

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE MASTER'S OFFICE, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

A MASTER of a Lodge is a constitutional monarch during the time he occupies the chair. General principles of government are defined by the Constitutions, and each Lodge has its own Bye-Laws; beyond these limitations, a Master is free to act according to his individual judgment. Practically he rules supreme, both by the laws of the Order and the customs of the Lodge. He is like a judge, whose decisions are absolute in his own Court. His ruling may be subject to an appeal to the fountain-head of the Craft, but it is rarely, if ever, that his government of the Lodge over which he presides is made a matter of supervision by the higher powers. Even with regard to his personal conduct, it must be very outrageous to impel a Lodge so far to depart from the practice of implicit obedience as to challenge his acts. Cases have occurred in which Masters have exhibited their personal unfitness for the office, and have provoked hostility in consequence. These are so rare that practically they may be said not to exist, except to prove the rule of complete obedience. A Master sometimes loses touch of his Lodge, and it is to be feared that it is no uncommon thing for him to be partial in the selection of his Officers. When these results occur the whole Lodge suffers, but the authority of the office still remains, although it may be morally impaired. Time and circumstances remove the greater evils, while the minor ones are settled amicably. A Master, surrounded by Past Masters and an experienced Secretary, can rarely go far wrong if he accepts their counsel, and the spirit of a Lodge must indeed be bad when it resists the combined wisdom of the chair and the Board of Past Masters. It cannot prevail in the end, and it soon fades away before the strength which rests with authority gained by knowledge and experience. A prudent Master will never unduly stretch his power; he will rather attain his ends by appearing to yield, by moral influence, and not by the exercise of an arbitrary will. To have the confidence of the Lodge he must be a good worker; by this we mean that he should not only know the ceremonies, and perform them with dignity and solemnity, but he should be skilled in government. Some there are who think they have done all that is necessary when they have mastered the verbal ritual of the Craft, and can repeat it parrot-like, and most Masters never seek to understand, much less to expound, the spiritual and moral teachings of the ceremonies. These are left to do their own work without the guidance which a pastor of a flock or a wise schoolmaster never fails to give. The consequence is that much that is beautiful and ennobling sinks into a lifeless formality. It is as true of Masonry as it is of religion, that "the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." Take the religious element out of Freemasonry and it becomes a mere social institution, submissive to and controlled by the habits and customs of the world. Charity, under such circumstances, would lose its noble characteristics and be administered alone upon commercial and utilitarian methods. The outward form of a grand Institution would exist, but all within would be as a whited sepulchre, full of dead men's bones. How necessary it is, then, that Masters should be chosen who are capable of realising the inward beauty of the ceremonies of the Craft, of inter-

preting them in however small a degree. It is not imperative that they should be learned in spiritual truths, although it would be better for themselves and the Fraternity at large were they versed in such matters; it is essential that Masters of Lodges should be amenable to their influence, and should try and make the ceremonies a reality, and not a merely cold verbal formality. The heart is more easily disciplined than the head; the one has a universal basis of good, the other needs severe cultivation to develop. Few, therefore, become learned in the Craft, but all have a fountain of sympathy in their hearts of greater or less dimensions, which only needs piercing to let out the waters of brotherly love and charity. All have an inner consciousness of religious truth, and only need a touch of the spirit to awaken its dormant energies. Freemasonry is full of spiritual fire, but it is too often concealed by an icy covering of forms that were meant to be life-giving furnaces. The ceremonies frequently fall dull and spiritless upon the initiate's ear and conscience, and seeing that so little is thought and taught of the spirit, he naturally falls into the same habit of indifference to all else save the social enjoyment to which he becomes entitled. There are many exceptions among the brethren in Freemasonry, and these are the salt of the Craft. We would there were more of them, and it is to this end that we would impress upon Lodges the desirability of care in the selection of rulers, and upon rulers the absolute necessity of realising their responsibility in a moral and spiritual as well as in a social sense.

Passing by what may be termed the consideration of the soul of Freemasonry, there are other points that merit anxious thought. There is danger even with regard to the practice of outward forms and the observance of safeguards. It is difficult to gain admission into some Lodges, while in others the discipline is so lax that a stranger might invade their precincts almost with impunity. Then some brethren are careless at times in their selection of guests, and in their anxiety to be hospitable, forget the tests that the Craft enjoins. A short time ago an American was invited to a Lodge who had neither reference nor certificate. This imprudence of the brother who invited him is only one instance of many that occur, and shows a laxity of regard for the security of our secrets and protection against the intrusion of cowans. A Master cannot always prevent such mistakes, but it is part of his duty so to instruct the brethren as to make such a fault improbable, if not impossible. In another case he has command over circumstances, and can modify, if not cure, the slovenliness that is always observable more or less in the way some brethren enter the Lodge. Forms have become as unmeaning as spiritual teaching to many brethren, and they either do not remember or care to practise the salutes that are due both upon entering and leaving the Lodge. For the young Mason there is some excuse, but none for Past Masters, and those who ought to be skilled in the very elements of the Order. We have great respect for Lodges of Instruction. Some of them have what is termed "entrance drill," a mode of teaching that is very valuable, and which ought to form part of the duties of every Preceptor. The Master of the Lodge, however, ought to see that his Officers do their duty in this respect, and without being a martinet, should insist upon the performance of all the ceremonial with the strictness of a military officer, knowing as he ought to know that there is

no movement in a Freemasons' Lodge that has not some hidden meaning, and which does not convey some moral or spiritual lesson, or at least which is not in some way associated with the higher teachings of the Craft.

So far we have dealt with the higher duties and responsibilities of a Master of a Lodge. There are others, however, which, if not of such moment, are important, and even essential in one who aspires to be a ruler in act as well as in name. Some Masters—we fear the majority—seem to lose all respect for the ordinary methods of conducting business directly they get into the chair. Men who in their every day pursuits observe all the customs and practices of commercial life, throw them aside when dealing with the business of a Freemasons' Lodge. They dawdle and trifle as if there was no life in the work before them, and too often cast upon the Secretary all the labour and responsibility of carrying on the necessary proceedings. A Master sometimes is called upon to discharge the duties of Chairman. Discussions occasionally arise in Lodges which require delicate leadership and control. We are not surprised to find that so many fail in this capacity. It requires experience in the conduct of public business to fit a man for the efficient discharge of the functions of Chairman, and therefore we should judge failures to reach a high standard in this respect somewhat tenderly. There is no excuse, however, for the utter breakdown that is so frequently witnessed. Much of what we complain is caused by carelessness, sometimes by indifference, and in some instances by incapacity. Time is as valuable in a Lodge as elsewhere, and ought not to be wasted. Courtesy, firmness, and skill are as valuable in the Master of a Freemasons' Lodge as in the chairman of a public meeting, and, although, as we have said, many allowances must be made for a Master of a Lodge, it is only right to expect that he should have some knowledge of the practice of conducting public business, and should at least be acquainted with, and observe, the elementary rules with regard to debate. Time frequently wasted in Lodge might be used with advantage in the banquet room. The requirements of the laws of courtesy would more generally be complied with, and the great bane of many Lodges—late hours—would be avoided.

It will be seen from what we have said that the duties and responsibilities of a Master of a Lodge are numerous and onerous. Few may obtain the ideal we have suggested, but it should be the aim of all to approach the standard. Jewels for services would then be of real value, for they would have been earned, and would not be bestowed, as they are now, as a mere compliment, suggested by custom, and presented with stereotyped formality.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, PHILADELPHIA.

DISCOVERY OF THE ORIGINAL LEDGER OF A.D. 1731 to 1738.

FROM THE KEYSTONE.

WE have been instrumental in bringing to light a most important original Masonic record, to wit, the Ledger account book of the First Lodge in Philadelphia (St. John's Lodge), with its members, from 24th June 1731 to 24th June 1738. This book is bound in stiff vellum, and labelled on the front cover—

"Philadelphia city,
St. John's Lodge, Libr. B."

It is evidently not the first Lodge Record book; for that would naturally be "Libr. A.," which was probably the Minute Book. This "Libr. B." is now in the Library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, having been presented to that body by George T. Ingham, of Salem, N.J., on 8th November 1880. Mr. Frederick D. Stone, Librarian of the Historical Society, informs us that Mr. Ingham received this volume from a descendant of David Hall, who was the partner of Benjamin Franklin in the printing and publishing business. It is well preserved, and bears on its face its title to be regarded as an original record. Its great value consists in its corroborating all that has been claimed and proved in behalf of Philadelphia as being the "Mother-city of Masonry in America," and in the details it gives us concerning the individual members of St. John's Lodge. From June 1731 to June 1734 the initiation or en-

trance-fee was £3; after that, up to 1738, it was £5. The monthly dues (or "quota") were 6d, with a fine of 1s per meeting for absence. We give below the complete list of the names of the members, as taken from this Lodge Ledger. Under each name, in the original, are given the various debits and credits to which the member was entitled. We give also the date when the initiation or entrance-fee was charged to each member, since this is an indication of the date when he was made a Mason or entered the Lodge.

NAMES OF MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S LODGE, 1731-1738.

