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OUR NINETEENTH VOLUME.

PLEASANT duty once more devolves upon us;that of tendering to our friends a New Year's Greeting, and announcing the commencement of a New Volume. The FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE this day enters upon the Tenth Year of its existence, and we venture to express the hope our readers have realised that the promise made when we issued our prospectus has been fully carried out. The FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE has been conducted hitherto on purely independent principles; it is not the organ of any section of the Craft, and its columns are always open for free discussion. The course adopted in the past will be continued in the future, and we trust the amount of support we have already had accorded us will be further increased during the year we now enter upon.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE difficulty has at length been solved, and Brother Terry, having in vain cast about in many different directions for a Chairman for the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, has at length, we rejoice to say, had his patience rewarded, and secured the services of the Grand Treasurer, Bro. J. Derby Allcroft. who has very kindly consented to preside on the eventful occasion. It is no light task that Bro. Allcroft has undertaken. It may seem easy enough to the uninitiated to take the post of honour at a festive gathering, even though that gathering may be held in behalf of a Masonic Charitable Institution. It is not every one who possesses the gift of speech-making, and few are given to criticising our afterdinner oratory with anything approaching to severity; but the delivery of certain speeches is but a small portion of the duty which devolves on the president of a Festival. What is most expected of him is, that he shall exercise such influence as he may happen to possess in order to benefit the Institution for which he is acting to the greatest possible degree. It is anticipated that he will gather about him as many of his personal friends as possible, and that he will induce them, by the magic of his name, or the weight of his authority, to back him up in his endeavours to render a most material service to a worthy cause. Hence it is always desirable to obtain a chairman from the foremost ranks of our fraternity, not because he personally, perhaps, Charity, but because, in this as in other matters, the more prominent the leader, the more numerous is the following likely to be. The Grand Treasurer of the United Grand Lodge of England necessarily occupies a position in the dignity. He must always command the respect of his as he is connected with several of our London Institutions,

brethren both on the daïs and in the general circle; he would not have been chosen to fill such a position were he not, in all respects, worthy of it. It is from no desire to flatter that we say Bro. Allcroft is eminently fitted for the duty he has undertaken. We do not sympathise with him in his desire to retain his office for another year, or rather, we should say, with the desire of his friends, that he should be re-elected. But whatever the March Communication of Grand Lodge may have in store for him, he is the Grand Treasurer of the day. He is, too, a prominent man in his individual capacity. He plays a conspicuous part in the government of many among our most considerable public institutions. He has long since evinced the deep interest he takes in Masonry by constituting himself a Vice-Patron of all our Charities. His crowning work in respect of one of them will be accomplished on the 26th February next, when, as Chairman of the day, he will appear as the central figure at the first of our three great Festival gatherings of the year 1884,—with what success it is impossible to foresee; but, for his sake, and for the sake of Bro. Terry, the indefatigable Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; but, above all, for the sake of that noble Institution, the extent of whose benefits is well-nigh incalculable, we trust it may be at least equal to, if not in excess of, that achieved in the most brilliant of past years.

Passing from the Chairman to the Board of Stewards, on whose efforts so much of the day's success must depend, we are glad to find that, up to the present time, in spite of Bro. Terry's previous efforts to secure the services of a Chairman having proved unavailing, there is a goodly array of them entered for the occasion, considerably over 200 brethren having undertaken the not particularly enviable task of canvassing for the Charity. This, perhaps, if we take the experience of more recent years as our guide, is not an overwhelming number, but there is ample time between now and the day itself for the receipt of the names of brethren willing to act in this capacity, so that, on the score of numerical strength, the Board of Stewards for the current year will, no doubt, compare with that of the 1883 and previous Festivals. It is even possible that the one drawback noticeable when a brother happens to preside who is not the Grand Master of a Province may not be quite so conspicuous in this instance. Bro. Allcroft is a Worcestershire man and was returned as member for Worcester City in the last House of Commons, so that our Worcesstershire brethren may very possibly feel it incumbent upon them to use their best efforts in support of his Chairmanship. It is not a large Province, but it has displayed a very considerable amount of activity on behalf of our Institutions during the past few years, and if the favour of its countenance is not already directed towards other objects, Bro. Allcroft may succeed in arraying its Lodges under his banner just as Provincial Grand can do more than others to strengthen the funds of the Masters obtain the help of their Lodges whenever they preside as Chairmen. At all events, let us hope we may not prove to have been very seriously ill-advised in reckoning on such a possibility, and that Worcestershire will send up a goodly crate of its acceptable ware to make glad the Craft, if not of very serious responsibility, at least of hearts of our Old Folk in the day of their necessity. Then,

EPPS'S (GRATEFUL COCOA.

we are justified in presuming that Brother Allcroft's influence will command a numerous following among London They invariably respond liberally to the appeals made to them in support of our Charities, whether the Chairman is, as it were, one of them or not; but Bro. Allcroft's Masonic habitat is conspicuously London, so that here again we have before us a fair field from which Bro. Terry may not unreasonably look to reap an even more abundant harvest than usual. The purple brethren, they too constitute a strong phalanx of zealous workers, from whom much on these occasions is expected, and but seldom, if ever, expected in vain. Lastly, there is the general body of brethren, who go on canvassing and contributing with commendable regularity, whether the Chairman hails from London or the Provinces, whether he is an experienced President or one entirely new to the work, whether he is, personally, a man of much or comparatively little influence, These are the brethren who put down their names as Stewards months and months before the day for a particular Festival has been fixed. The amount raised on one occasion is hardly known with accuracy before they set about busying themselves for another. They could not feel they were quite happy if they allowed an appreciable length of time to elapse without doing a little Festival work, just to keep their hands in. They are not the men to do anything by halves, nor are they in the habit of working only by fits and starts. The consequence is, they constitute a most valuable force, on whose efforts the Chairman, be he who he may, may always rely with

Perhaps a few words in respect of the Institution for which these efforts are about to be made will not be out of place. That there is need for an Annual Festival will be at once apparent when we state that close on £13,000 is required for annuities alone, to say nothing of what is needed for expenses of management, &c. This, it will be allowed, is a heavy responsibility which the Craft has taken upon itself. The permanent income may be set down, as, in round figures, about £4,000, or less than one-third of what has to be found for the annuitants, so that over £10,000 must be raised annually in order to make the two ends meet. Indeed, as regards expenditure, which must be provided for, the Benevolent, though the youngest of our three Institutions, is the most exigent. It receives a much larger grant from Grand Lodge, and its funded property is more considerable than that of either of the Schools, but as far as total outlay is concerned, we repeat it is the most exigent of the three. Then, though not differing in this respect from the Boys' School, the number of applicants for its bounty is generally out of all proportion to the number that can be benefited. And these applicants, they are all long past the meridian of life. They have once, perhaps, been in affluent, all must have been in comfortable, circumstances. They are men of tried worth, or the widows of such. Their relatives, if they have any, are unable to contribute to their support, and but for the help which the Benevolent Institution is able to render them, they would be compelled to spend the closing years of life in a condition of abject poverty. The maintenance of such an Institution in its integrity is a duty which the brethren owe to the principles of Freemasonry. It is a duty which we allow is fulfilled very conscientiously by a numerous section of the Craft, but there are brethren whose memory requires jogging. They are kindly disposed enough, but the business of life is very exacting, and in their eagerness to attend to it, they are occasionally apt to lose sight of the | We have already mentioned the gross total of money very pressing necessities of their fellows. Perhaps, if the received. requirements of our Institutions were brought more promi- to various circumstances, which we need not now pause to nently before the mass of the brethren, the demands made annually for their support would be less severe. There is the Boys' School, which reached the formidable sum of annually for their support would be less severe. There is an old Scotch proverb to the effect that "many a mickle makes a muckle," and it is astonishing how true it is when applied to our Charities. There are perhaps some 50,000 subscribing Masons in England and Wales. If each of these 50,000 gave no more than five shillings to each Institution, they would raise amongst them sufficient to maintain them in their present state of efficiency, with a slight margin over to meet the excessive pressure which is occasionally made upon their resources. It is well to bear this in mind for two reasons. It is a severe tax on the generous that they should be constantly applied to for contributions, when they have perhaps already subscribed most liberally; and again, the more general is the support which | our Institutions receive among the members of our between the ages of seven and sixteen. The boys it should

Fraternity, the more worthily representative are they of the principles we profess. However, in saying this, we are but travelling over well-known ground. Suffice it, therefore, to add, that if the Craft does its duty towards the Benevolent Institution in February next, there will be no need to fear for its exchequer at least for the current

MASONRY AND BENEVOLENCE.

TE are amazed when we consider the vast sums that are annually raised in behalf of our Masonic Charities, and wonder whether the funds will be kept up, and even grow larger. Mr. Gladstone once remarked, we believe with regard to the revenue of the country, that it grew by leaps and bounds. There was great rejoicing then, but lean years followed, and no one will contend that the elasticity of former times exists now. We should deeply regret if a reaction were to take place in the finances of our Institutions. They are such glorious monuments of Masonic faith, of noble devotion and generosity, that to stand still would seem a reproach to those who can show so bright a record. If we allude to this matter now, it is only to call attention to possibilities, in order that what is feared shall not become a probability, much less a reality. We are reminded of the trite though apposite saying, "Doubt, of whatever kind, can be ended by Action alone," and as we know what has been done, so may we hope to do again, by Work, which was a gospel to the late Thomas Carlyle. How he revelled in work himself, and prescribed it for others. He says, "There is a perennial nobleness, and even sacredness, in Work." Truly, that is so, and that which sanctifies it most is the unselfish labour of those who toil in the cause of charity. There are those who revile Masonry, some who ridicule it. The Times, a short while ago, said Freemasonry had raised dining "to the rank of a religious function," implying that eating and drinking were among the main features of the Order. The ignorance displayed by the assertion is on a par with the want of charity. We need only point to the fact, that the total income of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions, the outcome of voluntary subscriptions, for the year ended the 31st ult., was £55,994 14s 3d, to show how absurd it is to charge the Craft with a tendency to bibulous and gastronomic excesses. Freemasonry, as a moral science, is totally distinct from the pleasures of the table, and the Charities in connection with it are not more affected by the custom of dining than are other institutions of a benevolent character, which find it necessary sometimes to get at men's pockets through their stomachs. Out of the vast sum we have mentioned, £56,000 in round figures, by far the greater part is raised by individual effort, altogether apart from the social habits of the brethren. No body in the world can show a higher motive for their charity than Freemasons—that is religious to all intents and purposes, and because it is so, the Craft is rooted deep in the foundations of society. The moral and spiritual truths of the Order are the first care of every true brother; social enjoyment is the natural result of labour and union; and the Charities are the children of both. The mainspring of the whole is the teaching inculcated in the ceremonies and obligations.

Looking back upon the benevolent work of the past year it is with pride and pleasure that we notice the details. This was divided somewhat unequally, owing £24,895 7s 1d. This amount, broadly speaking, is divided thus: two-thirds of the amount to go to the existing School, and one-third to the formation of a Preparatory We shall shortly hear of this new movement School. taking practical shape. The Old Foundation, as by and bye we may have to call it, at the present time is boarding, housing, clothing, and educating 221 boys. The next on the list of successful efforts of the year is the Benevolent Institution, which received £18,449 6s 0d, and is granting annuities of £40 each to 172 men, and £32 each to 167 The Girls' School, although it only received widows. £12,650 1s 2d, is not less worthy than the other Institutions. It houses, boards, clothes, and educates 239 Girls

be stated, leave the School when they are fifteen years of and ever lovely, now that the winding sheet of snow mantles staff and surroundings. recorded will give some idea of the greatness of our Masonic akin to worship. We wonder not that the Scandinavians Charities, but in addition to all that has gone before, there is the Fund of Benevolence, made up of contributions from every member of the Craft at the rate of 4s annually from those who belong to London Lodges, and 2s from country Out of this fund the sum of £8,675 was dis-The amounts varied bursed last year, to 334 cases. according to circumstances, in some cases being substantial, and in all very acceptable. Large as are the sums recorded in the instances of the three Charities first named, they will doubtless be increased to some extent. It was necessary, however, to close the books at the end of the year, for reasons that every man of business will understand.

