503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidstone
 R.A. 605—De Tabley, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead
 R.A. 1356—De Grey and Ripon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

THURSDAY, 23rd AUGUST.

- House Committee Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 701—Camden, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7 (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Cock Tavern, St. Martin's-court, Ludgate-hill, at 6.30 (Inst)
 1153—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1195—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1227—Upton, Swan, Bethnal Green-road, near Shoreditch, at 8 (Instruction)
 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, Constitution, Bedford-street, W.C., at 7.45 (Instruction)
 1672—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Canonbury Tavern, Canonbury Place, at 8. (Inst.)
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
 215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
 348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 432—Abbey, Newdegate Arms, Nuneaton
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal
 835—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial Street, Batley
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer Street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, nr Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1892—Wallington, King's Arms Hotel, Carshalton. (Instruction)
 R.A. 216—Sacred Delta, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 337—Confidence, Masonic Hall, Brownhill Vale, Upper Mill
 R.A. 431—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields

FRIDAY, 24th AUGUST.

- House Committee Boys' School, Wood Green, at 4
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc.)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruc.)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8 (In.)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1155—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1293—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 R.A. 65—Prosperity Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall St.
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall, N.
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 453—Chiswell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1712—St. John, Freemasons Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool

SATURDAY, 25th AUGUST.

- 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1361—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1541—Alexandra Palace, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Elbury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 Special Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
 140—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Rottoms, Kent
 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel Twickenham
 R.A. 1326—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Hampton
 M.M. 14—Prince Edward's, Station Hotel, Stansfield, Todmorden

GRAND COUNCIL OF THE ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES OF ENGLAND AND WALES, &c.

THE annual meeting of this Grand Council was held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday, the 11th instant. Present—Bros. Charles F. Matier Deputy Grand Master, A. Williams Grand Senior Warden, G. Lambert as Grand Junior Warden, Donald M. Dewar Grand Secretary, John L. Mather as G.S.D., C. H. Driver as G.J.D., R. L. Loveland as G.I.G.; also Bros. Spice, Roebuck, Dicketts, Berridge, Spurrell, Anderson, Bywater, and many other Brethren. Grand Council having been opened in due form, the Deputy Grand Master apologised for the absence of the Most Wor. Grand Master, the Rev. Canon Portal, and the minutes of last meeting were read, verified, and signed. The following report was then read, approved, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes:—

Since the last meeting of this Grand Council the various Councils, and the Degrees, under its jurisdiction have made fair progress, and a new Council under the name of the "Four Kings" Council, No. 7, has been duly constituted and consecrated in London, with every promise of success, the first W.M. being Bro. J. L. Mather, who has fortunately secured the services of Bro. C. F. Matier, the D.G.M. of the Order, as Secretary.

The Registered number of members is 322, distributed amongst the subordinate Councils as follows:—

Metropolitan Council	(T.I.)	London	159
Escuria	"	Havant	17
Matier	"	Manchester	18
Ebor	"	York	22
Portal	"	Liverpool	6
St. Cyprian	"	Tunis	25
SS. John and Paul	"	Malta	36
St. George's	"	Wigan	17
Great Orme	"	Llandudno	8
Excelsior	"	Calcutta	
Four Kings	"	London	14

322

But the number is probably considerably more as returns have not yet been received from the Excelsior Council, at Calcutta, nor from the Councils at Bolton, Rochdale, or Hull.

The financial position of the Grand Council is satisfactory, as after payment of all claims and preliminary expenses, a balance of £10 10s 3d remains in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.

Recognising the services of Bro. C. F. Matier, at all times rendered with hearty good will and efficiency, the Grand Master has much pleasure in re-appointing him as D.G.M.

(Signed) DON. M. DEWAR,
Grand Secretary.

The Deputy Grand Master then appointed the following Grand Officers, by command of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and invested those present, viz.:—

Bro. J. L. Mather	...	...	G. Senior Warden
Baron de Ferrieres, M.P.	...	...	G. Junior Warden
Rev. A. W. Hall	...	...	G. Chaplain
Samuel Rawson	...	...	G. Treasurer
Donald M. Dewar	...	...	G. Secretary
J. S. Cumberland	...	...	G. Senior Deacon
Arthur Middleton	...	...	G. Junior Deacon
Robert Berridge	...	...	G. Dir. of Cers.
J. D. Marrey	...	...	G. Sword Bearer
R. L. Loveland	...	...	G. Inner Guard
Reginald Young	...	...	G. Stewards
R. P. Spice	...	...
J. E. Anderson	...	...