(1) William Button	
(2) William Allen	
(3) Christopher Thompson	
(4) Thomas Hart	
(5) Samuel Nicholas	
(6) John Emerson	
(7) Thomas Hart, Farmer	
(8) Thomas Bunde	
(9) William Pringle	
(10) Benjamin Franklin	Entrance fee charged June 24, 1731.
(ENTRANCE FEE £3.)	
(11) Henry Pratt,	" "
(12) Mark Joyce	" "
(13) Thomas Redman	
(14) John Hubart	
(15) Thomas Whitemarsh	July 5, 1731
(16) John Hall	Feb. 7, 1732
(17) Samuel McClanan	" "
(18) Lawrence Reynolds	" "
(19) David Parry	Mar. 6, "
(20) Humphry Murray	Nov. 6, "
(21) James Bingham	" "
(22) John Crap	March 5, 1732-3
(23) William Paschal	April 2, 1733
(24) Peter Cuff	May 7, 1733
(25) Richard Parkhouse	" "
(26) Owen Owen	July 2, "
(27) John Nowenham	Nov'r 5, "
(28) Thomas Hopkinson	" "
(29) Lambert Emerson	" "
(30) Christopher Routh	Nov. 19, "
(31) Capt. John Waugh	Jan'y 19, "
(32) James Hamilton	April 1, 1734
(33) Isaac Browne	" "
(34) Joseph Shippen	May 6, "
(35) Thomas Bond	June 3, "
(ENTRANCE FEE £5, FROM THIS TIME.)	
(36) John Robinson, Atty-at-Law	June 3, 1734
(37) William Pyewell	" "
(38) William Plumsted	July 1, "
(39) Septimus Robinson	" "
(40) Joseph Brintnall	August 5, "
(41) Philip Syng	Nov. 7, "
(42) Josiah Rolfe	" "
(43) Richard Howell	Jan. 7, "
(44) William Allen (from former folio)	
(45) Benjamin Franklin	" "
(46) Henry Pratt	" "
(47) Thomas Redman	" "
(48) Lawrence Reynolds	" "
(49) Christopher Thompson	" "
(50) Thomas Bunde	" "
(51) Thomas Hart	" "
(52) John Hubart	" "
(53) John Jones, Atty-at-Law	June 6, 1737
(54) William Dering	" "
(55) Michael Cario	" "
(56) Doctor Thomas Cadwallader	" "
(57) David Humphrey	" "
(58) Thomas Esdaile	" "
(59) Henry Lewis	" "

It appears, from the foregoing, that Benjamin Franklin (the tenth name on the list) was charged with his entrance fee on 24th June 1731; or rather, to be perfectly exact, "1731, June 24. To remainder of your £3, entrance, is £2." He in every probability paid the previous £1 five months before or some time during that period, for he is charged with five months previous dues. This would prove that Franklin was made a Mason in February 1731, shortly after he made his publication concerning Masonry in his *Pennsylvania Gazette* of 8th December 1730. Prior to the present it has never been known when Franklin was made a Mason. We had always supposed that it was in the beginning of the year 1731, and this record vouches for the fact.

At the election of William Allen, Provincial Grand Master of Masons of Pennsylvania, by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Penn'a, on 24th June 1732, it appears from this record that St. John's Lodge had nineteen members.

Since the Masonic record of Benjamin Franklin will

probably be more interesting to our readers than that of any other of the Brethren named, we give below his entire Masonic record from the St. John's Lodge "Libr. B." It reads (page 10 and page 45) as follows:—

ST. JOHN'S LODGE IN ACCOUNT WITH BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

"BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TO STOCK.

		Dr.	
A.D. 1731.			
June 24	To 5 Lodge days omission @ 6d per diem	2 6	
	To remainder of your £3 entrance is £2	2 0	
July 5	To stock for this Lodge day	6	
Aug 2	To stock for this day	6	
Sept. 6	„ your monthly quota 6d	6	
Oct. 4	„ quota	6	
Nov. 5	for absence 1s & monthly quota 6d	1 6	
Dec. 6	for quota	6	
1731-2.			
Jan. 3	for Do.	6	
Feb. 7	for Do.	6	
Mar. 6	for absence 1s & quota 6d	1 6	
1732.			
April 3	to quota 6d	6	
May 1	for absence 1s and quota 6d	1 6	
June 5	for quota 6d	6	
		2 11 7	
July 3	„ „	6	
Aug. 7	„ „	6	
Sept. 4	„ „	6	
Oct. 19	„ „	6	
Nov. 6	for absence 1s & quota 6d	1 6	
Dec. 6	„ ditto	1 6	
		2 16 7	
1732-3			
Jan. 1	for quota	6	
Feb. 5	„ „	6	
Mar. 5	„ „	6	
1733			
April 2	for absence 1s & quota 6d	1 6	
May 7	for quota	6	
June 4	„ „	6	
		3 0 7	
July 2	„ „	6	
Aug. 6	„ „	6	
	This day moneys Pd you for day book, &c.	15 6	
Sept. 3	„ „	6	
„ 29	„ „	6	
		3 18 1	
Nov. 5	„ „	6	
Xbr. 3	„ „	6	
Jan. 7	„ „	6	
Feb. 4	„ „	6	
Mar. 4	„ „	6	
June 3	„ „	6	
		4 1 1	
1735			
June 2	To one year's stock	6	
1736			
June 7	To ditto	6	
		12	
1737			
June 7	To ditto	6	
Ditto	„ the Lodge's general acct. of expence	14 7	
		1 0 7	
1738			
June 24	To one year's stock	6	
		6	
PER CONTRA		Cr.	
A.D. 1731			
June 24	To moneys rec'd overpluss of yr. expence entering	£2 2 7	
July 5	By moneys to stock for this Lodge day	6	
Aug. 2	By moneys to stock	6	
Sept. 6	By moneys you paid for monthly quota	6	
Oct. 4	By moneys for quota	6	
Dec. 6	By moneys paid	1 6	
		2 6 1	
1731-2			
Jan. 3	By ditto	6	
Feb. 7	By ditto	6	
1732			
April 3	By do, quota and for last time absence	2 0	
June 5	By quota	6	
		2 9 7	
„ 19	By moneys for absence and quota	1 6	
		2 11 1	

July 3	By moneys for quota	6	
Aug. 7	„ „	6	
Sept. 4	„ „	6	
		1 6	1 6
		2 12 7	
1732-3			
Mar. 5	By moneys paid	4 6	
	By moneys lent the Lodge for William Pringle	5 0	
		3 2 1	
July 2	By moneys for quota	6	
Aug. 6	„ „	6	
Nov. 5	„ „	6	
		3 3 7	
	Cr. by Day Book, 13s	13 0	
		3 16 7	
Dec. 3	By do	6	
Jan. 7	„ „	6	
Mar. 4	„ „	6	
		3 18 1	
1734	By cash rec'd...	3 0	
		4 1 1	
1734-5			
March,	By cash rec'd for 3 Qr.' by Paymt	4 6	
1735			
Dec. 1	„ ditto for 2 ditto	3 0	
1736			
April 6	„ „ 1 ditto	1 6	
June 24	„ „ for a payment due the last year	1 6	
Do.	By ditto in full to this date	1 6	
		12 0	
1737			
June 7	By cash in full	8 7	
		1 0 7	

Of the interest and value of the revelations of this Lodge Ledger we cannot speak in too high terms. *This is by far the oldest Masonic Lodge Book in America.* In it we find official Lodge details concerning the Masonic lives of such Masons as William Allen, Humphry Murray, Benjamin Franklin, James Hamilton, Thomas Hopkinson, William Plumsted, Joseph Shippen, and Philip Syng, all Provincial Grand Masters of Pennsylvania, from 1732 to 1741; and also concerning Brother Thos. Boude, Doctor Thos. Cadwallader (to whom Bro. Henry Bell, of Lancaster, wrote his famous letter, of 17th Nov. 1754, concerning the origin of this same St. John's Lodge, in the fall of 1730), Joseph Shippen and Thomas Bond. The entire volume is richly worthy of re-production in print, and by photograph. It far outranks in age any Lodge record on this continent, and is one of the oldest in the world. It is more than we ever anticipated finding, and therefore the more valued when found.

We may indicate the comparative uniqueness of this volume by stating, that the oldest existing Lodge Record Book in Pennsylvania dates back only to 1767, that of Lodge No. 3, Philadelphia; the oldest Lodge Record Book in Massachusetts, that of St. John's Lodge, Boston, was compiled and written in 1751-2, and records events only from July 1733, when Masonry was first established in Massachusetts; while the Lodge Record Book of the first St. John's Lodge, Philadelphia, contains the complete Secretary's Ledger Record account with all the members of St. John's Lodge from 24th June 1731 to 24th June 1738.

The following is a general description of the appearance of the volume: It is of the blank book pattern, in size 5½ by 12 inches, and 2 inches thick. At the beginning is an alphabetical index of the names of the Brethren, whose accounts with St. John's Lodge are contained in the body of the book. There are numerous blank pages, together with some few commercial entries, the volume evidently having been used for a short time by one of its possessors as a mercantile book of entry, with reference to the printing and binding, in 1790, of copies of the Prayer Book, New Testament and the Laws of Pennsylvania. The binding is of stiff vellum, and the entire volume is quite well preserved.