Let cowans cavil, bigots rave, and newspaper writers sneer, with such a record as we have given above, the Craft should heed them not. But, as we said at the begining of this article, the past creates responsibilities for the future, and to maintain the position we have acquired will need all the self-sacrifice and labour which faith in principles can suggest, and loyalty and devotion carry into There must be no laggards in the onward march, no halting counsels. The past has left its mark in large proportions, and the future must not mar the noble figure Works of art are subject to the that has been raised. decaying touch of time; charity, like an ever-rolling stream, renews itself continually, and gathers strength as it goes. There are no bounds to it, save those we are taught to respect in the beautiful language of our ceremonies, and if each brother acts up to the teaching he professes to admire, which he has promised to practise, Freemasonry in the time to come will be a not less blessed inheritance than it is now.

THE EVERGREEN CRAFT.

E that live in the latitude of Philadelphia are pain. fully conscious that "leaves have their time to fall." Ours is no evergreen climate; but we have an evergreen Fraternity, one that, whatever be the season of the year, deposits in the graves of its departed Brethren the emblematic "Sprig of Acacia;"—a Fraternity, too, that after death holds the virtues of its members ever green in memory.

Naturalists tell us, that up to a comparatively recent geological period the entire earth, from pole to pole, enjoyed a genial climate. The floral of the tropics was the floral of the poles. The ivy and the laurel, the pine and the fir, the rhododendron and the yew, were not the only evergreens, but all those trees which now are deciduous were as lasting as the conifers. Then the north-west passage was not the cemetery of seamen, but everywhere nature wore a livery of green. The "great Ice Age" changed all this, and we are now suffering from its chill embrace. Yet, a slight amelioration of the climate has been perceptible within the historic period, which may presage a return to the good old times of yore.

What nature once did for the ancient world, and is weakly striving to do again, Freemasonry always has done, and now is doing, for humanity. It warms the affections of its initiates, brightens the atmosphere in which they live, and finally inters with their mortal bodies the immortal Acacia or Evergreen.

On going out into the fields one of these cold December days, how cheery it is to look up at the pines and down at the laurels! How we admire the holly at this holiday season! Christmas would not be Christmas without the and a lost happiness, and symbols of the good time coming; for there approaches an era when there shall be no boundary of death to hedge in this little life of ours. In the life elysian, in reserve for those found worthy of it, immortality shall be revealed, so that then man himself shall be ever-

Nothing causes us to estimate our blessings so highly as their loss. Contrast marks their value. When we had them they were cheap to us; now that they are gone we deem them invaluable. It is mainly on this account that in the midwinter we are saddened by the melancholy days that have stripped the vast majority of trees of their foliage, and made them so many gaunt, unbeautiful skeletons, and that the pine and the yew, the fir and the laurel, ever green

Each Charity has its own building, with separate the ground, and death apparently has claimed nearly all The figures and facts we have nature for its own, are looked upon with feelings almost bowed in the presence of Ygdrasil, the ash-tree of existence, the symbol of the universe, and of its Grand Architect. No more sublime human conception of cosmogony has ever been framed. According to the great northern myth, Ygdrasil is the tree of life; men were made from its branches, while its roots strike through all worlds. It is a triad, too, representing the past, the present and the future; or, as Thomas Carlyle has poetically and forcibly said: "What was done what is doing, what is to be done—the infinite conjugation of the verb to do." There is wisdom, strength and beauty in this conception. We feel this with treble force now that the leaves are fallen, now that the earth is bare, now that the winter of death triumphs over nature, and the only trees of existence are the evergreens.

Freemasonry is an evergreen Fraternity. ages past, while thrones have tottered and fallen, when nations even have merged and been lost, the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons has maintained a continuous existence, and during periods when it has left no literary memorials of its presence, because these were lost amid the confusion of the times, the handmarks of Hiram's Builders are apparent on Abbey and Castle walls, and on many a noble Cathedral—all so substantially built that they seem to have been erected for eternity. Lodge Minutes may be lost or destroyed (although some of these we have that are now three hundred years old), but Lodge work on durable stone is an enduring memorial. Well may the Freemasons say, in view of

the Craft's long and honourable history,

"The thought of our past years in me doth breed Perpetual benediction."

As we recede in time our history vanishes into tradition, and tradition itself is finally lost in oblivion. The received myth of the origin of the Fraternity at the building of Solomon's Temple is but the outgrowth of a prior myth, now lost to memory. Freemasonry is the Acacian Fraternity, the Evergreen Craft, co-existent with the ages, bright and beautiful through all time. It has overspread the world, and whenever it opens its Lodges it flourishes like a green bay-tree. In our "operative" days, when labour was not symbolically, but actually performed; when with Compasses and Square, Rule and Gavel, our predecessors wrought on material Temples, they were no

> " Mechanic slaves, With greasy apron, rules and hammers."

They were a chosen people, a select Craft, all free and all accepted, and they did not deign to perform any except honourable work. They were, as they are still, a law unto themselves. Kings might ask, and they might refuse. Their skill was so unique, their control of the united Craft so absolute, their work so highly esteemed, that they commanded their own patrons and prices. They always preferred to labour upon edifices built to honour the Grand Architect of the Universe. There never was a period when they sought not to honour God and advantage man. Such a Fraternity is entitled to perpetuation. It is known by its fruits. It is ever green because ever noble and ever pure.—Keystone.

We have received several acceptable remembrancers from Masters and Secretaries of our various Lodges. We do not join with those who are of opinion that these seasonable greetings are becoming a nuisance. We look upon these little tokens as an intimation that our labours are recogaccompanying greens. They are reminders of a past age nised, and it is a source of infinite gratification to us to know that we, in our official capacity, are not forgotten by those who send forth these tokens of regard. We have pleasure in publishing the following:-

Codge of Sincerity, No. 174.

A New Year's Greeting from the Secretary.

"The Old Year now has pass'd away, But not its Memories dear; May these remain, with pleasant thoughts, Throughout the Coming Year.

"May you have health, may you have wealth, And all things that will cheer, Yourself, your Friend, and others too, Throughout the Coming Year."

JAN. 1884.

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.

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No. 79 WAS UNDOUBTEDLY A LODGE IN PHILA-DELPHIA.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have altered the heading to Bro. Norton's letter so as to make it accord with my views of the subject. I, however, quite believe that No. 79 was undoubtedly an English Lodge," as my friend Norton states, the fact being that, according to my reading of the evidence, both statements are correct, the occupant of 79 of Philadelphia (America) being the first, closely followed by the London successor. We have not much fresh evidence to submit as to this question, hence I should have kept silence, awaiting more light, had not some of my friends wished me to reply to the communication of Bro. Jacob Norton (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 1st Nov. 1883), and "INQUIRER'S" friendly notice deserves attention (29th Dec. 1883).

Although that doughty champion pitches into me and others so unmercifully, it must not be supposed that we are in any way unfriendly, for we are the best of friends, only we cannot see "eye to eye" on this and some other matters.

I have a copy of the List of Lodges Bro. Norton refers to of 1730, which, though so-called, as Bro. Gould points out in his invaluable "Four Old Lodges," was really for 1730-2. No. 79 at the "Highgate," London, was not on the list, as such, prior to 1731, was not constituted until that year (i.e. 1731), and the payment of £2 2s for the Warrant was not made until 21st November 1732.

Now we have to do with the period before that time, for there is the possibility that a Lodge granted for Philadelphia in 1730 did not get on the Roll until after all the English Lodges of that year; just as the Lodge at Boston (America) comes after all the 1733 English Lodges, and immediately before those of 1734, or as No. 213, Carolina of 1755, follows English Lodges of 1756.

I say possibility, but may add probability, because there is the reference in the "Pocket Companion" of 1735 to a Lodge in Philadelphia as No. 79 on the English Register, which was held at the "Hoop in Water St." It seems to me much more likely that the compiler of this List had seen a Roll of Lodges with the Philadelphia Lodge inserted, than that he wrongly filled up the blank with such particulars, for why should he give such information as to Philadelphia, if there were no grounds for the statement?

Then, again, we know that Bro. Cox was appointed Prov. G.M. for "New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania," by the Duke of Norfolk G.M., 5th June 1730, in response to an application made by Bro. Cox, "and by several other brethren, free and accepted Masons, residing or about to reside in the said Provinces," so that some think there is reason to suppose that No. 79 was the result of Bro. Cox's exertions on behalf of one part of his District, he probably having got the Warrant granted. The letter of 17th November 1754 (which Brother Norton says is "an imposition"), written by Dr. Thomas Cadwallader of Philadelphia, to my mind gives the explanation of the appearance, and almost sudden disappearance, or this Lodge for the "City.of Brotherly Love"—"Once, in the fall of 1730, we formed a design of obtaining a charter for a regular Lodge, and made application to the Grand Lodge of England for one, but before receiving it, we heard that Daniel Coxe, of New Jersey, had been appointed by that Grand Lodge as Provincial Grand Master of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. We therefore made application to him, and our request was granted."*

That there were many Freemasons in Philadelphia 1730-2, and a Prov. Grand Master elected by the brethren in 1732 (according to the requirements of the Patent of 1730), is evident, and has been made quite clear by my friends, C. E. Meyer in the Grand Memorial Volume of the Masonic Temple, the Reprint of the Grand Lodge Proceedings 1779, &c.; and Clifford P. MacCalla, M.A., in his most interesting little volume, entitled "Philadelphia the Mother City of Freemasonry in America."

I know that all I have said is but "Historical Thread," and requires careful attention to all the details, to carefully follow, &c. The matter is not yet ripe for settlement, but only for inferential arguments, based upon what appears to be solid fact. There is no room for dogmatism on either side, for as it is now, neither can boast of the monopoly of the evidence, for it is not absolutely clear in my favour, and certainly it is not in Bro. Norton's.

A Lodge warranted by a Prov. G. Master would, of course, be legal, of which there were many during the last century, several of

which never paid for their Constitutions!

Our lamented Bro. John Hervey (G. Sec.), in August 1870, in a letter to Bro. Jacob Norton, declared that the "First Money received from a lodge in America was on the 8th of March 1754; Royal Exchange, Borough of Norfolk, Virginia Constitution, £2 2s." It is clear, therefore, that if Lodges in Philadelphia were warranted by the Prov. G.M., and never paid any fees to the parent Grand Lodge, other Lodges acted in like manner elsewhere, only in some instances the latter managed to get and to keep on the Roll for many years. The Lodge chartered for London as No. 79 is omitted on the engraved list of 1734 (reprinted by me since I wrote the article on No. 79, Philadelphia), and though it was filled in again subsequently, the date ascribed to it in the Calendars generally to the "Union" was A.D. 1730! It was erased early this century. This is my last

on the subject until more evidence is procurable and meanwhile I feel bound to congratulate Massachussetts on having such an able champion.

Fraternally yours,

W. J. HUGHAN.

Torquay, 2nd Jan. 1884.

THE SECRETARY OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the FREEMASONS' CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,-I know it is an invidious, and I feel that it is an almost useless, task for an individual to question the wisdom of a body corporate. I am also sensible that, as a result of the remarks I purpose making, I shall probably succeed in bringing a hornet's nest about my devoted ears. But it seems to me that one part of the proceedings of the recent General Committee of the Girls' School, as reported in your last week's issue, is a fair subject for public comment. We all know how much time and labour are spent in collecting subscriptions for our Institutions, and we are all, to a great extent, interested in the economical disbursement of the proceeds of such labour. I will, therefore, ask this one plain question—Is it consistent with a truly economical administration of the funds of any charity, which is mainly supported by voluntary contributions, that any one of its officers, except under very special circumstances, should, for the second time within less than six years from his appointment, be awarded a substantial addition to his salary? Yet this was done last week in the case of the Secretary of the Girls' School, and no doubt every one who took part in the proceedings is perfectly convinced in his own mind that he did a wise and prudent thing when he recorded his vote in favour of the

There are many who think it is impossible for any one to criticise a course of policy without having some ulterior object of their own to serve. For the benefit of all such I will state that I have no such object. Again, there are those who will insist that any one writing as I do now, must have some personal feeling against Bro. Hedges. So far is this from being the case, that I will venture to say no one entertains for him a greater sense of esteem and respect than I do. I believe he has done his duty thoroughly and conscientiously, and if praise of mine could do him any service, I would seek every possible opportunity of proclaiming his worth. My objection to the Committee's vote of Thursday last is made entirely apart from personal considerations of any kind. I leave Bro. Hedges out of the question when I say, that to raise an officer's salary from £350, which I believe was the amount at first awarded, to £500, after a no more than five and a half years' service, is impolitic, because, in the first place, it is uncalled for, and in the second place, because it is likely to create the impression that the same ratio of increase will be maintained in future years. I say it is uncalled for, because the duties of the office have not appreciably increased, either in extent or responsibility, since the appointment was made. They are now substantially what they were in 1878, not lighter, but certainly not heavier; while as regards the greater experience acquired by the officer, that had been recognised already once, and, in my humble judgment, very handsomely, before the further recognition was voted last week. It must be remembered that this officer's salary, as now increased, will absorb one-third of the permanent income of the Institution; and if the same degree of liberality is to be observed in the future as in the past, it will very speedily trench upon this source of income to the extent of one-half. Does the financial state of the School justify this, when some four-fifths of its income are raised by the Voluntary Subscriptions of the Craft?