Grand Council was then closed in due form.

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL (T.I.) ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

THE installation meeting of this Council was held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday, 11th inst., on which occasion Bro. George Lambert was installed as W.M. by Bro. C. Matier Deputy Grand Master, and afterwards appointed and invested his Officers as follow:—Bros. Robert Roy S.W., Henry Venn J.W., D. M. Dewar Treasurer and Secretary, Rev. W. S. Moses Chaplain, Herbert Dicketts Conductor, Thomas C. Walls S.D., Robert Berridge J.D., R. L. Loveland I.G., J. L. Mather D. of C., R. P. Spice Steward, Edward Mills Tyler. The brethren afterwards celebrated their annual Festival and passed a most enjoyable evening, under the presidency of the W.M.

United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, No. 30.—

It was our agreeable duty, on Wednesday evening last, to attend a meeting of this newly-established, but eminently popular Lodge of Instruction, held at the Lugard Tavern, Lugard-road, Peckham, when there was a goodly muster of brethren and visitors, under the presidency of Bro. J. B. Harris as W.M. There were also present Bros. P. Harvey S.W., Andrews J.W., Lean S.D., Bartlett J.D., Layland I.G., J. Rotheroe Secretary, Walter Martin Preceptor, Alfred Pusey, Shorter, Thomas, Morgan, Ledger P.M., Osborne, and many others. Lodge was opened with the customary formalities, and advanced, when the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, the working being carried out in a manner which afforded great satisfaction to, and the edification of, the brethren present. The first section of the lecture was worked by Bro. Thomas, after which a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the Worshipful Master for the able manner in which he had conducted the proceedings of the evening. Brethren

residing in the South of London are wholesomely pleased at having such a Lodge of Instruction planted in their midst. This is evidenced by the large gathering of brethren who assemble weekly at the Lugard Tavern. Every arrangement which can possibly conduce to the comfort and enjoyment of brethren is carefully studied by Bro. Pusey, and visitors will always be cordially welcomed at this offshoot of one of the most popular Lodge of Instruction in the City of London.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, on Tuesday, 14th inst. Present—Bros. Marsh W.M., S. Clark S.W., Fors J.W., Smyth S.D., Brasted J.D., Ackhurst I.G., F. Carr Secretary, Wardell P.M. acting Preceptor; also Bros. Wilson, Christian, Lorkin, Powell, Bunker, &c. Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Bunker offered himself a candidate for passing, was interrogated, and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Bunker was passed to the Fellow Craft. Bro. Christian gave the Lecture on the tracing board. Bro. C. Lorkin worked the first and second sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bros. Ackhurst and Wilson answered the questions leading to the third degree. Lodge was resumed in the first. Bro. S. Clark was elected W.M. for the ensuing week and appointed his Officers in rotation. Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425.—The usual meeting of this Lodge of Instruction was held on Monday evening, at the Fountains Abbey, Praed-street, Paddington. The muster was fair, considering the time of the year and the very oppressive state of the weather. Bro. G. Coop filled the position of W.M., and he was supported by the following brethren:—J. J. Thomas S.W., W. A. Vincent J.W., G. Read P.M. Preceptor, H. Dehane Secretary, J. Billerby jun. S.D., M. J. Green J.D., T. C. Keeble I.G., R. G. Carsons W.S.; also C. J. Craig, E. R. Taylor, H. Robinson, W. Honeyball, C. J. Fox, J. Read, W. Death, R. Fairclough, W. J. Shetton 753, and W. Fieldson I.P.M. 548. The W.M. was evidently well acquainted with the duties of his office, in fact almost too well, for he somewhat hurried the work, which would have been more effective if he had been more deliberative. He rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, and afterwards worked the first section of the first lecture with skill and precision. Bro. Read worked the second and third sections of the same lecture in a quiet and impressive manner. He is familiar with his work, speaks distinctly, a very necessary qualification in one who undertakes to teach others; he is courteous itself, and if he would but raise his voice a little more he would add to the claims he already possesses as an able Preceptor. Bro. Thomas was elected to fill the chair on Monday night next. It should be mentioned that a vote of thanks was recorded on the minutes to Bro. Vincent for his able working on the occasion of occupying the chair for the first time on the preceding Monday night. A petition for relief was presented by a brother belonging to an Irish Lodge, and although the spirit of charity was manifest among the brethren, we were glad to observe that due caution was exercised in examining into the case. Relief was afforded in a manner that accorded with the circumstances of the case. This Lodge of Instruction has got a comfortable home, worthy of the purpose to which it is dedicated once a week; a willing, able, and courteous Secretary, and a Preceptor who shares in the same advantages. We were pleased with the tone of the whole of the proceedings.

Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693.—Held at Bro. Longhurst's, Canonbury Tavern, N., on Monday, 13th Aug. Present:—Bros. Collingridge W.M., Gribbell S.W., Rhodes J.W., Fenner S.D., Marks J.D., Tillet I.G., Pearcey Acting Preceptor, also other brethren. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last Lodge meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Stretch candidate. Lodge was opened and closed in the second degree. Proposed by Bro. Pearcey, and seconded by Bro. Fenner, that a cordial vote of thanks be entered on the minutes for the manner in which Bro. Collingridge had fulfilled the duties of the chair of K.S., this being the first time. Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned till Monday, 20th August, at 8.30.

Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1949.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening last, the 14th inst., at Bro. Monk's, the Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, when there was a very good attendance, considering the great heat and the many brethren away from town. The W.M., Bro. Stephen Richardson, was supported by Bros. Hooper S.W., Jones J.W., Francis Preceptor, Williams Secretary, Harling P.M. S.D., Poore J.D., Ambrose, I.G.; also Bros. Thomas Poore P.M., Moss P.M., Edmunds, Knight, Johnson, and Hudephil. Lodge was opened in due form, and the Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were unanimously confirmed. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Edmunds, as candidate, being interrogated, proved his proficiency and was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising, including the traditional history, was rehearsed by the W.M. most impressively. Lodge was regularly closed down to the first degree. Bro. Hooper was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Richardson asked the Lodge to accept from him the Rough and Perfect Ashlars, placed on the Senior and Junior Wardens' pedestals that evening, as a small mark of his esteem for the Lodge, and for the many kindnesses received from the brethren. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Richardson for his kind present. Hearty good wishes having been expressed, Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned in perfect harmony and brotherly love. Subsequently the monthly meeting of the Brixton Lodge of Instruction Benevolent Association was held, and Bro. George Monk and Mrs. Banks were each successful in securing on the ballot the sum of £5 5s towards the Masonic Charities.

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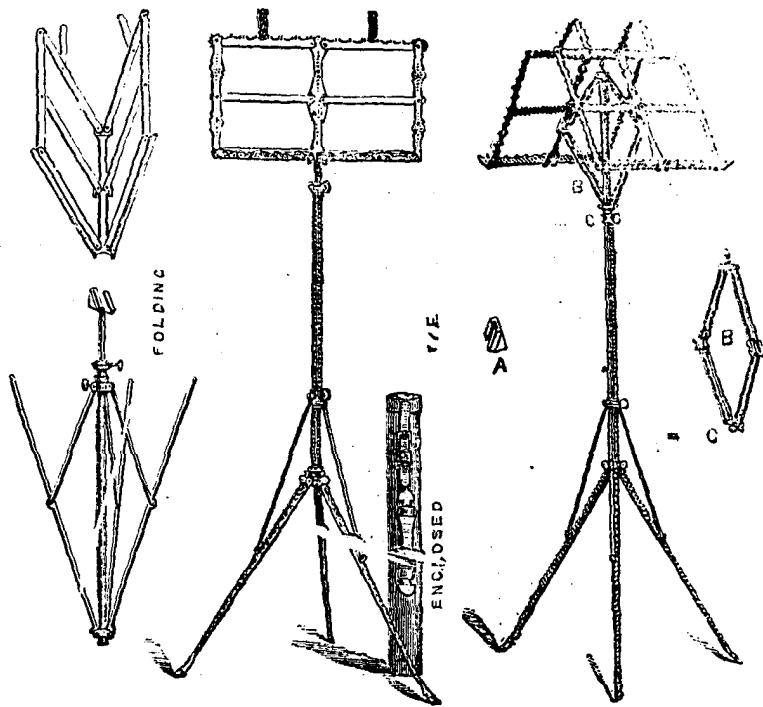
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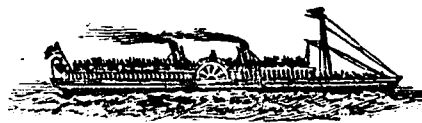
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