This original Philadelphia Lodge Record of the year 1731, and thereafter to 1738, by courtesy of the authorities of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (John Jordan jun. Vice President, and Frederick D. Stone

Librarian) was exhibited in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, on Thursday evening, 28th February 1884, by its discoverer, Bro. Clifford P. MacCalla Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in the course of his lecture delivered before Lodge No. 51, on "A Remarkable Masonic Life"—that of Benjamin Franklin; when it excited the greatest interest, and was pronounced the most ancient and valuable Masonic record yet discovered in America.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES AND LIFEBOAT WORK.

THE Annual General Meeting of the friends and supporters of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution was held on Saturday, the 15th inst., at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., in the Chair. The Annual Report was read by the Secretary Mr. Charles Dibdin. It stated that the committee, in submitting their Sixtieth Annual Report to their supporters and sympathisers, thankfully acknowledge the very valuable and important monetary assistance which they have received during the past year. In no previous year, perhaps, had the necessity for the existence of such a Society been more plainly demonstrated than in that lately completed. Happily the strenuous efforts made by the Institution had been instrumental in mitigating to a very considerable extent the dire evils entailed by the terrible disasters at sea which had been so frequently brought into notice in the public press. During the past year four new Lifeboat stations were established at different places, and seven new Lifeboats were also dispatched to the English coast to replace old ones. In addition to this, twelve new stations are in the course of formation, and nine new boats will shortly be provided for places in need of them. The number of Lifeboats under the management of the Institution last year was 274, which were launched on service 283 time between the 1st of January and the 31st of December, and saved no less than 725 lives and 30 vessels. Besides this, 230 lives were saved from shipwreck by shore-boats and other means, all of which services were rewarded by the Institution, making up a grand total of 955 lives rescued during the year, for which 14 Silver Medals and Clasps, 25 Votes of Thanks on vellum, and £5397 were granted by the committee, including grants to widows and orphans of Lifeboatmen killed on duty. Altogether from its foundation the Institution had voted 97 Gold Medals, 964 Silver Medals, and £77,984 in cash, for saving 30,563 lives from shipwrecks on our coasts. The financial statement, which was produced at the meeting, had been audited and signed by Mr. Lovelock, Chartered Accountant; it furnished full details of the items of receipt and expenditure. The subscriptions, donations, dividends, &c., amounted during the past year to £40,250 which sum included £3767 in special gifts for expenses connected with seven Lifeboats, and £2000 for the endowments of two Lifeboats. Several legacies were also received. The total expenditure for the past year was £45,817. In conclusion, the Committee, in view of the splendid services which had been rendered by the Lifeboats, and the efficiency which had been maintained in the service, strongly appealed once more to the public for help and sustained support, feeling confident that such an appeal made in the interests of humanity, would not pass unheeded, but would meet with a prompt and ready response. After the Report had been read, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—Before calling on the noble Duke who is to move the first Resolution, I wish to say a few words. You have all heard with the deepest interest the report which has just been read, and we shall be unanimous in thinking it highly satisfactory. This Institution, having been founded in 1824, has now reached its sixtieth anniversary, and you will agree with me that there is no Institution in the country which is of greater importance, or which more demands our sympathy and assistance. From our geographical position as a sea-girt isle, and from the vast colonies we have acquired, the mass of ships that travel to and from our ports is almost too vast even to count, but they encounter many shipwrecks, the result of which is, in many cases, great loss of life. The risks, too, that our fishermen run must be known to all of you. It was specially to save their lives—and to save the lives of all who travel on the sea, and may be shipwrecked on our coast—that this noble Institution was founded. It must be patent to all of you that a Society of this kind is an absolute necessity. Since its existence, nearly 31,000 lives have been saved, and already this year more than 300 have been rescued by the Lifeboats. The Society has no fewer than 274 Lifeboats, and while I need say nothing of the ability and courage displayed by the crews, there is one thing of which I must remind you: though we all admit that this is a national institution, it is entirely supported by voluntary contributions. Therefore I must urgently ask you to ponder well this fact and to remember that the annual cost of maintaining a Lifeboat Station is about £70 a year. The Report has told you that the Princess of Wales has become a Patroness of the Institution. I need hardly tell you she shares with me the views I hold on this important matter, and it was a great gratification to her quite recently to present medals to two most deserving coxswains who had distinguished themselves in saving life. On the motion of His Grace the Duke of Argyll, the Report was adopted, and ordered to be printed and circulated.

The Prince of Wales, after the lecture on Ensilage, on the 17th inst., at the Institute of Agriculture, South Kensington Museum, at which His Royal Highness presided, afforded Messrs. F. W. Reynolds and Co., of Acorn Works, Edward-street, Blackfriars, a private interview, for the purpose of explaining to him and his suite the advantages possessed by their patent method of mechanically compressing Ensilage, as compared with dead weights. A working model was shown, and great interest was manifested.

THE CHESHIRE EDUCATIONAL MASONIC INSTITUTION.

THE twenty-first annual meeting of the General Committee of the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution was held at the Masonic Chambers, Hamilton-street, on Monday afternoon, for the purpose of determining the amounts to be recommended to be voted at the next Court of Governors, which will be held at Crewe, on Wednesday, the 26th instant, for the education of the children on the books of the Institution, and to hear applications from the friends of new candidates. The Rev. R. Hodgson P.G. Chaplain presided, and amongst those present were Bros. J. P. Platt P.M. 537 and P.P.G.J.W. Treasurer, F. K. Stevenson P.M. 537 Hon. Sec., Peter Wadsworth P.G.T. and P.M. 295, James Salmon P.M. 425, Robert Sykes P.M. 325 and 461, A. Houghton W.M. 1168, W. Hough W.M. 941, J. Lambert P.M. 537, T. C. Thorburn W.M. 477, John Clayton P.M. 89, J. Boardman W.M. 336, W. Kenworthy P.M. 89, W. Barker W.M. 461, J. A. Hodgkinson J.W. 461, Edward Marwood W.M. 728, Henry Woodall W.M. 1126, S. Brooks P.M. 361, W. Hughes J.W. 721, Charles J. Clover W.M. 537, J. W. Newall Banner P.P.C. and P.M. 321, J. E. Steward P.M. 336 P.G.J.D., Richard Jones 1276 Secretary, W. Mellor P.M. 758, and Joseph Turner P.M. 320, &c. The Treasurer's accounts were submitted by Bro. Platt, showing money invested £3,745 6s 3d, together with £800 in a Dock Bond. The annual subscriptions amounted to £306 13s 6d, and interest from investments £196 6s 7d. The expenses of management had been £38, and the outlay for education £182 4s 3d. On the proposition of Bro. Salmon, seconded by Bro. Wood, the accounts were passed. The hon. Secretary's accounts were submitted by Bro. F. K. Stevenson, from which it appeared that the work of the Institution is progressing favourably. Twenty-five children are being educated, of whom four go off the books this year, and five candidates are applying. Bros. J. W. Latham P.G.D. Eng., and F. A. Dickson P.P.J.W., had been added to the Board of Governors to fill up vacancies caused by death. On the motion of Bro. Thorburn, seconded by Bro. Houghton, the Secretary's report was adopted. The Committee then considered the following applications:—Catherine Graham, aged eleven years, daughter of the late Bro. Joseph S. Graham, of Unanimity Lodge, No. 89, Dukinfield; James Stanley, aged twelve years, and Sarah, aged eight years, children of the late Bro. James Shepley, of Fortitude Lodge, No. 461, Newton Moor; Thomas H. O. Jones, aged ten years, son of the late Bro. Jones P.M., of Independence Lodge, No. 721, Chester; Frances Jane Hill, aged eleven years, daughter of the late Bro. Edwin Hill, of the Stamford Lodge, No. 1046, Altrincham. It was agreed to grant £5 for the education of T. H. O. Jones for the half-year ending March 1885; £10 to Catherine Graham; £15 to James Stanley Shepley and Sarah Shepley; and £6 6s to Frances Jane Hill. In the case of John E. Flloyd, of Manchester, now fifteen years of age, it was agreed to grant a sum of £20 for the purpose of apprenticing him to Messrs. Hattersley and Co., machinists, Manchester. Bros. Marwood and Mellor, of the Ellesmere Lodge, No. 758, Runcorn, brought forward the case of the family of the late Bro. Thomas Horsfall, for several years Secretary of that Lodge, and who died three or four weeks ago, leaving four children, and on the motion of Bro. Clayton it was agreed to vote £5 for the education of the youngest child, a daughter ten years of age. Bro. Barker W.M. 1061 said that the grants made on the present occasion would have the effect of inducing a larger number of Masons in the Staleybridge portion of the county to become subscribers to the funds of the Institution. Bro. Banner also remarked that these grants would be a stimulus to other Lodges to increase their support of so valuable an Institution. A vote of thanks to the Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer was passed, and the meeting broke up.

We have been favoured with copy of a photograph of our worthy Bro. Percy P.M., the well-known and obliging Preceptor. To say that it is life-like is only to say that a photo is what it is, and would be no credit to the artist. But in this case the tone and pose of the portrait are as admirable as the likeness is accurate. It is the production of Bro. H. Cecil Turner, of the Angel Studio, 14 Pentonville Road, N., and considering how well situated and admirably arranged are Bro. Turner's premises, how studious he is of his patrons' wishes, and how painstaking in all he does, we can strongly recommend his establishment to our friends. We are sure they will be pleased if they give it a trial, and we know they will have no complaint to make on the score of high charges, Bro. Turner's terms being extremely moderate.