I have no intention of venturing into the field of comparisons, for I know in what bad odour they are held everywhere, but it will occur to most people to inquire why, if this policy of rapidly advancing the Secretary's salary is adopted in the case of one of our Institutions, it should not be applied with equal effect, by which I mean proportionately, to the same officers of our other Institutions.

As I am calling in question the conduct of an impersonal body, I have a right to maintain my own impersonality, and remain,

Discreetly and fraternally yours,

NEGOTII NON INEXPERS.

HOW THE MONEY GOES.

To the Editor of the Freemason's Chronicle.

Mr. Editor,—I am a strong advocate for paying a man well for his services. I do not approve of the system so much in vogue of abusing those who are better off than myself. I have no such envious feeling. I cannot help saying, however, that I think the General Committee of the Girls' School are a little bit too lavish in their favours. I was not in favour of the course they took with regard to Miss Davis, and I am strongly inclined to think that they have gone to the extreme of generosity in the case of Bro. Hedges, the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. His salary was £450 a-year, and is now £500. When this jump of £50 per annum was made a regret was expressed that the salary of Bro. Hedges was not made equal to the salaries of the Secretaries of the other two Institutions. Judging from a remark made thereupon, the time is not far distant when that happy time will arrive for Brother Hedges. With all the merits of the latter, he would be a bold man who would compare them with those possessed by Bros. Binckes and Terry. Apart from this question of merit, there is that of length of service, and this should be taken into consideration in adjusting salaries. Indeed it is one of the main factors in the total of estimation. That being so, I cannot see upon what grounds regret can be urged for the difference in salaries where the circumstances are dissimilar. I shall not enter into the question of efficiency. I have no reason to believe that Bro. Hedges is not equal to his post. He evidently has the fullest confidence of the General Committee, and it is a significant fact that not only did Bro. Col. Creaton put himself to some inconvenience in order to vote for the increase of salary, but the proposition was carried unanimously, and amid expressions of warm congratulations.

There is another view of the matter which has been lost sight of. It is true our Charities are flourishing, but it cannot be said that the general prosperity of the country is at all what it ought to be, and the fear is that Charities will suffer as well as trade. It is not less true that the competition for situations is exceedingly keen at the present time, that wages and salaries show a downward tendency, and that good men, fully able to fill almost any position, are unable to find employment. With these facts ever present, it does seem to me that the General Committee of the Girls' School have been rather too eager to spend money, and to be needlessly generous.

Yours fraternally,

T.P.M.

GRAND MASTER SAYER.

To the Editor of the Freemason's Chronicle.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, -I am obliged to Bro. H. Sadler P.M. for his letter in your impression of the 29th instant, but I certainly read the minute to signify that Sayer was reprimanded for attending what Grand Lodge would call a "clandestine or irregular" Lodge; and if Bro. Sadler would produce a copy of the paper signed by the therein-mentioned Master and Wardens, it would settle the question whether that or some other reason was the cause of the minute. My statement was made from memory, and if that serves me rightly, my authority would be Dr. Oliver, but I do not see what other interpretation Bro. Sadler can put upon the minute than that which I have given.

I might have strengthened my last letter by referring to the 1765 list of Lodges of the "Ancient" Masons. These may be found printed in the "Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror," 19th of June 1869. In it there are two Lodges dating prior to 1721, as

"1. Queens Arms, St. Pauls Churchyard, Second Wednesday. Constituted Time Immemorial. Every fourth Wednesday there is a Masters' Lodge. It is also the West India and American Lodge."

" 2. Horn, Westminster, second Thursday."

Yours truly and fraternally,

JOHN YARKER P.M. &c.

P.S. In my Lecture I only said-" Even their Grand Master was prohibited from visiting these Lodges," as I considered the matter to be of very small importance at the time; now, however, it is as well to ascertain all the facts if we can get at them.

THE GREAT HALL.

To the Editor of the Freemason's Chronicle.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is, perhaps, idle to discuss the practicability or otherwise of an enlarged Temple in the face of the decision of Grand Ledge, and yet the time is comparatively shorta little over five years—when this and other matters connected with Freemasons' Hall will come up for consideration again; that is, if it is to be taken for granted that those brethren who resist any change remain of the same mind as at present. I have great respect for the opinion of Bro. Havers; his experience and his practical knowledge entitle him to speak with authority, but I confess I cannot altogether follow him with regard to this subject of a great Hall. No doubt it would be difficult to construct a building capable of seating 1500 persons in which all could hear and be heard, but would not the same difficulty arise in the Albert Hall, which he recommends should be hired on special occasions? It is better to hear as well as to see, but there is an advantage in seeing without hearing even. Few go to Grand Lodge to speak, and surely those who do might be placed in a favourable position, and the acoustic properties of the building so ordered as to enable them to be heard. I do not expect to often see such an assemblage of the brethren as met on the occasion of the last Quarterly Communication, but I do anticipate that the Craft will meet in sufficient numbers as to demonstrate the fact that the Temple is not large enough to carry on the business of Grand Lodge with the comfort and dignity which are demanded. It should be remembered no Craft is growing; it is also important to bear in mind that building operations are always more expensive when carried out piecemeal than as a whole. I know there is the difficulty with regard to the cost in connection with the leaseholders, and so far as they are concerned, I am glad that Grand Lodge refused the terms that were laid before them. Bro. Havers killed that project ontright, in an able and vigorous speech. But what does he mean when he says: "There is time to consider, before the leases expire, what further extension or alteration may be desirable, and when that is to be determined on I would hope that the first consideration will be how we can so add to our building as to promote the greater convenience and comfort of the Craft?" He speaks of "leases." There are only two-that of Brother Bacon, now nearly within five years of its termination, and that of Messrs. Spiers and Pond, which has something like twenty-eight years to run. Are we, then, to wait for nearly a quarter of a century after the expiration of Bro. Bacon's lease before providing for the enlargement of the Temple? If not, how is the

seem to recognise the possibilities of the near future, and I doubt very much whether they altogether realise the position. Grand Lodgo having determined to rebuild the old Temple, there is nothing now to be done but to submit. As, however, the future has been referred to, and as there is evidently a feeling that something will have to be done at some time or other, it is just as well to know what is meant. I should like Bro. Havers, or some other brother, who can speak with authority, to formulate their views. For example. Is anything to be done? if so, what ?-when Bro. Bacon's lease falls in? Are the premises in his occupation to be re-leased for similar purposes for a time coordinate with the lease of Messrs. Spiers and Pond? If the latter course is to be followed, then there is an end to the matter, for a quarter of a century is too far to look ahead. If something is to be done five or six years hence, then it is desirable that some inkling hould be given of what that something is to be, and not, Micawber. like, wait for something to turn up.

I am not anxious to thrust American institutions before English Freemasons, but sometimes a lesson can be learned from our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic. Bro. Elliott, No. 188, a few months ago, wrote to your contemporary, and in his letter was the following paragraph:—"In New York there is a Masonic Temple, spacious and symbolical, comfortably seating in the Grand Lodge room over 1000 persons." He does not say whether the brethren there can hear and be heard, but as he wrote in favour of an enlarged Temple for ourselves, he doubtless was of opinion that the accommodation was complete in that respect. In conclusion, I may say that we have not yet reached finality with regard to the science of sound.

Yours fraternally,

WATCHMAN.

GETTING MIXED.

To the Editor of the Freenason's Chronicle.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—That was a happy hit on the part of Bro. Binckes when he secured the Marquis of Londonderry to preside at the Boys' Festival in 1882, and the trip to Brighton, where the gathering took place, is still fresh in the memory of many who were present. Your contemporary must be among this number, or he never would have confounded the noble Marquis of Londonderry with the Right Hon. Viscount Holmesdale, Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master of Kent, who really did preside at the Boys' Festival, held at the Crystal Palace on the 20th June last. This confusion of names and dates would be almost unpardonable at any other time; as it is we must attribute the blunder to Old Father Christmas, who if he does help to make people a little "fou," has to bear the sins, faults, and failings that follow. No doubt the writer had the Brighton gathering before his mind; perhaps he was indulging in a day dream; or, more likely still, his digestion was out of order, and with it his memory for the time being, so he wrote down Londonderry for Holmesdale. Having accounted for the writer, may I ask, how came the reader and the rest of the staff of the Freemason to pass so absurd a blunder? I must answer for them, as for the writer-all were a little "fou," and all the fault of that hoary old sinner Father Christmas. Yours, &c.

FACTS.

MUNICIPAL LONDON.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,-Nothing is more marvellous in these times than the rapidity with which great public questions become ripe for legislation. When a year ago the City was startled by some portentous announcement of the probable elements of the coming measure for a London municipality, our fears were quieted by the assurance that it was nothing but a weak invention of the enemy. The City always had been a match for any attempts to give London the power of self-government. Since then a year has passed. The subject has been thoroughly discussed, till resolutions have been carried everywhere, showing that the nation has made up its mind upon the matter. The public demand that a complete measure shall next session be put on the statute book. To be or not to be is no longer the question. Our business is now to determine the form it shall take. In all the recent wardmotes the City Fathers have objected to the magnitude of one great solid Corporation. They declare that no men could work it successfully. Now we have an alternative in the Municipality of Paris. Instead of going from the centre of our four millions of people through Committees to the circumference, Paris begins from the circumference founded upon universal suffrage under the ballot, and cuts the city into twenty arrondissements of about one hundred thousand each. For these divisions separate bodies control all the local public interests of its own section, and send up a grand conneil to the centre, who discharge the higher functions of regulating and carrying out all measures common to the whole of the metropolis. They control, for instance, the supply of water, the lighting, the markets, and even the fêtes and festivals. And well they do their noble work. They take in hand all we do and a great deal more. For they regulate and manage all the parks and gardens, and every year or two they invite the world to some great international exhibition conducted in a masterly style, concluded with éclat, and usually crowned with a haudsome surplus. To this the Paris artizans have free access without charge, at convenient times of an evening, or on the Sunday afternoons. Last year the municipality voted nineteen millions and a half of francs for the elementary education of Paris, which is by law universal, compulsory, and gratuitous. In addition to which for higher educational purposes they voted about ten millions of francs monetary and other difficulties to be overcome with Messrs. Spiers and for the encouragement of a diffusion of knowledge in the natural Pond? I fear G. Lodge are shelving a difficult matter. They do not sciences, the fine arts, and technical instruction for every branch of

Paris manufacture. Now the same system could be well applied here with our great city of twice their population. We possess all the elements of the most complete success. With wealth, energy, and knowledge of public affairs, whatever they do well we might confidently hope to do better. At our disposal in every quarter we enjoy the powers of an able press, a free platform, and an enlightened public spirit, which should give us the most efficient machinery for self-government, devoted to the health, prosperity, and happiness of a community that would constitute a well-ordered nation. We in the City would take our proper place, and, rejoicing in the advantages of our corporate government for centuries, would cordially welcome the exercise of similar rights and privileges in every other section of our mighty metropolis. Any jealous feelings in which the City Corporation may now indulge would soon vanish before the growing powers of a beneficent institution that shall give the means of satisfying the material and intellectual wants of possibly the noblest city the world has ever seen. The change would be apparent in this-that whereas now our corporate government stands on its apex in the City, a complete municipality would be based on the broad foundation of household suffrage, when every man in the enjoyment of civic rights would feel the responsibilities and take an interest in the welfare of the whole of his fellow-citizers.