At the London Cottage Mission Hall, 67 Salmon's-row, Limehouse, on Wednesday of last week, at the close of the dinner, of which several hundred children partook, Mr. Walter Austin in a few short sentences explained to the youngsters that, on future occasions, they must not bring their plates and spoons with them, in fact, they must not expect—unless some kind friend steps in and provides the cost—another dinner just yet. On the little ones this news had a very depressing influence. We are pleased, however, to be able to state that Mr. Austin's appeal for further assistance was not disregarded; further, that on Wednesday about nine hundred of these hunger-pinched waifs and strays had their "one meal a week," as did also nearly a hundred old folks and others out of work. One had only to see them thus engaged to form an idea of what a real calamity "no dinner" would be to them all. We trust some kind friends will send to 44 Finsbury-pavement a small faggot of relief, and keep up for the next few weeks that fire of Christian Charity contained in the words "Feed my lambs."

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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LET THE MILL GRIND.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My attention having been, by accident, drawn to an article under this heading which recently appeared in your paper, I am moved to offer a few remarks thereon, and my excuse for troubling you is, that I altogether dispute the "facts (?) " of the writer, and, as may perhaps be anticipated, disagree with his deductions.

In the first place, so far as I can learn, the thunderbolts (or wind-bags) launched by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts were directed, not against the Antient and Primitive Rite, but against a seceding body therefrom, denominated the Reformed Egyptian Rite of Memphis.

As to fact second. It is now somewhat out of place, surely, considering the lapse of upwards of half a century, to challenge the legality of what was done or left undone by the compilers of the Antient and Primitive Rite, or, as it was then called, the Rite of Memphis. Everybody knows that it never claimed to be anything else than a re-arrangement of pre-existing degrees or series of degrees, which under various names and with many modifications, had even then been known and worked for the best part of a century. What was done by Marconis and his fellow labourers was to select, harmonise, and reduce to a system much that was rude, inharmonious, and to a certain extent chaotic, and Marconis certainly did this and did it well, keeping the one principle in view throughout, *non sectarianism*.

The Grand Orient of France having already two or three series of degrees of similar kind under its wing, naturally objected to the introduction of another and most formidable system, which would undoubtedly act disadvantageously to those working already, and it was not until Bro. Marconis and his friends had clamoured long and loudly that the Grand Orient was induced to accept and recognise the Rite of Memphis. If, as the article copied from the *Voice of Masonry* asserts, the Grand Orient acted with bad faith, and cheated Bro. Marconis into surrendering the conduct of the Rite to it, with the full determination to strangle it, and to get rid of a dangerous rival, Bro. Marconis was surely justified, as soon as he found out the nature of the conspiracy, in protesting against it, as he did, with all the energy and eloquence at his command, and in reassuming the position of guardian and protector to his threatened offspring.

But I doubt if the Grand Orient had any such malevolent intentions. I am inclined to think that having, reluctantly no doubt, made up its mind to accept the Rite, it proposed to carry out the bargain with Masonic good faith. But vested interests, then as now, always clamouring against improvement or innovation, proved in the long run too much for the Rite and it was quietly shelved.

The fact which testifies most strongly in favour of this theory, in opposition to that propounded by the writer of the article under notice is, that the Grand Orient received Bro. Harry Seymour, the then Grand Master of the American Body of the Antient and Primitive Rite, on his visit to Paris in 1862; viséed his certificate of appointment, and exchanged representation with America, and this state of things lasted until 1869, when it was interrupted by Seymour, not by the Grand Orient withdrawing from the Representation because the Grand Orient had chartered some bodies in America, over which country, he justly thought, the Grand Orient had no sort of jurisdiction whatever.

The alleged complaint of the Grand Orient that it had only intended to recognise the Rite of Memphis as a system of three degrees only (the Craft degrees), is so manifestly untrue, on the face of it, that it is not worth contradicting; it was doubtless an afterthought, adopted with the view of extricating the Grand Orient from a false position.

THE FACT is, the Rite of Memphis never proposed to work the Symbolic or Craft degrees, and the Constitutions adopted by the American Body, as by ourselves, expressly provide that "None shall be received into the Antient and Primitive Rite except he shall be a Master Mason in good standing under some Constitutional Grand Lodge." Can anything be more exact and more opposite to assertion of the writer in the "Voice?"

I have assumed for the purpose of the argument that Marconis did surrender his position of Grand Hierophant of the Rite of Memphis, or intended to do so, when he came to the arrangement with the Grand Orient. But, as another FACT, he never did or had the intention of doing anything of the kind. What he did do was to disclaim any right to control or work the three symbolic degrees. And the Rite of Memphis, both in this country and America, has never to my knowledge attempted to do so. And both in Egypt and in Rumania, where the Memphis Rite is worked, National Grand Craft Lodges, governing the Craft degrees, only exist at this day.

The next allegation I have to deal with is, that the first twenty-five degrees of the Rite of Memphis, or the Antient and Primitive Rite, were pirated from the Scottish Rite, my answer to which is that the Chapter and Senate degrees (4 to 20), of the Antient and Primitive Rite were compiled, partly from the Primitive Rite of Narbonne and Koppen's Rite of African Architects, Von Hund's Templar System (since adopted by the Grand Lodge of Sweden), and others, that it is needless to particularise. Now, all these systems existed before 1750, and as Lacorne's compilation of similar degrees, under the title of the Emperors of the East and West, was made about the same time, it may well be that some of the degrees in each system were similar, if not identical. But Marconis certainly did not copy Lacorne; the

contrast between the dissolute dancing-master of the profligate Regent and the simple-minded, earnest, and eloquent Marconis, is too marked ever to run much risk of the one being confounded with the other. And further, whether the Scottish Rite has so small an opinion of the literary merit of its own ritual, or whether it never had any but the two, 18° and 30°, I do not know; but it is certain it has never ventured to print or to work any of its degrees save the Rose Croix and K—h; and if any curious brother will take the trouble to compare the Ritual of both those degrees with their corresponding degrees of the Antient and Primitive Rite, I shall be very much disappointed if he does not at once admit that Lacorne's version, or whose soever it may be, is as little to be compared with Marconis as a Grub Street ballad to Tennyson. I may not enter upon a dissection here, even if you were good enough to give me space; but if I may summarise my own impressions, the one is pious twaddle with a soupçon of blasphemy, the other philosophic symbolism expanded from the Craft degrees.

As to the Grand Lodge of this or any other country interfering with the Chivalrous grades, the notion is too absurd to be entertained for a moment. Let every tab stand on its own bottom. Grand Lodge stands on too firm a base to need the aid of any of the Chivalric degrees, who are, in their way, also independent, and need no support from Grand Lodge; but if Grand Lodge of this, or any other country, do coquet, as it were, with high grade Masonry at all, it is important that the favoured body should not abuse the indulgence by seeking to thrust its own particular partizans into Craft Grand Lodge Offices. That is what is the matter, both in Massachusetts and nearer home. The Scottish Rite Grand Officers cannot tolerate that any other body should have even a remote chance of existence, and so plot and contrive that until they rule the CRAFT, as well as their own particular body, they never rest. This is the case, not only in Massachusetts, but in half-a-dozen other States; the same in Italy, the same in France, in Ireland; where is it not the same? Want of tolerance is the besetting sin of the Scottish Rite; it learns no wisdom, apparently, from its frequent rebuffs, and shamelessly glories in setting Mason against Mason by its unmasonic interdictions and lawless expulsions. Now the most rabid of its opponents can say nothing of this kind against the Antient and Primitive Rite, or of its predecessor, the Rite of Memphis (for the two are one, except in name). No interdiction of intercourse, no sectarian O.B., no plotting for supremacy; a full, healthy Ritual of 30 degrees, against a wretched compilation of two only.

Now, Sir, in common fairness let your readers judge for themselves if we have not only a complete refutation of the statements put forth in the article in question, but if we are not also entitled to a word in defence, or possibly in retaliation. It is not pleasant to stand as a target for any one to fire at, and I therefore crave leave just to have one shot in return.

Yours very truly and fraternally,

JAMES HILL, 1604.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is with very great pleasure I have to inform you that the Right Hon. the Lord Brooke, M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M. of Essex, has very kindly consented to preside at the approaching Festival of this Institution.

I have also to inform you that it has been unavoidably necessary to change the date on which the Festival will be held, from Wednesday, 14th, to Wednesday, 21st May.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

5 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

11th March 1884.

THE PRIMROSE LEAGUE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to call your attention to the enclosed paragraph, re Primrose League. Without wishing to open your columns to political discussion, I venture to hope it will not be unwelcome reading to your Conservative readers, and as the League is formed somewhat on Masonic lines, I hope it may induce many to inquire farther.

Trusting you will be able to give the matter attention in your valuable paper,

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

DICK RADCLIFFE.

"The Primrose League, which was founded in November last, is now firmly established, and is extending its branches far and near. The objects of the League are defined by the resolutions passed at the first meeting—viz., the Maintenance of Religion, of the Estates of the Realm, and of the Imperial ascendancy of Great Britain. The motto of the League is 'Imperium et Libertas,' its seal Three Primroses, and its badge an Imperial Crown, encircled by primroses. The union of a number of individuals under the same political banner has the effect of directly pledging them to the support of certain definite principles, whilst the more energetic and zealous amongst them do an incalculable amount of good service by advancing the interests of their party. Political organisations such as the Primrose League, to use Lord Salisbury's words, 'have a wonderful power in bringing men together who did not know before their

agreement with each other, and cheering up and exciting to exertion numbers of men who in their isolation were almost beginning to despair. Undoubtedly the crisis is serious. Every information may be obtained by persons wishing to join, from the Registrar, No. 30 Essex-street, Strand, W.C. All applications must be by letter only."—*Morning Post*, 4th February 1884.