I am, &c.

Cheapside, New Year's Day, 1884.

JOHN BENNETT.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

ALBANY LODGE, No. 151.

THE annual meeting of this Lodge took place on the 27th ult., when Bro. S. Wheeler was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony of installation being impressively performed by Bro. Kentfield jun. P.M. The newly-appointed W.M. then nominated his Officers as follow:—Bros. W. T. Way Buckell S.W., T. W. B. Waterworth J.W., C. Lock I.P.M., Rev. E. W. Watts, M.A., P.P.G.C. Chaplain, D. S. Pring P.M. Treasurer, G. Wyatt P.M. P.P.G.S.W. Registrar, C. T. Allée P.M. P.P.G.S.W. Secretary, B. W. Tilley P.M. Master of Ceremonies, J. G. Garnham S.D., G. R. King J.D., E. H. Fradd I.G., J. G. Jones P.P.G.O. Organist, C. Knell Tyler. Among the visiting brethren present were Bros. Major Walsh, Horton P.M. of the New Forest Lodge, Weeks P.M. of the Hundred of Bosmore Lodge, Havant, Beal Cowes, Mursell P.M. of the Medina Lodge, No. 35. The usual banquet followed at the Bugle Hotel, the W.M. presiding, and the S.W. in the vice-chair, when the customary Masonic and other toasts were given and responded to.

PHŒNIX LODGE, No. 257.

ON the evening of Thursday (St. John's Day), 27th ult., the annual meeting of the above Lodge was held at the Lodgeroom, Portsmouth, when Bro. Gordon Miller was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed in an admirable style by Bro. Ernest Hall, retiring W.M., and at its conclusion the new W.M. appointed and invested his Officers as follow:—Bros. E. Hall I.P.M., Arthur Jolliffe S.W., Col. Crease, C.B., J.W., Rev. G. H. De Fraine Chaplain, Dr. J. R. O'Connor Treasurer, W. G. P. Gilbert Secretary, Drummond S.D., Major Campbell J.D., S. B. Darwin I.G., J. F. Lovegrove Organist, T. R. Wilkins M.C., J. S. Hall and Captain Kennedy Stewards. The ordinary business being over, Bro. Ernest Hall, in the name of the Ledge, presented a handsome testimonial to Bro. J. R. Hayman, on his leaving the town, as a mark of the regard entertained for him by brethren of the Lodge. Brother Hayman for some years filled the post of Secretary to the Lodge, and he has also passed the chair. Brother Hall, in making the presentation, referred to the services rendered by Brother Hayman not only to the Phœnix Lodge, in connection with the redecorating of the Lodge premises, and in other matters, but also to the Craft generally. The presentation consisted of a handsome silver jug and twelve silver eggcups of unique filagree pattern. Bro. Hayman acknowledged the compliment in appropriate terms. Subsequently the brethren adjourned to a banquet, at which the new W.M. presided, and there was a large attendance of members of the Craft. The visitors included Lord John Taylour G.S.W. of South Australia, Bros. M. E. Frost P.G.S.W., R. J. Rastrick P.G.T., W. D. King P.M., E. Goldsmith W.M. 309, Outridge W.M. 487, Brunwin W.M. 903, the Rev Dr. Ring W.M. 1705, Travess W.M. 1428, T. Page W.M. 1903, J. G. Niven W.M. 1776, T. A. Bramsdon, Emanuel Hyams P.M. 278 P.P.G.D.C. Norfolk, &c. The members of the Lodge present included Bros. Captain W. H. St. Clair, R.N., Captain A. F. St. Clair, R.N., the Rev. Dr. White, G. Rake, J. Bonham Carter, T. R. Williams, Dr. O'Connor, J. R. Hayman, J. Griffin, J. S. Hall, Rule, G. E. Kent jun., A. Addison, Wadsworth, &c.

Brixton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1949, will resume its weekly meetings at the Prince Regent's Hotel (Bro. Monk's), Dulwich-road-east, on Tuesday evening next, 8th January, at 8 p.m. the Preceptor, Bro. E. A. Francis, in the chair. After the closing of the Lodge, the monthly meeting of the Benevolent Association will be held, and two or three ballots in connection with the Charities will be taken. The Second Annual Festival will be held on the 4th Tuesday in the month, the 22nd inst., at the above address. As the accommodation is limited, early application is necessary for in which he had rehearsed the ceremony, this being the first time in

BLACKWATER LODGE, No. 1977.

REGULAR meeting was held on Monday, 17th ult., at the Blue Boar Hotel. Bro. Eustace W.M. presided, and he was supported by Bros. A. Richardson S.W., Robert Smith J.W., T. Rix P.M., G. A. Eustace Secretary, S. H. Ellis S.D., S. Shawyer J.D., W. Strutt I.G., and a large muster of members, with several visitors. The W.M. raised Bros. W. Rudrum and W. M. Mead, passed Bro. G. Cocket, and afterwards initiated Bros. T. Willis and J. Turner. business was the presentation of a gold locket, bearing the Lodge arms and the monogram of Miss Hast, attached to a blue ribbon of Masonic blue. In making the presentation in the name of the Lodge the W.M. said he had a pleasant duty to perform, viz., to present the Secretary, on behalf of Miss Hast, a gold locket, as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of her kindness in working the very handsome banner for the Lodge, and trusted that the Great Architect of the Universe would spare her life to wear it for many years to come. The Secretary acknowledged the same in a few well-chosen and appropriate remarks. The Lodge was closed in due form, when the visitors were entertained by the W.M. and members, and a pleasant evening was brought to a close by some capital songs.

ARNOLD LODGE, No. 1981.

THIS Lodge, which takes its name from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Rev. W. C. Arnold, Past Grand Chaplain, held its installation meeting at the Bell Hotel, East Moulsey, on Tuesday, 1st instant, on which occasion the Deputy Provincial Grand Master was present and installed Brother William Prince Catterson Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year. Thirteen months ago the D.P.G.M. consecrated the Arnold Lodge, its first Master being Bro. Youldon, who, during his short existence, initiated as many as fourteen candidates, and was on Tuesday awarded a handsome Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services. Brother Catterson sen., the Treasurer during the past year, presented to the Lodge a handsome banner emblazoned with the arms of the Rev. Brother Arnold, and inscribed with his motto "Vivit qui bene vivit." A handsome bible, bearing a suitable inscription, was presented by Bro. Arnold; the new Master made the Ledge a gift of a haudsome set of Masonic tools; while one of the members, Bro. Croker, presented them with the Lodge furniture.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—At Bro. Langdale's, the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., on the 29th December. Present—Bros. Ashton W.M., Gribbell S.W., Cross J.W., Liebman S.D., Gellen J.D., O'Donnell I.G., Cohen acting Preceptor, Galer Secretary; also Bros. Turner, Glass, Brasted, Prager, Houghton, Ricknall, Parkes, Lone, Woolveridge, Payne, Dixie, Weeden and Oldis, Lodge was opened in due form with prayer, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Lowe offered himself as candidate, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed. Bro. Cohen worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by Bro. Woolveridge of the Zetland Lodge, No. 511, who was afterwards elected a member, and Bro. Gribbell W.M. for the ensuing week. Nothing further having offered for the good of Freemasonry, Lodge was closed in ancient form and adjourned to Saturday, 5th January. Lodge was closed early on account of this date being fixed for the second monthly meeting of the Masonic Association in connection with the Percy Lodge of Instruction. Sufficient subscriptions having been paid in two Life Governorships were balloted for. Any Craftsman desiring further information as regards this Association should address Bro. R. W. Galer, the Secretary, 12 Green Lanes, N.

Justice Lodge of Instruction, No. 147.—At the meeting on Thursday, 3rd January, at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford. Bros. J. W. Freeman W.M., Banks S.W., Stringer J.W., S. R. Speight P.M. Secretary, Pitt S.D., Beckett J.D., W. E. Dilley I.G.; Past Master Bro. Hutchings Preceptor, and Bros. Good, Catt, J. Bedford Williams, W. T. Hunt jun., Dale, and H. C. Freeman. Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was advanced to the third, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Brother Dale personating the candidate. Lodge was then called off, and on resuming the ceremony of installation was practised in a very able manner by Brother J. W. Freeman, who will instal his successor, Bro. B. R. Banks, in the Lodge of Justice, on Wednesday, the 9th instant. Lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees. Bro. W. T. Hunt jun., of the Pythagorean Lodge, and Bro. J. G. Dale, of the Temperance Lodge, were unanimously elected members. A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to Bro. J. W. Freeman, for the efficient manner in which he rendered the installation ceremony. After this Lodge was closed in due form.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—On Tues. day, 1st inst., at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. Jenkins W.M., T. Clark S.W., Wardell J.W., Darnell S.D., Watkinson J.D., Smith I.G., Wallington P.M. Preceptor, F. Carr Secretary; also Bros. Geller, Harrison, Capero, East, Banister, Lorkin. The work comprised the rehearsal of the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Banister candidate. Lodge was called off, and on resuming Bro. Clark worked the first, and Bro. C. Lorkin the second sections of the lecture. Bro. Harrison, of Lodge of Loyalty, No. 1607, was elected a member. Bro. T. Clark was elected W.M. for the ensuing week and appointed his Officers in rotation. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M. for the able manner this Lodge of Instruction. Lodge was then closed, and adjourned.

Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, No. 902.—Held at Bro. A. F. Austin's, 25 Charterhouse-street, on the 2nd inst., being the first meeting of the year. There were present Bros. Salter W.M., Williams S.W., Cross J.W., Fidler S.D., Venning J.D., Melbourne I.G., Field I.P.M., and other brethren. The ceremony of initiation was ably rehearsed by the W.M. Bro. Williams, of the Mother Lodge, was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, when the brethren attending will be sure of witnessing some good Masonic work.

Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693.—Held at Bro. Baker's, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., Monday, 31st December, 1883. Bros. Clements W.M., Galer S.W., Weeden J.W., Brock S.D., Treadwell J.D., Turner I.G., Isaac P.M. Assistant Preceptor; also Past Masters Cusworth, Forge, and other brothren. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Bagnall candidate. The same brother afterwards answered the questions previous to passing. Lodge opened in second, and ceremony of this degree was rehearsed. Lodge closed in due form, and adjourned till Monday, 7th January, when Bro. Galer will fill the chair.

Holloway's Pills.—The chief wonder of modern times.—This incomparable medicine increases the appetite, strengthens the stomach, cleanses the liver, corrects biliousness, prevents flatulency, purifies the system, invigorates the nerves, and reinstates sound health. The enormous demand for these Fills throughout the globe astonishes everybody, and a single trial convinces the most sceptical that no medicine equals Holloway's Pills in its ability to remove all complaints incidental to the human race. They are a blessing to the afficted, and a boon to all that labour under internal or external disease. The purification of the blood, removal of all restraint from the secretive organs, and gentle aperient action are the prolific sources of the extensive curative range of Holloway's Pills.

A MASONIC INCIDENT OF THE LATE WAR.

From the Keystone.

THOUGH you are always welcomed as a "bright light and leader" in your weekly visitations to the Craft, you will not, I think, take it amiss in me to send you an incident of the benign and universal worth of Masonry, which I was induced to write up "from the narrative given me by the principal actor," after I had read those two remarkable incidents given under the head "Masonic Reminiscences," in your issue of 27th October.

It was during the autumn of 1862, when the western division of the great Union army was pressing forward to save their country, a portion aiding in opening and controlling the Mississippi, Vicksburgh, Port Hudson, and other great fortified points still a-head. The Government had not yet got affoat, to any large extent, those able allies of the army, the gun-boats, to demolish the enemy's shore for-tifications and guard the transports coming on with troops, pro-

visions, paymasters, &c.