GRAND CHAPLAINS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am very much afraid that Bro. Jacob Norton's statement in his last letter—"and it is a fact that the Grand Lodge of England had no Chaplain before 1813"—will not stand the test of examination. I have recently had occasion to search through the minutes of the Atholl Grand Lodge from 1798 to 1813, and among the Grand Officers yearly appointed will be found the name of the Rev. Edward Barry as Grand Chaplain towards the close of that period, and that of the Rev. Henry Isaac Knapp as Deputy Grand Chaplain. These two Brothers, with the Rev. Lucius Coghlan, who was Grand Chaplain of the Moderns, were the first appointed Chaplains after the Union, or rather they were appointed as such at the Constitution of the Union on the 27th December 1813. It will not, of course, be a very difficult matter to trace the earliest appointment of these officers in the two Grand Lodges.

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

"Q."

Yesterday (Friday) was fixed for the half-yearly meeting of the proprietors of the Crystal Palace District Gas Company, and the Directors' Report, which was then to be submitted, is in all respects a most satisfactory evidence of the progress made by the Company during the six months ended 31st December 1883. The Gas Examiners' Reports, as to the illuminating powers of the gas supplied and its freedom from sulphuretted hydrogen and ammonia, leave nothing to be desired, while the price of the supply, which was reduced at Michaelmas last to 3s per 1,000 cubic feet, will, "from and after the date of the Lady Day quarter's accounts," be still further reduced to 2s 11d per 1,000. These are points on which the public would gladly have been informed, and the proprietors will have been equally satisfied with that portion of the Report which more immediately concerns them, namely—that the Directors have considered themselves justified in recommending a dividend for the half-year, free of income tax, at the following rates, namely—6 per cent. on the Preference Stock, 7 per cent. on the ordinary 7 per cent. Stock, 10 per cent. on the Ordinary 10 per cent. Stock, and 7 per cent. on the New Ordinary 7 per cent. Shares. These together will absorb, in round figures, £12,015, but as the profit and loss account shows a balance of net profit amounting to within a fraction of £20,735, there is ample justification for the declaration of such a dividend, with a liberal margin over to meet the contingencies of the current half-year. Only one subject of regret is referred to by the Directors, namely—that Bro. Sir Erasmus Wilson has signified his intention of retiring from the Chairmanship of the Company, in consequence of failing health, but the regret will be minimised when it is known that his services as a Director will be still available.

The Chigwell Lodge of Instruction will in future meet at the Loughton Tavern, Station Road, Loughton, on Friday evenings, at 7.30, instead of at the Prince's Hall, Buckhurst Hill, as heretofore.

Bro. J. E. Curteis P.P.S.G.W. Devon, owner of the Yacht "Talisman," 99 tons, and the celebrated twenty-tonner "Quickstep," has been unanimously elected Rear Commodore of the Plymouth Corinthian Yacht Club. Lord Francis Cecil is Commodore, and Mr. N. S. Kelly Vice-Commodore.

The following Festivals have been lately held at the Freemasons' Tavern:—

March 10th—Veglioni of the Italian Colony Club, St. George and Corner Stone Lodge, University Chapter; 11th—Swallow Bicycle Club Ball, St. James's Union Lodge, Urban Lodge; 12th—North of Thames Licensed Victuallers' Ball, United Lodge, London and Galway Association; 13th—Holborn Cricket Club Ball, Rose of Sharon Chapter, Polish National Lodge, Lodge of Regularity, St. George's Chapter; 14th—Quadrant Ball, Britannic Lodge, Bedford Lodge, Eclectic; 15th—Batchelors' Ball.

March 17th—St. Patrick's Festival; Grand Master's Lodge; British Lodge; Royal Albert Lodge. 18th—Cadogan Lodge; British Home for Incurables; Salisbury Lodge. 19th—Hackney Carriage Proprietors' Association; Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers; Grand Stewards' Lodge; Oak Lodge; Buckingham and Chandos Lodge; Nover Magus; Licensed Victuallers. 20th—Old Acquaintance Musical Society; Linnæan Club; St. Mary's Lodge; Universal Lodge; Globe Lodge; Great Northern Lodge. 21st—Jordan Lodge; Sunday Society Ball; Highland Society.

REVIEWS.

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

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South Australia: its History, Productions, and Natural Resources. By J. H. Stow. Written for the Calcutta Exhibition by request of the South Australian Government. Adelaide: E. Spiller, Government Printer, North Terrace. 1883.

Most people have some general knowledge of the amazing progress which has been made by our different Australian colonies since their establishment. They know, for instance, that what, speaking of course comparatively, were only a few years since mere penal settlements or unknown country, are now thriving communities, with resources capable of almost infinite development. But how this progress has been attained can only be gathered from such a work as this, which gives an elaborate history of one of the said colonies—that of South Australia—throughout its whole career. And it is probable that the task of writing such a history could not in the case of this particular colony have been entrusted to better hands. Mr. Stow speaks in his modest preface of having been a resident in the colony for over forty years, in the course of which he has accumulated a large store of material. He has had access to all the best authorities, and having been invited by the Government to undertake the work, he has very naturally received every possible assistance in his labours from the different departments of the public service. That this experience and these facilities have been turned to the very best account a glance at a few pages here and there will serve to show, but the work could not have been done as it is had not Mr. Stow possessed a special fitness for the duty entrusted to him. A man may possess a good deal of knowledge and enjoy exceptional facilities for increasing it, but, in order to impart that knowledge to others, he must exhibit a great variety of qualities, among which tact, discrimination, and method are certainly not the least important, and these are shown to great advantage by Mr. Stow in every part of his history. The earlier chapters contain a full and sufficient sketch of the colony. Then follow particulars as to the constitution, the capital, the agricultural, mineral, and commercial resources of the country, the climate, the religious and educational institutions, public works, the Aborigines, the fauna and flora, &c. &c. These are supplemented by a mass of statistical matter relating to the whole of the Australian colonies, and by a number of maps, illustrating the political and physical geography of this important section of the British Empire. The style in which the history is written is admirable for its clearness and lucidity, as well as for its independence of all party politics, so that even from our somewhat limited acquaintance with its contents—a careful and conscientious study of them would require more time than we can well spare—we have no hesitation in recommending Mr. Stow's work to the attention of our readers.

ROYAL ARCH.

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Grove Chapter, No. 410.—This Chapter held its last meeting for the present season, on Saturday, 8th inst., at the Swan Hotel, Leatherhead, under the presidency of M.E. Comp. G. D. Lister. The installation of the Third Principal, Comp. Charlton, who telegraphed his arrival at Malta—on his return from the Antipodes—had again to be postponed. Congratulations were offered to the M.E.Z. Comp. Lister, as also to Comp. C. Greenwood Prov. Grand Scribe Surrey, for the energetic way in which they had again brought the affairs of the Chapter to a useful and satisfactory ending, notwithstanding the trouble resulting from the nomadic position of their *locus in quo*. The adjournment to November next was made with regret by all present. An excellent banquet was done justice to at the end of the proceedings.

Torbay Chapter, No. 1358.—At the annual meeting, held in the Masonic Hall, Paignton, the Companions invested as Officers for the ensuing year were Ex-Companion F. Palk Z., Ex-Companion Alexander H., Ex-Companion Jarman J., Ex-Companion Searle Prov. Grand Prin. Soj. I.P.Z.; Ex-Companions Bradford S.E., Emmett S.N., W. H. Goodridge Prin. Soj., Marley Treasurer, Eastley 1st Assistant Soj., Cuming 2nd Assistant Soj., Toyer Janitor.

Comp. T. G. Fisher will be installed M.E.Z. of the Eccleston Chapter, No. 1624, on Wednesday, the 26th inst. The ceremony is to be performed by Comp. Vincent P.Z.

A Convocation of the North London Chapter of Improvement was held on Thursday, at eight o'clock, at the Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury. Comps. Hunter filled the chair of Z., Holness H., and Hubbard J.; Comp. G. W. Knight was the S.N., and Comp. Radcliffe the P.S. Comp. John Evans Sheffield is the Scribe E. of this Chapter of Improvement.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS combine both sanative and sanative powers, in a high degree—by the former term is understood their ability to preserve health, by the latter their capability to restore health. With these remedies at hand no invalid need be at fault to guide himself or herself through the many trials to which every one is subjected during our long and oft-times inclement winter. Coughs, colds, ulcerated throats, whooping cough, can be successfully treated by rubbing this ointment upon the chest, and by taking the pills (during damp, foggy weather, asthmatical sufferers will experience the utmost possible relief from the inunction of the ointment, and all tender-chested persons will save endless misery by adopting this treatment.

LEICESTER UNION LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

THE annual festival of this Lodge (formed by the union of the St. John's Lodge, No. 279, John O'Gaunt's Lodge, No. 523, Commercial Lodge, No. 1391, and the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1560, under the joint Preceptorship of W. Bros. S. Cleaver P.M. 279 P.G.S.D., J. T. Thorpe P.M. 523 P.S.G.W., Edward Watson W.M. 1391 P.G.J.D., and Miles J. Walker P.M. 1265), was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester, on the 14th inst., under the presidency of the R.W. Bro. William Kelly, F.S.A., F.R. Hist. Society, P.P. Grand Master for Leicestershire. The attendance was large, and included, in addition to the above-named, and amongst others, the following brethren:—W. Bros. Geo. Toller jun. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, S. S. Partridge P.G.Sec., Joseph Young Past Grand Director of Ceremonies, C. Gurdin P.G. Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Clement E. Stretton, Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A., Rev. W. A. Langley, M.A., Edward Mason, R. Michie, &c. &c. The Lodge was opened in the first degree by the R.W. Bro. Kelly P.P.G.M. at six o'clock, the acting Officers being the following brethren:—J. L. West as S.W., J. W. Willson J.W., J. B. Waring S.D., R. B. Starkey J.D., Geo. Jessop I.G. The minutes of the last Lodge were read by Bro. E. P. Steeds the Secretary, and confirmed. W. Bro. Edward Watson was appointed Installing Officer for the next Lodge, and Bro. J. L. West as acting W.M., after which the R.W. Bro. Kelly briefly introduced W. Bro. James Stevens, of London, P.M. P.Z., who had been specially invited to deliver his lecture, entitled "Knobs and Excrecences," explanatory of the Rituals and Ceremonies of the First Degree, and referred to his pleasing acquaintance with Bro. Stevens, which was formed at Leicester many years ago. Bro. Stevens, after a few preface remarks on the desirability of unity of working the ceremonials of the Craft, proceeded with his lecture, which was listened to with great attention for over two hours. The able and eloquent lecturer commenced with the opening of the Lodge, and continued through the whole ceremony of initiation, explaining many points of interest, showing divergencies in the rituals as practised by different Lodges, and giving good and substantial reasons for correcting fallacies therein. At the conclusion of the lecture, W. B. Geo. Toller jun. Deputy P.G.M., alluded to the pleasure he had derived from listening to the able exposition by the lecturer of the many interesting points on which he had treated, and approved of the great desirability of uniformity in working as suggested by the lecturer, and considered that the lecture should be heard by the Craft generally. W. Bro. Preceptor Thorpe P.G.S.W., in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, expressed his gratification at the slight divergence of working in the Leicester Province from the ideal depicted by Bro. Stevens, and stated he should treasure for consideration many valuable suggestions which had been made. W. Bro. Rev. C. H. Wood, late a Preceptor of the Lodge, seconded the complimentary vote of thanks, regretting that time would not permit of many interesting inquiries being then pursued, but hoped the brethren would not lose sight of them hereafter. W. Bro. Young P.G.D.C. called attention to several matters of minor importance, in which the working in the Province varied from that aimed at by the lecturer. He was, however, gratified to find that the working in the Leicester Lodges was so near perfection. W. Bro. Preceptor Cleaver said that after the intense pleasure he had experienced he felt bound to corroborate the previous remarks as to the similarity between the working in the Leicester Province and the Ritual as exemplified by the talented lecturer, whom he trusted the brethren would have the pleasure of hearing on more than one occasion in Leicester. The vote was carried by acclamation, and Bro. Stevens, in responding, said he felt amply repaid for the little service he had rendered by the enthusiasm displayed, and expressed his intention of not failing to again visit Leicester and give further illustrations of his views as to the second and third degrees, on which he had for some time been engaged. In conclusion, the lecturer presented to the Lodge a Chart of the Lodges in England and Wales, and stated that he had Freemasonry so much at heart that he would willingly visit any Lodge desiring to have the information and explanation which his lecture afforded. On the Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the magnificent banquetting-room connected with the Hall, where supper was served under the presidency of W. Bro. Edward Watson, at the close of which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.

INAUGURATION OF THE COBORN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

ON Monday, the 17th instant, the first meeting of this Lodge was held at the Eagle Hotel, Snaresbrook, when nearly 100 brethren assembled to hear the ceremony of consecration rehearsed by Brother James Terry, the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and to witness the installation of Bro. Logan, of Bow, as W.M. by Bro. William Clarke, a Past Officer of Grand Lodge. This Lodge of Instruction is in connection with the Coborn Lodge, which meets at the Bow Vestry Hall; it has been formed by the exertions of Bro. Charles J. R. Tijou, the acting Secretary of the Coborn Lodge. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. G. A. Haynes, H. B. Forbes, A. Souch, A. Peterken, H. Wheatley, J. T. Robey, Dr. Porter, and J. Knight, from Bow; L. Potts, T. L. Kennett, W. C. Young, H. J. Hancock, and J. T. Austen, from Poplar. The ceremonies were rehearsed in a masterly manner, and were made more attractive by the able singing of a choir and the brethren, under the direction of Bro. W. Graves Organist. The hymns were set to tunes selected from the Ancient and Modern Hymnal, and the Anthems were specially composed by the Organist. Bro. Logan was installed as W.M., Bros. Robey, Peterken, Tijou, and Souch being appointed to the subordinate offices. Bro. Tijou, the Treasurer, in proposing a vote of thanks to Bros. Terry and Clarke for their assistance, expressed the pleasure experienced by those present in hearing the work rehearsed so well. Bro. Terry, in reply, said that he was very glad to accept the invitation to attend, as he had the interest of the Coborn Lodge at heart,

having a few years since consecrated it, by command of the Grand Master His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and he was gratified to find that the brethren of the neighbourhood had mustered in such force. After Lodge was closed, the brethren partook of supper, at the conclusion of which the usual Loyal toasts were well received. Bro. Clarke proposed success to the Coborn Lodge of Instruction, coupled with Bro. Charles J. R. Tijou Treasurer, who must be congratulated at the success of his labours in thus launching his new work. A few other toasts followed, and the brethren returned to town by the last train.

THE CHARGE OF THE "BLUE" BRIGADE.

Wednesday, 5th March 1884.

Half a step, half a step,
Half a step, onward,
All through the ante-room,
Pressed the Six Hundred.
"Forward, the 'Blue' Brigade!
Charge for the keys," they said:
Into the vestibule
Strode the Six Hundred.

"Forward, the Blue Brigade!"
Was there a hot tirade?
Not tho' the "huge mob" knew
The "purple" had blunder'd:
Theirs not to deign reply,
Theirs not to stultify,
Theirs but to reason why:
Into Freemasons' Hall
Strode the Six Hundred.

Collars to right of them,
Collars to left of them,
Collars in front of them,
Dazzled, unnumber'd;
Seats all fill'd up so well,
Boldly they came pell mell;
Till, with no pause for breath,
Eager the ranks to swell,
Stood some Three Hundred.

Flashed all their jewels rare,
Flashed their white gloves in air,
Scaring the "big guns" there,
Charging a caucus, while
All the "churls" wonder'd:
"Marshall" the name they spoke,
Ground to the right they broke,
Faction and renegade
Reeled from the scathing stroke
Scatter'd and sunder'd.
Then they strode back, but not,
Not the Six Hundred.

Craftsmen to right of them,
Craftsmen to left of them,
Craftsmen behind them,
Shouted and thunder'd;
Stormed at with scoff and yell,
While hoarse, as all can tell,
They that had done so well,
Came, after pause for breath,
Back from the wrestling spell,
All who'd not left, of them—
Left of Six Hundred.

When can their vict'ry fade?
Oh! the grand change they made!
All the Craft wonder'd.
Honour the charge they made,
Honour the principle saved,
Loyal Six Hundred!

N. B. HEADON.

Obituary. *Smart*

The funeral of the late Bro. Samuel Smart took place at Kensal Green Cemetery, on Friday last, the 14th inst. Through some slight misunderstanding as to the time fixed for the obsequies, there were not present so many members of the Craft as had been anticipated, but amongst those who attended we may mention Bros. F. C. Frye W.M. 1642, I. Bartle S.W., J. Woodmason J.W., S. H. Parkhouse P.M., W. Buckland S.D., C. H. Wood J.D., Schofield Tyler, J. French, Adkins P.M., G. Davis, W. Frye, J. Flood, Mote, H. Dehane, Capt. A. Nicols, A. Hardy, Dr. Pocock, D. Gillingham, E. M. Lander P.M., E. Rogers, D. Stroud, J. Linscott, W. R. Hatton, C. Webster, George Penn P.M., T. C. Edmonds, H. Taylor, J. Frye, P. Monson, J. Williams, Handover sen., Handover jun., W. H. Wadham; also Messrs. Butts, White and Pearson. Our late brother Smart was a most estimable man, and was held in the highest respect by a very large circle of acquaintance. He was a founder and P.M. of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, and at the time of his death was M.E.Z. of the Earl of Carnarvon Chapter. He was also a member of the Kensington Vestry; member of the Trustees of the Poor of the Parish; member of the Notting Hill Philanthropic Society; and Life Governor of all the Masonic Institutions. The Lodge met last Thursday, the day before the funeral, when all the brethren appeared in Masonic mourning, and the Lodge furniture was draped with black cloth.

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

THE NINETY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of this
Institution will take place
On WEDNESDAY, the 21st MAY next,
UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF THE
RIGHT HON. THE LORD BROOKE, M.P.
R.W. PROV. GRAND MASTER ESSEX.