An old-time resident of this city was at that time captain of a transport, on the way down the river from St. Louis to Memphis, with, "among other thirgs," two paymasters and a large amount of money to pay the troops. Upon the boat stopping about 135 miles below Cairo, at a place in the possession of Union forces, a prominent general from Iowa-still prominent in this Statethe captain, and saying that a nephew of his had been killed in a skirmish the day before at Randolph, Tenn., asked him if he would land at that point for a few minutes, and get what clue he could as to where the body of his relative was, and what the prospects were for its recovery. The captain replied that it would please him very much to do such a favour for the general, but he was afraid that he dare not land at Randolph. Guerilla bands were dashing in to the river shores and out again continually, and that he, with all other officers of boats had lately received strict orders from the commodore in charge of the Mississippi above Memphis, to never land a trans. port at any point not designated by him. General anxious, pleading so hard, that the captain told him, if permission could be obtained from the commodore, he would risk landing. The general managed to get the permit, and when the boat approached Randolph, about 5 a.m., two blasts from the whistle were sounded, and hearing or seeing no response, four more signals were given, and the bow of the boat was pushed up to the shore, no line taken off, the boat being kept in place by the slow revolution of the wheels. No one was visible on shore at this time, but in a few minutes a shabby, dirty looking individual, with one leg bent up and wrapped in splints, came hobbling out from a small shanty at the top of the bank, an old cotton warehouse being located a few yards beyond. He simply yelled out, "What in —— do you want?" The captain replied, "That he wanted him to come down to the boat, as he wished to see him on business, and that he could not stop the boat long." The next from shore was, with violent expletives, "How do you expect me to come with such a leg, shot through and through?" The captain then determined to go up to the shanty and try to comply with the After all the whistling by the boat and yelling, there seemed only the one man on the levee. So giving a few directions to those he left on the boat, he stepped ashore, and as he came up to the apparent watchman, he was saluted with such a volume of anathemas and abuse, that though they could be told by the captain in relating to the writer his experience, they could not appear in print. Every few sentences erded with, Yankee Whelps. The captain knew that there must be other Rebs near, or the man that he was now with would not dare to use such lauguage. So, keeping cool, he merely explained what induced him to land, asking for the body of the man so recently killed in the late skirmish. "D-n any Yankee body." was the reply. The captain coolly ask 1 I'm what he meant by such foul talk and actions, adding, "Now,

where I came from, we generally knock a man down before he says half of what you have said." "It means," said the guard, at the same time clapping his hand on our Brother's shoulder, "that you are my prisoner. Now, tell that pilot to leave his wheel, and, with the other men, to come a shore and tie the boat up. I want that boat, and am going to have it." This he demanded twice, and then drawing an old-fashioned horse-pistol from his belt, he yelled: "Die, or do as I tell you." The captain, knowing that the guerilla's character was to kill and destroy all that he could not use, no matter what he had promised, said: "Well, I can only die once, and if the time has got to come to day it don't make any difference as regards few minutes; but you shan't have the boat if I can stop you;" and, turning to the pilot, he screamed: "Back her out. Joe, quick, and start down stream." The wounded Reb then gave a vigorous kick with the splint-bound leg, throwing everything that restrained it flying in every direction. Then placing two of his fingers, bent, into his mouth, he sent forth a loud, shrill whistle, and in a moment there came bounding out from the old cotton warehouse two hundred and twenty-five active guerillas, very ragged and dirty, and armed with shot guns. "There, boys, take this d-d Yank, and hang him to that big tree yonder," shouted the now very active guard, with his two unwounded legs, kicking up wild antics. The leader of the gang, who was a lientenant in rank, first ordered his men to fire a volley at the pilot-house of the steamer, then working out into the stream, and it rang forth irregularly, but did not burt the pilot-as all who saw any Mississippi steamers who ran below St. Louis to any extent in those days, or even to the close of the Rebellion, will remember how in the inside of every pilot house was placed nearly a perfect cylinder of boiler iron, being only open a little in the front and rear to enable the pilot to govern the boat, and extending from the floor nearly to the ceiling. After the transport got away, the lientenant set men to work cutting the smaller branches of the tree away so as to leave a large limb pointing out at a right angle from the trunk, as a good place to hang the captain, now a prisoner, and pretty sure of a speedy death, because he would risk death rather than surrender human lives and property of great value, entrusted to him, to a rebel enemy. When everything was ready at the tree, and a large mule had been led under the projecting limb, the captain was ordered to mount and stand upon a padded saddle, he having the rope already round his neck-the plan being to make the mule spring from under him, while men held the other end of the rope passed over the limb. Just then, a little fellow, who had not taken as lively an interest in the arrangement as the others, shouted:

"I say, boys, let's take him up to our camp and hang him there,

where thars more of us."

After some loud disputing, the lieutenant ordered that plan to be So mounting the respited prisoner on the mule, with his hands tied above and his feet beneath the animal, the party started on an irregular march over the hills for their camp, the apparent lieutenant choosing to ride beside the doomed man, probably for the greater glory of being the first to lead into camp their captive. After about a mile had been passed over, the captain, knowing that everything was arranged fearfully in earnest, bethought himself of trying what nothing has equalled in allaying the passions engendered by war, or breaking the indifference so often seen when appeals are made to mankind for assistance—the reminding signal, which never goes unheeded when recognised by one who understands its worth. The Masonic token did rot go unheeded. In a moment, the leader at his side, after a few questions, said: "Why didn't you tell me this before?" Then, to his followers, "Here, boys, I've changed my mind. I will go back to the river with this man, some of you come along." The captain was relieved from the cards to the river, where a skiff was hunted up for him, and he was set affoat down the Mississippi. He kept away from the shores and was finally taken aboard a Government transport, which landed him at Memphis.

LONDON COTTAGE Mission.—The new Hall has been opened most auspiciously for the friends of the London Cottage Mission, 67 Salmon's-lane, Limehouse, they having been successful in scoring a "double event" of a most decided character. In addition to providing a substantial dinner of roast beef and plum pudding, followed by an ample tea, to upwards of 200 of the aged poor of both sexes, attending the Mission Services, and whose ages ranged from 60 to years, the opportunity was seized by Mr. Walter Austin, Finsbury Pavement, who thireen years ago founded the Mission to inaugurate the new Hall, which has been erected at a cost of £2000, of which sum unfortunately £380 still remains unpaid. The building had been decorated in a most tasteful manner by Messrs. Defries and Son, of Houndsditch. Shortly after seven o'clock, Mr. Walter Austin, accompanied by Lady Colin Campbell, with whom was the Hon. Miss Gordon, formally declared the Hall opened, and in a short speech described the rise, work, and progress of the Mission, directing particular attention to the Irish Stew Dinners, which on each Wednesday during the winter months are supplied to the destitute children, and the aged and sick poor of the district; and instanced the fact that since the introduction of these dinners in 1879, upwards of 250,000 poor children had partaken of these wholesome meals, whilst at the same time the wants of the sick and needy adults had not been overlooked. Other speakers followed, and the proceedings terminated sho-tly after ten o'clock by the singing of "God Save the Queen," Lady Campbell singing the solo parts. On Wednesday, the usual Irish Stew Dinner was provided, of which about 800 children partook, in addition to which 100 dinners were sent out to the sick and bedridden, who were unable to attend.

DEATH.

GRABHAM.—On the 21st December 1883, at Stoke Newington, Bro. Edward Bartlett Grabham, P.P.S.G.W. Middlesex, in the 42nd year of his age.

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

Chief Patroness: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Patron and President: H.R. HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

Patroness:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemason's Hall, Great Queen-street, Liucoin's Inn Fields, London, on Saturday, the 12th day of January 1884, at Twelve o'Clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, to place Candidates on the List for the Election in April next, to declare the number of Girls then to be elected, and to consider Notices of Motion as under as under :-

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Bro. W. J. MURLIS.

"That the whole of the business in conducting the Election of the House and Audit Committees and other kindred Elections be carried out in the same Room as that in which the presiding Officer is sitting, and that it be referred to the General Committee to consider and report on the best means for conducting such Elections."

By Bro. Robert Martin.

To add to Law 63 after the word "thereof" in fifth line.

"Or by an annual payment, under similar conditions, of Fifty pounds, provided that any person nominating a girl under this latter clause shall give such guarantee for the continuous annual payment during the time such girl remains in the Institution that the General Committee may require."

By Bro. C. F. MATIER.

By Bro. C. F. MATIER.

"Every individual donor of Two Hundred guineas by one payment or in sums of not less than Five guineas each shall become a Patron and have Eighty Votes at all Elections of Girls.

"A Lady or a Lewis being a minor—contributing One Hundred guineas in one or more payments of not less than Five guineas each shall be a Patron with Eighty Votes at all Elections of Girls.

"A Lodge, Chapter, or Society shall enjoy the like privilege on completion of the payment, under similar conditions, of Four Hundred guineas.

"That H. R. H. the Princes of Wales be constituted the Grand Patron.

"That H.R.H. the Princess of Wales be constituted the Grand Patroness."

By Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., Vice-Pat.

"That in consideration of the special services rendered by Mr. Prestice, he be elected an Honorary Life Governor with 8 Votes.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

Offices—5 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W.C. 5th January 1884.

Stewards for the Festival in May next are very much needed.

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VOTES AND INTEREST ARE SOLICITED FOR MRS. JANE TRIBE, aged 63,

WIDOW of Brother George Henry Tribe, who was initiated 1858 in No. 604, Lyttelton, New Zealand; joined No. 609, Christchurch, New Zealand; was first Worshipful Master of No. 1241, Ross, New Zealand; subsequently District Grand Chaplain Westland; and District Grand Treasurer North 18101 New Zealand. North Island, New Zealand.

Votes thankfully received by

Mr. C. BECKINGHAM, 415 Strand; or by Bro. C. J. PERCEVAL (V.P.), 8 Thurlos Place, S.W.

SECOND APPLICATION, April 1884.

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

THE favour of the VOTES and INTEREST of the Governors and Subscribers is earnestly solicited on behalf of

LIONEL BLENKINSOP J. MANBY, AGED 9 YEARS.

The Candidate's father, Bro. John G. Manny, was initiated in the Sincerity Lodge, No. 292, Liverpool, in 1859, and on his removal to London joined Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145, and the Chapter, and continued to be a subscribing member of the same until his death, which took place in January 1883. He leaves a widow and four young children very inadequately provided for.

Proxies will be thankfully received by the widow, Mrs. MANBY, Ashwick Cottoge, Oakhill Bath.

Cottage, Oakhill, Bath.

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RANDOM NOTES AND REFLECTIONS.

LTHOUGH not an old Lodge, the Duke of Clarence A has its home in the ancient and picturesque little town of Clare. Last week we announced, upon the authority of a Suffolk paper, that H.R.H. the Duke of Albany had been elected to, and had accepted, the post of Worshipful Master of this Lodge for the ensuing year. There is a fitness in the choice, and there is graciousness in the acceptance of the office of W.M. by our Royal Clare was a borough as early as 1088, but before the Conquest there was a fortress there, and in it a chapel, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The town takes its name from the Clare family, and the title of Duke of Clarence and the name County Clare, Ireland, are derived from this House. Strongbow, the conqueror of Ireland, was the grandson of the first Gilbert de Clare. Edmund Mortimer, another historic character, was buried in Clare Church, a quaint looking edifice. Another fact in connection with this pretty little place is worth recording. When excavating for the railway in 1866, a small gold crucifix and chain were found within the precincts of the The plate, which can be removed, bears ancient bailey. the figure of the Saviour, and inside the cross are two minute fragments of wood and one of stone, supposed to be This interesting memento of centuries ago is in the possession of Her Majesty. There are few places in the Kingdom that can boast of such associations as surround Clare. It is worth a visit for the sake of the remains | highly. that still exist of where the old Castle stood, and of those that are standing of the old Priory in the valley of the Stour. These are within sight and an easy distance of the keep, which rises to the height of a hundred feet, on the summit of which is the remnant of an old wall, circular within and buttressed without. The mound is covered with brushwood, and from the top a charming view can be We find that had of the undulating country around. H.R.H. the Duke of Albany has appointed Bro. Major-General Cecil Ives, of Moyns Park, as his Deputy. Moyns Park is in Essex; it is a fine old Tudor mansion, and Murray says the property has been in the family of the Gents for 800 years.