*** Brethren willing to serve the office of Steward are very greatly
needed; they will much oblige by forwarding their names as early as
possible to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information
required.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

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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; sub-
sequently District Grand Chaplain Westland; and District Grand Treasurer
North Island, New Zealand.

Votes thankfully received by

Mr. C. BECKINGHAM, 415 Strand; or by

Bro. C. J. PERCEVAL (V.P.), 8 Thurloe 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. MANBY, was initiated in the Sincerity
Lodge, No. 292, Liverpool, in 1859, and on his removal to London joined Pru-
dent Brethren Lodge, No. 145, and the Chapter, and continued to be a subscri-
bing 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
Cottage, Oakhill, Bath.

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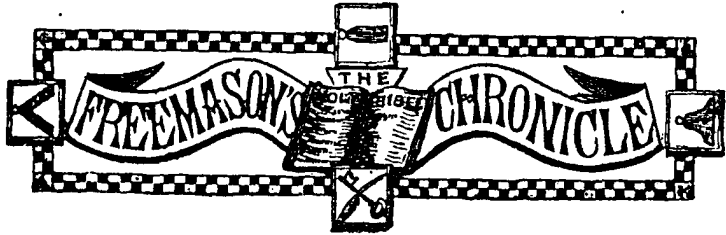
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INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

—:0:—

MERSEY LODGE, No. 477.

THE installation of the W.M. took place at the Masonic Chambers Hamilton-street, on Thursday, 13th instant, when there was crowded attendance. Amongst those present were the following:—Bros. Henry Bulley P.G.S.B. England, James Salmon P.M. 425 P.P.G.S.D., T. Chesworth P.P.G.D.C. 1576, T. H. Tibbs 33 Canada, G. H. Hobson P.M. and P.P.G.C. Chester, W. Knowles W.M. 721, J. R. Curnor 721, J. Humphreys 721, S. W. Ramsden W.M. 425, John Powell 605, F. R. Stevenson P.P.G.S.B., R. Jones Sec. 1276, H. B. Bare W.M. 1289, E. H. Cleve 1576, W. Thorne 1289, J. R. Simm W.M. 605, A. H. Corelli S.W. 1280, L. Ellis P.M. 1289, Owen Jones S.S. 605, T. M. Bleakley Secretary 605, Alfred Fay 1276, William Jones P.M. 1576, J. B. Sparks 1289. The members of the Mersey Lodge included Bros. T. C. Thorburn W.M. elect, W. Bennett, J. T. Thompson, Henry Fairclough, A. Gass, Fred. Thompson, Joseph Brattan P.M., T. Shaw P.M., H. M. Davies, W. Getley, J. Dutt on W. J. Pettibrew, R. Hamilton, W. Lee, H. E. Field, W. Simms, J. W. Shore, George Dicken, George Lloyd, W. H. Forde, A. Bleakley R. Hamilton, Thomas Wynn, C. H. Berry, Isaac Williams, W. Marsden, W. C. Kemp, J. Bell, R. Bell, Joseph Perrin, George West and others. Bro. Thorburn was installed W.M. by Bro. Salmon, o Chester, who performed the duty in a most impressive manner, after which the new W.M. invested his Officers as follows:—Samuel Jones I.P.M., Joseph Brattan P.M. P.P.G. Supt. of Works Cheshire, Samuel Jones P.M., John G. Adams P.M., John Dutton P.M. and Treasurer P.P.G. Sword Bearer Cheshire, Frederick Thompson P.M. and Sec., William Bennett P.M., Arthur K. Gardiner P.M., James T. Thompson P.M., Thomas Shaw P.M. and D.C., Henry Fairclough S.W., Amos A. Gass J.W., Charles Sayer S.D., Thomas H. Davies J.D., Harry E. Field I.G., Alexander Bleakley Steward and Organist. Bro. Holtaway was elected Tyler. The accounts were submitted by Bro. Dutton, showing a balance of £11 in hand, and were passed, after which the members dined together under the presidency of the new W.M., Bro. Berry being the caterer, and a pleasant evening was spent.—*Birkenhead and Cheshire Advertiser*, 15th March.

TEMPLE LODGE, No. 558.

THE members of the above Lodge assembled at the Town Hall, Folkestone, on 4th inst., on the occasion of the annual installation and investiture of Officers. The usual ceremony of installing the Worshipful Master was not a part of the ceremony, inasmuch as Bro. G. Lainsan Hart, who was installed last year, had conducted the business of the Lodge with so much spirit, and it had prospered so remarkably under his very able administration, that the members conferred on him the honour of re-election—an honour which none of his predecessors have ever received in this Lodge. The ceremonies incident to the re-election were conducted by the I.P.M. Bro. W. Francis jun., upwards of 40 brethren being present, and the W.M. then invested the Officers for the ensuing year as follow:—Bros. W. Francis I.P.M., S. Joseph S.W., A. Petts J.W., A. H. Holbein P.M. Treasurer, Jas. Kennett P.M. Secretary, J. Eldridge S.D., G. Flint

J.D., T. J. Harrison I.G., H. S. Roberts Organist, W. Dunk Steward, and Job Baker Tyler. The report of the audit committee was received, showing that after payment of donations amounting to £25 to the Boys' School and the Benevolent Institution, there was still a very considerable balance remaining to the credit of the Lodge. It was amply demonstrated that the Lodge had never during its existence been in such a prosperous condition, and in the course of the past year a very considerable augmentation in the number of members had taken place. At the conclusion of the business the members adjourned to the Pavilion Hotel, where a magnificent banquet was provided by the hosts, Bros. Spurgen and Waite. The W.M. presided, the number present being nearly sixty, among whom were several distinguished visitors, members of the Craft. A very pleasing feature in the proceedings was the presentation to the W.M., by Bros. Christol and Jarrett, of Lodge Amitie, Boulogne-sur-Mer, of a superb bouquet of flowers as a token of friendship and esteem from the members of the Continental Lodge to which they belonged. The usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the speeches being of a more than usual interesting character and exceeding well delivered. After the toast of the Masonic Charities, the bag was passed round, and the sum of £6 collected in aid of the Masonic Institutions. Another very great feature in the evening's proceedings was the excellence of the musical arrangements, which were under the direction of Bro. H. S. Roberts. Contrary to the ordinary practice, professional vocalists were not engaged, but Bros. W. Francis, C. Sheath, and W. Dunk, all exceedingly clever amateurs, rendered such admirable service, that every one was delighted. The success of the banquet was a fitting termination to a year of unprecedented prosperity.

POLISH NATIONAL LODGE, 534.

THE usual meeting of the above-named Lodge was held on Thursday, 13th March, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, under the presidency of Bro. E. T. Smith W.M.; Bros. J. J. Runtz S.W., Bieling J.W., Bryant S.D., Tongue J.D., Gordon I.G., Apsy D.C., Banks Tyler. Bro. Renner, who had been initiated into Freemasonry at the last meeting of the Lodge, having been examined (answering his questions most correctly), was then entrusted, and in due course passed to the second degree, the W.M. performing the ceremony in a most praiseworthy manner. Ballot was then taken for the election of a W.M. to preside over the Lodge during the coming session. This proved to be unanimously in favour of Bro. John Johnson Runtz S.W., who made a few appropriate remarks. Bro. Nowakowski P.M. was again re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Banks Tyler. The election of the Audit Committee then followed, which resulted in the choice of Bros. Devenport, Gellowski and Edrupt. After this it was proposed that a P.M.'s jewel should be presented to the retiring W.M. Bro. E. T. Smith, for the very admirable manner in which he had carried out his duties during his year of office. This was unanimously carried, with applause. All other business being finished, Lodge was closed in the usual manner, and the brethren retired for refreshment: The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts having been honoured, the I.P.M. proposed the health of the retiring W.M., who had so ably presided over the Lodge for the past twelvemonths. A short interval was here very agreeably filled by Bro. Gordon singing "My Sweetheart when a Boy." The W.M. said, it being the last time I shall have the honour of responding to this toast as W.M. of this Lodge, I cannot retire from my chair of office without thanking the brethren for the kindness, sympathy, and indulgence which I have received from every member of the Lodge, from the oldest P.M. to the youngest member. I must also thank the Officers for the assistance they have given me, and the P.M.'s for the manner in which they have supported me, and my most hearty thanks are also given for the kindness of the brethren in having voted me a P.M.'s jewel; I hope that I shall live many years to wear it as a member of the Polish National Lodge; and if at any time any of the younger members require my assistance it shall be most willingly given. The health of the W.M. elect was then proposed; he on rising was greeted with prolonged applause. When this had somewhat abated, Bro. Runtz, after thanking the brethren for their choice, said that there are times when it becomes most difficult to find words to express one's feelings, and that this was one. He had accepted a good many offices during his life, but did not know of one to which he looked forward with so much anxiety as the present one; but he hoped that it would be one of the best years the Lodge had ever experienced, and that he should endeavour to discharge all his duties to the satisfaction of the Lodge. The very unusual fact was noticed that there was only one Visitor—Bro. King P.P.G.O. Kent and Lodge of Sympathy—who responded to the toast of his health. "The Officers" next followed, coupling the name of Bro. Paas Secretary, who said, I assure you that this is one of the most pleasant evenings I have spent in this Lodge, and I have to thank you for proposing my health, especially as it is the last occasion on which I shall have the pleasure of addressing you as Secretary of the Lodge. (Cries of "No, no"). I thank the brethren for their confidence, but feel that my health is failing me, after twenty-five years' service, and that age is creeping upon me, The other Officers also responded. The following P.M.'s were present:—Bros. Lancaster I.P.M., Dr. Jackson, Dr. Jagielski, Rath, Nowakowski (Treasurer), and Paas (Secretary).