Various causes have contributed to the development of a spirit of inquiry which now, more that ever, seems to prevail; one of them is undoubtedly the Masonic Press. In America the Craft and cognate literature has grown to an enormous extent in comparison with our own; even the Colonies outstrip us in some particulars. But, while admitting this to be true, it should be borne in mind that the Order is more conservative in England than elsewhere, and that what we have done in the way of disseminating Masonic news, stimulating inquiry, and contributing to the solution of occult matters has met with the respect, if not always with the sanction and acquiescence, of the best members of the Craft in this and other countries. The Grand Lodge of England, notwithstanding the contention of Bro. Neilson, is the premier Masonic body of the world, not only in point of age and standing, but also in point of Its members are among the foremost contri butors to Masonic science and history, and through them a very wholesome spirit of inquiry has been kept alive and Without going into details of the various subjects that have been discussed, we may mention the issue of a portion of Bro. Gould's book as one of the most memorable events of the year. In connection with, and apart from this work, questions of a most important esoteric character have arisen, and the learning and research that have been displayed augur well for the future of Masonic progress and historical truth. There has been a "sifting of Masonic documents" hitherto, perhaps, unexampled, and if the result appears at present rather chaotic, materials have been and are being got together out of

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future and unquestioned guides. One of the most wonderful features in Freemasonry is that it is ever developing some new fact, upsetting shibboleths of the past, but all leading to a higher and a nobler conception of the Craft. We trust this desire to look deep into the mysteries of the Fraternity will not only continue but increase, and that in order to cultivate inquiry facilities will be granted by Grand Lodge for the study of the library they have already collected, for its growth, and the perfecting of a museum worthy of its position and the traditions of the Craft in England. We believe the Grand Secretary, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, has done something in this direction, but his efforts need the active support of the brethren, so that a library and museum at Great Queen Street shall be an honour to the Order and a grand means of education to the brethren generally. No more appropriate time than the the present for carrying on the good work begun by the Grand Secretary could be possible. The minds of Masonic students are now active, and no effort should be spared to secure accommodation for library and museum, and for those who wish to study both.

Philadelphia is called the "City of Brotherly Love." How far it is worthy of the name, we do not pretend to judge. So far as the Craft is concerned, anything but a brotherly spirit is very often manifested. The Anti-Masons of America are a noisy, if not a formidable, body, and they sometimes indulge in charges the grotesqueness of which is amusing, although not creditable to their intelligence and love of truth. One of the charges, made by a so-called "Head Centre" of this very curious body of Anti-Masons, was that the Craft were the cause of Garfield's death. As far as we have been able to gather the facts, Bro. Garfield loved the Order, and was beloved too well in return by the brethren for them to harbour the slightest design against his person or family. They might have killed him by kindness; that is the only weapon they would be likely to have used against one they esteemed so highly.

This "Head Centre" went on to say that the 542,072 members of the Masonic Lodges in the United States were more powerful than the Christian Church. This is praise indeed. We trust the Christian Church in America will take this fact to heart, and learn of the Freemasons how they accomplish the maximum of good which this enemy says they effect.

-:0:-We think it is recorded of Tom Hood that he asked for bread and was given a stone. The opponents of Freemasonry in America have for many years been asking for the remains of the notorious William Morgan, but, as in the case of the humourist, they have to be content with a The story goes that one Peter Tower, before he died, four years ago, stated that he had dragged the bottom of the Niagara river (he did not go near the spot where poor Webb was drowned, that is certain) for the alleged remains of William Morgan. He was unsuccessful, but he found a stone, which he said he was satisfied was fastened to the body of Morgan. The age of credulity never seems to end, but we should say that among the most benighted of our peasants it would be difficult to find one who would believe such a tale, and ashamed to be seen going to a show where this said stone has been exhibited. Why, Joe Smith's story of the origin of Mormonism is gospel compared with this ludicrous display of silly spite.

There is nothing in Freemasonry that is incompatible with the discharge of civil, moral or religious duties; in all these it is universal. It has nothing to do with creeds or parties, and has no political signification whatever. Bro. Sir John Bennett has sent us a letter entitled "Municipal London." He asks to be heard through us, and we readily comply with his request. Alluding to the "rapidity with which great public questions become ripe for legislation" in these days, he says the time has come when the business of deciding what form a great Municipality for London shall take must be taken in hand. As a contribution to the solution of the question, he points to Paris where he says:

a "sifting of Masonic documents" hitherto, perhaps, unexampled, and if the result appears at present rather chaotic, materials have been and are being got together out of which may, most probably will, arise canons that shall be

to the centre, who discharge the higher functions of regulating and carrying out all measures common to the whole of the metropolis."

This council control the supply of water, the lighting, the markets, fêtes and festivals, regulate and manage all the parks and gardens, and "every year or two they invite the world to some great international exhibition," to which the Paris artizans have free access "of an evening or on Sunday afternoons." Sir John goes on to say that vast sums are voted by the Municipality for the elementary education of Paris, "which is by law universal, compulsory, and gratuitous." Money is also voted for higher educational purposes, for the diffusion of knowledge in the natural sciences, fine arts, and technical instruction. He contends that what is done well in Paris, we in London, who are blessed with "an able press, a free plat-form and an enlightened public spirit," could do better. He thinks the City would take its proper place, and that the City Fathers ought to put from them any jealous themselves, as it appears in another column of this issue.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR. GRANTING INDULGENCES.

THE Order's bounds are becoming so widespread, and the circumstances surrounding it so various, that many objects are continually arising in the different jurisdictions that demand deliberate consideration, and a more extended discussion than they are likely to obtain upon the floor of any of our Grand Chapters. And it is an unfortunate fact that such discussions in a Grand Body, whether it be an Eastern Star organisation, or one of some other society, are apt to take on, to a greater or less degree, a personal nature, so that often the real merits of a question are lost sight of, in the regard of the members for some individual. Among the questions that demand attention at this time, and a speedy settlement, that the actions of the different Grand Bodies may be in a certain degree uniform, is that of the granting of Dispensations by executive officers, to subordinate Chapters, for various purposes. That the title might foreshadow to a degree the view of the question I propose to present, I have chosen the word "Indulgences," as more nearly expressing that which is frequently done by Grand Officers, when they profess to issue " Dispensations."

The tendency of mankind is toward assumption of power. The history of both Church and State fully demonstrates this fact. He who is clothed with authority, often without a consciousness of it, is apt, by assuming doubtful prerogatives, to magnify his office. And, handed down from one to another, that which was at first assumed as a doubtful prerogative comes to be regarded as an undoubted right, and the encroachments go on until the people by a revolution, peaceable or otherwise, by one fell swoop, do

away with them.

I have in my mind's eye a Grand Chapter governed by a Constitution in which the word "Dispensation" does not occur, and there does not seem to be the least necessity for the issuance of any, as the regulations state that the Grand Officers may grant charters for new chapters, and constitutional provision is made for the election and appointment of officers to fill vacancies. The Grand Officers are charged to see that the laws of the Order are strictly enforced, and yet both the Grand Matron and Grand Patron issued dispensations pretending to authorize succumbed to the disease which had prostrated him for subordinate chapters to violate written law! The law remany months. He was interred at Abney Park Cemetery quired that officers to fill vacancies must be elected at a stated meeting, the members being summoned for that purpose. The "prerogatives (?)" of the Grand Officer were exercised, authorizing the election of an officer at a special meeting. Another dispensation authorized a chapter to hold a special meeting and legalized any business that should be done thereat, which should have been done at a stated meeting. A third authorized individual members of the Order, acting under a dispensation unauthorized by law, to receive petitions ballot and confer degrees. Two chapters were authorized to suspend their years. He was an active Freemason, and a P.M. of the Bye-Laws, but in what particular is not stated. The Phœnix Lodge. He had held a commission as lieutenant ritual says imperatively that the charter or dispensa- in the Hants Artillery Volunteers, and was much respected tion and seven members, including one of the first three by a large circle of friends.

local public interests of its own section, and send up a grand council Officers, must be present in order to open a chapter, and this requirement is specifically reiterated in the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and yet a dispensation was issued authorizing a chapter to hold a regular meeting in the absence of the first three officers. Another chapter was authorized to receive and ballot upon applications at a special meeting although the Constitution requires that applications shall only be balloted on at regular meetings, and another chapter was empowered to meet without a charter So we are to conclude that if the above dispensations were rightfully issued, a Grand Officer can authorize a chapter to hold a "regular" meeting, in the absence of its charter or either of its three principal officers, on a day other than that authorized by the bye-laws, and thereat it may elect officers, receive and ballot on petitions. The only thing necessary seems to be a dispensation and seven members, but we can well imagine circumstances which, under such a system, would seem to justify the issuance of a dispensation authorizing a chapter feelings of other bodies growing up beside them. Our to meet in the absence of a quorum. When that halcyon readers, however, will be able to study Sir John's letter for day arrives a dispensation will be a chapter fully authorized and equipped.

> The Voice of Masonry has contained profound and learned disquisitions on the prerogatives of Grand Masters, successors to our first Most Eminent Grand Masters, who ruled the Craft with despotic sway, and yet we do not remember that any writer has laid claim to such unrestricted prerogatives as those with which some Eastern Star Officers vest themselves, without remonstrance from Grand Chapters. It would appear that the only solid ground on which to stand, on this subject, as well as all others, is that of written law and, in these days, when we are building near the foundations, the cry of "halt" should be made upon all encroaching movements; that future ills may be

warded off.

In the Masonic Institution the powers of presiding officers are being more and more brought within the limits of specific laws, and in our Order they should be kept there.—Voice of Masonry.

Obituary.

BRO. EDWARD BARTLETT GRABHAM, P.P.S.G.W. MIDDLESEX.

With the close of the year, there passed from amongst us a well-known brother, whose Masonic attainments and ardent labours in aid of our Charities will cause his name to be long remembered by those with whom he was asso-

ciated in the work of Masonry.

Brother Grabham was initiated in the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, in December 1871, and he passed the chair in 1876. He was a Founder and first Master of the Felix Lodge, No. 1494, and filled the chair a second time in 1878. In recognition of his services as Master and Secretary, the members of the Felix Lodge presented him with a handsome gold watch. For many years he discharged the duties of Preceptor in the City Masonic Club, his great delight having been to give encouragement to his younger brethren, and where his great patience and urbanity won for him the esteem and regard of all its members. He was a P.Z. of the Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 191, and for some years he acted as Scribe E. He was also a P.M.W.S. of the Invicta Chapter Rose Croix, No. 10. He was a Life Governor of all the Charities, and had served as Steward on many occasions. The Provincial rank of Senior Grand Warden Middlesex was conferred on him in 1875. On the 21st ult., at the age of forty-two years, he on the 27th ult., surrounded by a numerous concourse of sorrowing friends and brethren, desirous of paying a last tribute of respect to departed merit. The funeral service was most impressively rendered by the Reverend H. C. J. Bevan.

The Portsmouth Times announces the death, which occurred on Christmas Day, of Mr. John Lillywhite, formerly clerk of works, H.M. Dockyard. Deceased, who was in his 45th year, had been laid aside by severe illness for some

FESTIVITIES AT CROYDON.

THE New Year's Entertainment to the "Old Folks" at Croydon took place on Wednesday, in the bandsome Hall at the Insti-Amongst those present were Bros. Dr. Strong and party Bro. Thomas Cubitt, Mrs. John Constable and Mrs. Culmer, Bro. Edgar and Mrs. Bowyer, Bro. Robert and Mrs. Halford, Bro. John and Mrs. Newton, Bro. G. S. and Mrs. Graham, Bro. and Mrs. Daniel, Bro. W. H. and Mrs. Wallington, Bro. C. and Mrs. Smyth, Bro. H. and Mrs. and Miss Massey, Bro. G. P. and Mrs. Festa; Bros. John Mason (Collector), R. P. Porge, W. W. Morgan, James Terry (Socretary), James Terry jun., Mrs. and the Misses Terry, and Bro. T. Hastings Miller and Miss Miller. It is now some ten years since these Half-yearly Entertainments were inaugurated, and judging by the success attending the one now under notice the promoters have every reason to be satisfied with the result achieved. Dr. Strong, the honorary surgeon of the Institu-tion, whose daily attendance on the old people for several years and anxiety on their behalf have received several tokens of acknowledgment from the Committee, presided at the dinner, and afterwards proposed three toasts, one of which, "The Founders of the Feast," was responded to by Bro. Edgar Bowyer, who stated that the founders of the feast considered it their duty to follow the precept, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ." A dramatic entertainment, in the evening, was given by members of the Pickwick Histrionic Club, who played Craven's "Chimney Correr" and the comedietta, "A Cup of Tea." The performers were Messrs. E. Johnson, Dupree, C. F. Cowell, Upton, W. S. Turner, Miss Isabel Mart, and Miss Lizzie Henderson. The performances were admirable. Bro. G. S. Graham also took a conspicuous place in providing the entertainment of the evening, which taken in its entirety gave every satisfaction and much enjoyment. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the entertainers, and gracefully acknowledged by Mr. E. Johnson, and after other compliments had been paid, the party returned to town.

There was a goodly assemblage of the brethren on the occasion of the first meeting of the Board of Stewards in connection with the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. held on Thursday last, at Freemasons' Hall. Among those present were Bros. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford P.G.C., Edgar Bowyer Grand Standard Bearer, Thomas Cubitt P.G.P., W. Clarke P.G.P., Wm. Stevens G.A.P., Horace B. Marshall W.M. 1949, Charles S. Lane P.P.G.D. Durham, George Kenning P.G.D. Middlesex 1657, H. E. Debane P.P.G.D. Essex, C. F. Matier P.G.W. Greece, E. E. Barrett Kidder I.P.M. 12, H. H. Wells W.M. 1671, S. Richardson, C. Volckman, C. Challen, R. J. Taylor W.M. 1922, G. S. Brandon, G. P. Festa P.M. 1900, W. H. Chalfont W.M. 1425, M. G. aham W.M. 975, C. W. Reynolds P.M. 1479, E. W. E. Wilde, H. Faija P.M. 1540, John Hallett I.G. 5, C. E. Keyser, S. Nowakowski P.M. 534, Richard Barbam, and A. White P.M. 1437. The announcement having been made that Brother J. D. Allcroft, Grand Treasurer, would preside at the Festival, Prother H. B. Marshall was elected President of the Board of Stewards, Brother E. Bowyer G.S.B. Treasurer, and Brother James Terry Secretary. All Vice-Patrons and Present and Past Grand Officers were appointed Vice-Presidents of the Board of Stewards. The Stewards fee is fixed at £2 2s, brethen's tickets £1 1s, and ladies tickets 10s 6d. Messrs. Spiers and Pond's tender for the dinner was accepted, and a Musical Committee having been appointed, comprising Bros. Horace B. Marshall, Edgar Bowyer, C. F. Matier, Charles Challen, William Clarke, Thomas Cubitt, G. P. Festa, R. Barham, and R. J. Taylor, the Committee adjourned until Friday, 15th February.

On the books of the Masonic Benevolent Institution there are 339 annuitants—167 men and 172 women. Of these London has 109. West Yorkshire has the next largest number, viz., 34. East Lancashire and Keut are next, the former with 19, the latter 17. Devon has 16. Other provinces vary from 10 to 1. Hereford, Herts, Leicester, and North Wales and Shropshire have none. On the books of the Girls' School there are 239 girls, 79 of whom are from London and 2 from Berks and Bucks. Bristol has 1, Cheshire 4, Cumberland and Westmoreland 1, Devon 7, Durham 4, Essex 2, Gloucestershire 3, Hauts and Isle of Wight 12, Herts 2, Kent 12, East Lancashire 9, West Lancashire 6, Leicester and Rutland 1, Lincolnshire 6, Middlesex 3, Monmouthshire 2, Norfolk 2, Northamptonshire and Hunts 1, Northumberland 1, Notts 2, Somersetshire 8, Staffordshire 3, Suffolk 7, Sussex 4, Warwickshire 6, Wilts 8, Worcestershire 2, North and East Yorks 5, West Yorks 21, North Wales and Salop 1, South Wales (Eastern division) 2, ditto (Western division) 2, and Foreign Stations 10. Beds, Cambs, Cornwall, Derbyshire, Dorsetshire, Herefordshire, Oxfordshire, and Surrey have no girls in the institution.—Evening News.

FUNERALS.—Bros. W. K. L. & G. A. HUTTON, Coffin Makers and Undertakers, 17 Newcastle Street, Strand, W.C. and 30 Forest Hill Road, Peckham Rye, S.E.

The installation meeting of the Priory Lodge, No. 1000, will be held on Thursday next, the 10th inst., at the Middleton Hall, Southend, Essex. Lodge will be opened at the early hour of 11.30, and the ceremony of the day will be performed by the outgoing Master, Bro. W. D. Merritt. Bro. W. G. Brighten P.M. 72 and 569, Provincial Grand Organist Essex, is the Worshipful Master elect.

Bro. Lord Headley who has been elected the next representative Peer for Ireland, will, on the Assembly of the House of Lords, take his seat in the room of the late Earl of Mountcashel.

According to the Keystone Brother W. J. Hughan is probably an honorary member of a greater number of Masonic bodies than any other brother in the world. In 1874, when he published his "Memorials of the Masonic Union of A.D. 1813," he dedicated that work to thirteen Lodges and six Chapters, in England, Scotland, and America, which had previously honoured him with membership. One of these was Jerusalem R.A. Chapter, No. 3, of Philadelphia. A number of others have since added his name to their roll.

Bro. H. Baldwin P.P.G.D.C. Middlesex and Surrey, P.M., &c., of the Panmure M.M.M.'s Lodge, 139, asks us to notify that this Mark Lodge will hold an "emergency" meeting at the head-quarters of Grand Mark Lodge, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C., on Monday next, the 7th inst., at five p.m. There are some ten candidates on the agenda for "advancement." Bro. Thomas Poore P.G.I.G., P.M., &c., the veteran exponent of this honourable degree, will assume the chair of A., and with the assistance of the W.M., Bro. John Walmsley Prov. G.J.D., and officers, will perform the ceremonies.

Brother the Lord Mayor will be present at the annual ball of the Cripplegate Pension Society at the Cannon-street Hotel on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., and will take the chair at the supper.

The personal property of the late Mr. Thomas Holloway will, it is stated, probably be sworn under £1,000,000. His will, which is of the simplest possible character, can be summarised in a very few words. Contrary to general expectation, the testator has made no specific charitable bequests. The executors, Mr. George Martin and Mr. Driver, who are also the trustees of the fund (£300,000) with which Mr. Holloway endowed his college for the education of women in August last, are entrusted with the task of carrying out the testator's wishes in respect to the whole of his benevolent schemes. It is understood that although the completion of the college and sanitarium will be the first care of the executors, their charitable disbursements are by no means limited to the furtherance of the objects these institutions have in view. During his lifetime Mr. Holloway gave large sums of money for benevolent purposes on the condition that the name of the donor should not be discovered, and the executors are given a wide discretion in the continuance of such subscriptions. Mr. Driver will continue to carry on the business of the deceased. The whole of the testator's property, with the exception of that set apart for charitable purposes, is bequeathed to a near

ENCYCLOPEDIA.—We learn with great pleasure that our illustrious brother, Charles T. McClenachan, is preparing for the press a revised and greatly enlarged edition of Mackey's Cyclopedia, his most famous work. The new edition will contain about one hundred pages of new matter, besides various additions to that already published, and will appear early this year. The well-known ability and careful research of Bro. M. gives full warrant that the work will be well done and the book make a library in itself.—N.Y. Dispatch.

ANCING.—To Those Who Have Never Learnt to Dance.—Bro. and Mrs. JACQUES WYNMANN receive daily, and undertake to teach ladies and gentiemen, 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 bour. Morning and evening classe

PROSPECTUS ON APPLICATION

ACADEMY—74 NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W. Bro. Jacques Wynmann will be happy to take the management of Masonic Balls. First-class Bands provided.

EDUCATION. - HAMBURG.

Bro. JOHN A. NEECK, 9 Eundesstrasse, HAMBURG

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TWO OR THREE ENGLISH YOUTHS AS BOARDERS During the time they attend School in this City.

CAREFUL SUPERVISION, KIND TREATMENT, BEST BODILY & MENTAL CARE
High References in England and Hamburg.

PROSPECTUS FREE

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.

SATURDAY, 5th JANUARY.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
1572—Carnarvon, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
1622—Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood 1362—Royal Albert Edward, Market Hall, Redhill 1453—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester 1466—Hova Ecclesia, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton

MONDAY, 7th JANUARY.

MONDAY. 7th JANUARY.

22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)'

25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction) 72—Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street

144—St. Luke, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.

175—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.) 188—Joppa, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.

548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction) 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

1425—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington, at 8 (In). 1439—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (Inst.) 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.) 1585—Royal Commemoration, Fox and Hounds, Putney, at 8. (Instruction) 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.) 1623—West Smithfield, Clarence Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C. at 7 (Inst.) 1623—West Smithfield, Clarence Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C. at 7 (Inst.) 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction) 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction) 1924—Wickham, St. Peter's Hall, Wickham Park, Brockley R.A. 23—Old King's Arms, Freemasons Tavern, W.C.

R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction) M.M. 139—Panmure, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moor 53—Royal Street, W. St. Street, W. St. Street, W. St. Street, Carbord, Report Parker, Bolton-le-Moor 53—Royal Street, W. St. Street, W. St. Street, Carbord, Report Parker, Bolton-le-Moor 53—Royal Street, Report Street, Re R.A. 23—Old King's Arms, Freemasons Tavern, W.C.
R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
M.M. 139—Panmure, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moor 65—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath 61—Probity, Freemason's Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax 119—Sun, Square, and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, College-st., Whitehaven 133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham 164—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield 168—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth 199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover 264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, Batley 339—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire 331—Harmony and Industry, Smalley's Hotel, Market street, Over Darwen 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction) 395—Guy, Crown Hotel, Leamington Priors 409—Three Graces, Private Rooms, Haworth 431—St. George, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, N. Shields 441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge 467—Tudor, Red Lion Hotel, Oldham 482—St. James's, Masonic Rooms, Wretham Road, Handsworth, Staffordshire 567—St. Cybi, Town Hal, Holyhead 613—Unity, Masonic Hall, Church Street, Basingstoke 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Church Street, Basingstoke 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction) 850—St. Oswald, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire 105—Rowley, Athensum, Lancaster 1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire 105—Rowley, Athensum, Lancaster 1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire 105—Rowley, Masonic Hall, Chechester 105—Rowley, Athensum, Lancaster 1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire 1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry 1180—Forward, Masonic Hall, Carlon-street, Leeds 1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Gancrbury, at 8. (Instruction) 1519—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors, near Accrington 1575—Clive, Orbet Arms, Market Drayton 1578—Merlin, New Inn Hotel, Pontypridd, South Wales 1676—St. Nicholas, Freemasons' Hall, Carlon-street, Castleford 1573—Caradoc, Masonic

TUESDAY, 8th JANUARY.

TUESDAY, 8th JANUARY.

15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street
46—Old Union, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst).
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
111—Faith, Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's Gate, St. James's Park
Station, at 8. (Instruction)
177—Domatic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
180—St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall, W.C
188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
198—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
211—St. Michael, Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
548—Wellington, White Swan, Deptford
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8
(Instruction)
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction) (Instruction)
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
840—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pcwnall-road, Dalston at, 8 (Instruction)
917—Cosmopolitan, Cannon-street Hotel
933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst).
1196—Urban, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1321—Emblematic, Rose, Jermyn Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
1446—Mount Edgeumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)

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1553—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In)
1593—Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Queen's Head, Essex Road, N., at 8.30 (In)
1604—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1614—Covent Garden, Criterion, Piccadilly
1635—Canterbury, 33 Golden Square, W.
1668—Samson, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, W.
1695—New Finshury 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)
1969—Waldeck, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30
M.M. 22—Southwark, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
1969—Waldeck, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. Wetropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30 M.M. 22—Southwark, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark

#33—Social, 23 St. Giles Street, Norwich
131—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro
131—United Chatham of Benevolence, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Kent
241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
272—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, High-street, Warwick
408—Northern Counties, Masonic Hall, Main Ridge, Boston
281—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, High-street, Warwick
408—Northern Counties, Masonic Hall, Maple Street, Newcastle (Instruct)
473—Faithful, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
195—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Zeltand Street, Wakefield
503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidenhead
603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Checkheaton
624—Abbey, Masonic Hall, Union-street, Burton-on-Trent
626—Lansdowne of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham
696—St. Bartholomew, Anchor Hotel, Wednesbury
726—Staffordshire Knot, North Western Hotel, Stafford
897—Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helens, Lancashire
903—Gosnort, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport
986—Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston
1120—St. Milburga, Tontine Hotel, Ironbridge
1214—Scarborough, Scarborough Hall, Caledonia-road, Batley
1250—Gilbert, Masonic Rooms, Sankey Greenhall, Street, Warrington
1314—Acacia, Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent
1325—Stanley, 214 Great Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
1343—St. John's Lodge, King's Arms, Grays, Essex
1465—Ockenden, Talbot Hotel, Sutton, Sussex
1509—Madoc, Queen's Hotel, Portmadoc
1545—Baildon, Masonic Room, Northgate, Baildon
1673—Tonbridge, Masonic Hall, Tonbridge
1713—Wilbraham, Walton Instituto, Walton, Liverpool
R.A. 70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Princes Street, Plymouth
R.A. 265—Judea, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley
R.A. 288—Juion, Queen's Hotel, Carlton-hill, Leeds
R.A. 300—St. Petrock, Masonic Hall, Gower Street, Derby
R.A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Rooms, Button-on-Trent
R.A. 660—King Edwin, Freemasons' Hall, Yorkergate, New Walton
R.A. 1655—Derby, Masonic Rooms, Hall, Gower Street, Cheetham, Lanc
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WEDNESDAY, 9th JANUARY.

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WEDNESDAY, 9th JANUARY.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 3
11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
13—Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich
16—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)
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford
193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
228—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In)
533—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst)
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Belham, at 7 (Instruction)
740—Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E.
913—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
922—Burdett Coutts, Dake's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
1278—Burdett Coutts, Dake's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
1278—Burdett Coutts, Dake's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
1278—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
1475—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate Street, at 7 (Instruction)
1475—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Phorphyla Axe
1445—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Phorphyla Axe
1445—Prince Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Phalmer St., Wostminster, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst)
1692—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1693—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
178—Canturion, Imperial Hotel, Holborn-viaduct
1791—Creaton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobollo-ter, Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
1992—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)
1993—Honor Oak, Moore Park Hotel
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51—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham-street, Rochdale
86—Loyalty. Masonic Hall, Prescot, Lancashire
125—Prince Edwin, White Hart Hotel, Hythe, Kent
128—Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury, Lancashire
146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgato, Bolton
191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
225—St. Luke's, Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich
259—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
281—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Atheneum, Lancaster
288—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
380—Integrity, Masonic Hample, Cammarcial-street, Marioy, near Le
       283—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commarcial-street, Mortey, near Le eds
387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley
433—Sympathy, Old Falcon Hotel, Gravesend
567—Unity, Globe Hotel, Warwick
580—Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
606—Segontium, The Castle, Carnarvon
666—Benovolence, Private Rooms, Prince Town, Dartmoor
755—St. Tudno, Freen asons's Hall, Llendudno
758—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 7.30. (Instruction)
852—Zetland. Albert Hotel, New Bailey-street, Salford
753—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 7.30. (Instruction)
852—Zetland, Albert Hotel, New Bailey-street, Salford
854—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Cancerbury. (Instruction)
1013—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
1031—Fletcher, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
1060—Marmion, Masonic Rooms, Church-street, Tamworth
1064—Borough, Bull Hotel, Burnley
1091—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading
1209—Lewises, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate
1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley, near Manchester
1248—Denison, Grand Hotel, Scarborough
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
1342—Walker, Hope and Anchor Inn, Byker, Newcastle
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1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill Street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool 1398—Baldwin, Dalton Castle, Dalton-in-Furness 1424—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham 1434—Nottinghamshire, George Hotel, Nottingham 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction) 1520—Earl Shrewsbury, Public, Rooms, Cannock, Stafford 1547—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. 1582—Llanidloes, Trewythen Arms, Llanidloes 1638—Brownrigg, Sun Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, at 8. (Instruction) 1643—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne. 1645—Colne Valley, Lewisham Hotel, Slaithwaite 1797—Southdown, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex R.A. 24—De Swinburne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle R.A. 409—Stortford, Chequers Inn, Bishop's Stortford R.A. 462—Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Hotel, Accrington R.A. 409—Etchldreda, Rose and Crown Hotel, Wisbech R.A. 1177—Dinlych, Masonic Room, South Parade, Tenby R.A. 1345—Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles M.M. 145—Constantine, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester
                                          THURSDAY, 10th JANUARY.

3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 3 (Instruction) 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction) 81—Regularty, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. 147—Juscice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 3. (Instruction) 82—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C. 238—Pigrim, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. 243—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C. 245—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C. 245—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, W., at 8 (Inst.) 634—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. 657—Canonbury, Albion, Aldersgate-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.) 634—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. 657—Canonbury, Albion, Aldersgate-street 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction) 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction) 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction) 754—Balbousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. 759—Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern 901—City of Londou, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction) 764—Capper, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C. 1188—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Greon, at 7 (Instruction) 1227—Upton, Swan, Bethnal Green-road, near Shoreditch, at 8 (Instruction) 1239—Stockwell, Cok Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction) 1236—Biyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-road, Paddington 1246—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-road, Paddington 1246—Hyde Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.) 1246—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-road, Paddington 1246—Hyde Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.) 1248—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, 1 Up. St. Martin's Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.) 1639—Skelmersdale, Masons' Hall, Motong Hill
1633—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction) 1642—Earl of Carnaryon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill
1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction) 1849—Bald
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         THURSDAY, 10th JANUARY.
R.A. 1917—Now Concord, Guildhall Tayern, Gresham-Suece, R.A. 1917—North London, Alwyne Castle Tayern, St. Faul's Road, Canonbu R.C. 42—St. George, 33 Golden Square, W

35—Medina, 85 High-street, Cowes

97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Toward-road, Sunderland.

112—St. George, Masonic Hall, Tore-street Hill, Exeter

116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Coine

139—Brisannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield

203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, (Instruction)

208—Three Grand Trinciples, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury

216—Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, at 9 (Instruction)

229—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 9 (Instruction)

229—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Sureypool, at 9 (Instruction)

239—Mariners, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddorstfeld

233—Royal Preston, Castle Hotel, Preston

337—Condour, New Masonic Roms, Uppermill, Saddleworth

339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Perrith, Cumberland.

341—Wellington, Ginque Forts Hotel, Ryc

344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radeliffe, Lancashire

346—United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn, Clayton-le-Dale, near Blackburn

350—Charity, Grapes Masonic Roms, Uppermill, Sandleworth

350—Charity, Grapes Masonic Roms, London Road, Spalding.

477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Blail, Church-street, Clitherco

483—Ord, Surs, White Hart Hotel, Uttoxeter

482—Ball Terrace, Hargreavas Arms Hotel, Accrington

489—Hundred of Elloe, Masonic Roms, London Road, Spalding.

477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenbead.

548—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Caroline-street, Longton, Stafford.

638—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth

658—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth

723—Royal Brunswick, Royal Paviltion, Brighton.

733—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.

744—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal

748—Groxieth United Service, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, Berks

991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington Quay, Northumberland

1035—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdiel, Liverpool

1045—Bridshir, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.

1145—Bilo, Private Room, St. German's, Cornwall.
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FRIDAY, 11th JANUARY.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.

25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc. 141—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction) 157—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

177—Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.

507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camborwell, at 7.30. (Instruct.) 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavorn, George St., Baker St., at 8 (In.) 780—R. yal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. (Instruction) 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction) 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction) 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction) 1163—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction) 1201—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.) 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (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. 33—Britannic, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.

R.A. 65—Prosperity Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall St. R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, (Inst.) M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction) K.T. D.—Mount Calvary, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C. M.H.—Old Keni, Crown and Cusnion, London Wali, E.C. (Instruction)
K.T. D.—Mount Calvary, Freemasons' Tavern, W.O.

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaidburn

453—Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30 (Instruction)

458—Airo and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-steet, Goole.

460—Sutherland of Unity, Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyme

526—Honour, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton

652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth

662—Dartmouth, Dartmouth Hotel, West Bromwich

697—United, George Hotel Colches ter.

815—Blair, Town Hall, Stretford-road, Hulme

916—Hartington, Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne

1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street, Harriogate

1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill

1087—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard

1143—Royal Denbigh, Council Room, Denbigh

1289—Rock, Royal Rock Hotel, Rock Ferry

General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7

R.A. 119—Sun, Square and Compass, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven

R.A. 137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Poole

R.A. 355—Wiltshire, Masonic Hall, Victoria Street, Swindon

R.A. 601—Eyton St. John, Wreken Hotel, Wellington, Salop

R.A. 993—Alexandra, Medlway Hotel, Levenshulme

K.T.—Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield

K.T. 128—De Warenne, Royal Pavilion, Brighton

SATURDAY, 12th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court Girls' School, Freemasons' Tavern, at 12

- 178—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street

199—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)

1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)

1328—Granite, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)

1426—The Great City, Cannon Street Hotel

1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)

1686—Paxton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell

1743—Persoverance, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct

1839—Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.

M.M. 211—Hammersmith, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street W, Hammersmith

149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham R.A. 1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court R.C. 43—Eureka, Masonic Rooms, Pavilion, Brighton

The following dinners have recently been held at the Freemasons' Tavern :-

Friday, 21st Dec.—Jordan Lodge; Friday, 28th—Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Institution. 1884—1st Jan.—Old Concord Lodge, Albion Lodge; 3rd—St. Andrew's Lodge; Universal Chapter. Lodge La Tolerance; 4th—Fidelity Chapter, Odd Volumes, Swedish and Norwegian Society Ball.

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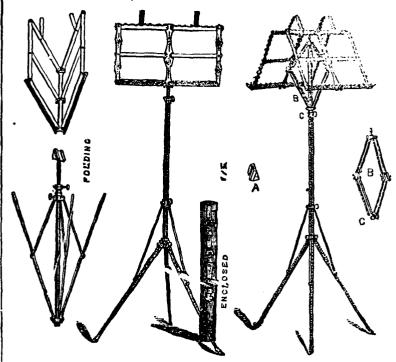
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ADELPHI.-At 7.45, IN THE RANKS.

OLYMPIC.—At 7.30, THE CRIMES OF PARIS.

ALHAMBRA.—At 7.45, THE GOLDEN RING.

SAVOY .- At 8, PRINCESS IDA.

GAIETY.—At 7.45, THE ROCKET. At 10, GALETEA AND PYGMALION REVERSED.

OPERA COMIQUE.—At 8.15, MUSETTE.
AVENUE.—At 7.30, OBLIGING A FRIEND. At 8.15, LA VIE.
TOOLE'S.—At 7.30, NAMESAKES. At 8.30, ARTFUL CARDS. At 10, STAGE-DORA.

COURT.—At 9, THE MILLIONAIRE. STRAND.—At 7.30, A MUTUAL SEPARATION. At 8, ROAD TO RUIN. GLOBE.—At 7.45, MAN PROPOSES. At 8.30, THE GLASS OF FASHION. GRAND.—At 7.30, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK.

VAUDEVILLE .- At 8, AN OLD MASTER. At 9, CONFUSION.

COMEDY.—At 8, FALKA.

ST. JAMES'S.—At7.45, A CASE FOR EVER. At 8.15, A SCRAP OF PAPER. ROYALTY .- At 8, DECEIVERS EVER. At 9, THE THREE HATS.

NOVELTY.-At 7.30, THE WILFORD WARD. At 8, NEW MAGDALEN-

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