HONOR OAK LODGE, No. 1986.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Moore Park Hotel, Honor Oak, on Wednesday, 12th inst. The good repute of the Lodge in respect of its working and position has become generally known during the past, which is also its first, year, and accounted for the excellent attendance of brethren on this important occasion. The Lodge was opened promptly at four o'clock by Bro. Walter Hopekirk P.M. W.M. and his Officers, viz.:—Bros. John Hammond P.M. P.P.G.D. Middlesex S.W., Charles H. Phillips J.W.,

Henry Stokes S.D., J. W. Hartley J.D., Herbert Hooper I.G., A. Darch P.M. acting I.P.M., Rev. J. W. Haffenden Chaplain, Edward Bye Treasurer, H. Maunder Williams Secretary, R. Ralli Johnston Org., G. W. Knight W.S., C. Thomas Tyler. Amongst others present were Bros. James Terry Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and T. C. Walls, hon. members; also Bros. Thomas Latchford, F. Wootton, W. Bartlett, A. F. Crofts, R. Neilans, E. Morday, J. Fuller, J. H. Warstencroft, C. Longhurst, T. Cox, W. H. Simons, J. A. Gilbert, &c. The Visitors were Bros. F. Binokes P.G.S. Sec. R.M.I.B., J. L. Mather P.P.G.D.C. Herts, George Kenning P.M. 1657, James Stevens P.M. 720, 1216, 1426, A. R. Cranch W.M. 1669, Thomas Moody W.M. 1512, W. Ponn P.M. 19, A. Wastcott P.M. 1365, W. Hamlyn W.M. 1622, C. W. Fox P.M. 1326; and Bros. S. F. Hill 1216, E. A. Francis 1658, J. A. Prince 902, J. Clench 453, J. H. Hudipohl 1669, C. A. Mackrell 1723, J. F. Salmon 917, F. Clarkson 1223, and A. W. S. Hoare 763. Lodge having been opened in the three degrees, was resumed to the first, and ballots were taken for Bros. W. Bartlett and W. Cullen as joining members, and for Messrs. W. H. O'Reilly, G. R. Langley, C. E. Pearce and A. Pitman for initiation, all of which proved clear. The four gentlemen approved of being in attendance were then duly initiated into the Order by the W.M. Bro. Hopekirk. Bro. John Hammond S.W. having waived his claim, by rotation of office, to the chair of K.S., the brethren had at the previous meeting unanimously elected the J.W. Bro. Charles Henry Phillips, and by the courtesy of the W.M., Bro. Hammond, as Installing Master, now proceeded to instal that worthy brother as W.M. for the ensuing year. At the request of Bro. Hammond, the duty of D.C. was undertaken by Bro. James Stevens. The interesting ceremony was most ably performed throughout by Bro. Hammond, who completed his work by the delivery of the addresses to Master, Wardens and Brethren, in his customary effective style. The Officers for the year ensuing were appointed and invested, as follow:—Bros. H. Maunder Williams S.W., H. Stokes J.W., Walter Hopekirk Past Master Treasurer, Hammond Immediate Past Master Secretary, Rev. J. W. Haffenden Chaplain, J. W. Hartley Senior Deacon, H. Hooper J.D., G. W. Knight I.G., A. Darch P.M. D.C., Thomas Aldwinke W.S., F. France A.W.S., P. M. Hakim Assistant Secretary, A. F. Crofts jun. Organist, W. H. Simons Assistant Organist, and C. Thomas Tyler. The newly-installed Master addressed each brother on the nature of the duties relating to the office bestowed, and subsequently presented in open Lodge a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, voted by the Lodge, to the outgoing Master, Bro. Hopekirk, who warmly acknowledged the honour thus conferred on him. The thanks of the Lodge were voted to Bro. John Hammond as Installing Master, and Bro. James Stevens as D.C. for their services on this occasion. Propositions for initiation were then received, and all Masonic business being ended, "hearty good wishes" were given, and the Lodge was closed. An admirable selection of music, performed by the talented members of the Lodge choir, gave considerable importance to the installation ceremony, and the services of the same brethren at a subsequent period of the evening also deserve recognition. The banquet which followed labour was excellent and well served, and whether as regarded quality or quantity, reflected great credit on the hostelry of which Bro. Edward Bye is the proprietor. The toast list comprised all usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, and these were introduced by the W.M. with commendable brevity. Members and visitors alike were much pleased with the replies of the several Initiates, which were somewhat out of the common, and testified to the good effect of the initiation ceremony upon their minds. The speeches of Bros. Binckes and Terry, in response to the respective toasts of the Visitors and the Charities were also of great interest, and despite the frequent calls upon the worthy brethren to address Lodges on the same subject, they both found "something new" to descant upon. Several capital songs were sung during the evening; Bro. Stevens held the attention of the brethren whilst reciting his favourite "Level and Square;" and, all too soon, for the inevitable last train for town was due, the Tyler brought to a close a highly successful and enjoyable meeting, worthy of the past twelve months' progress, and bearing promise of grateful renewal in due season.

QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER LODGE, No. 2021.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Red Lion-square, Holborn, on Monday 17th inst., at 4.30 p.m. Bros. G. Lambert P.G.S.B. W.M., Strugnell as S.W., R. Payne J.W., C. Bellerby Treasurer, G. Coop Secretary, H. C. Lambert P.G.P. Herts S.D., Brotheridge as J.D., Alex Jones I.G., Watkin Brown Steward, W. Bayley D.C., T. Bradley Tyler; also Bros. Goldney, Hunt, Merryweather, Canning, Currie, Fowley, Kingdon, A. Payne, Girdlestone, Russell, Gibson, Jordan, Walters, Godfrey, Rowe. The Visitors were Bros. Dewar P.M. 1415, Robert Cross P.M. 198, A. Steng 141 and F. Delevante W.M. 1319. Lodge was opened and the minutes of last Lodge read, confirmed, and duly signed. Lodge was opened in the second degree. Bros. Canning, Hunt and Merryweather having answered the questions, were entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third, and the brethren were duly raised by the W.M. Lodge was resumed to the second. Bros. Kingdon and Payne gave evidence of their proficiency, and having been entrusted, retired. The Lodge was resumed, and they were also raised to the third degree by Bro. P.M. Payne J.W. Lodge was closed in the third, and resumed to the first. Bros. Girdlestone, Fowley, Godfrey, Currie and Russell gave proof of their proficiency. Bros. Rowe, Jordan, Walters and Gibson also answered the questions, and having been entrusted, retired. Lodge was resumed to the second, and those brethren having been duly passed, Lodge was resumed to the first. Several communications having been read, Lodge was closed in ancient and solemn form until Monday, 21st April.

We are compelled to hold over several notices of meetings, &c.

NEW ZEALAND.

THE Provincial Grand Master of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Auckland (Scotch Constitution), Mr. F. A. Whitaker, has been made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. The fact became known in the City of Auckland on the 31st January, and at the regular communication of the P.G. Lodge held on that day, over which the Hon. Sir F. Whitaker presided in his capacity of Provincial Grand Master, occasion was taken to congratulate the R.W. P.G.M. on the honour of Knighthood conferred on him by Her Majesty, and of which intimation had just been received. Brother W. McCallough, who occupied the Junior Warden's chair, said that at the request of the members of the P.G. Lodge, to whose knowledge it had come that Her Majesty the Queen had conferred on the Hon. F. Whitaker, their R.W.P.G.M., the honour of Knighthood, he had to offer the congratulations of the P.G. Lodge. It was a very pleasing duty on his part, a duty which he esteemed an honour. It was a recognition they all thought was richly deserved by their worthy Master, and the gratification of the Lodge was extreme that it had been conferred on him, as they felt it an honour to themselves as well as on such a distinguished member of their Order. They were highly gratified when the Hon. Sir F. Whitaker took the position of first P.G.M., when the P.G. Lodge was instituted six years ago, and they sincerely trusted that he would remain amongst them to occupy his honours and position for many years. It was an honour to Scottish Masonry in the colony when he accepted the position of P.G.M., and the recognition of his eminent services to the colony by his elevation by Her Majesty to the dignity of Knighthood not only had given pleasure and gratification to the members of the Grand Lodge, but to the colonists of New Zealand. It was his pleasing duty to offer to their P.G. Master the hearty congratulations on his Knighthood by Her Majesty. Choir: "God Save the Queen." Brother Dewar, who occupied the Senior Warden's chair, said the brethren in the west heartily reverberated the congratulations offered to their P.G.M. from the south. A formal motion to have the congratulations of the P.G. Lodge recorded on the minutes was put by Bro. Anderson, Substitute Master, who, in doing so, expressed his pleasure as well as that of the members, in joining in the vote that this should be placed on their records. The resolution was unanimously carried. The P.G.M., Sir F. Whitaker, in reply said that for the last six years he had held office as P.G.M. of the Scottish Constitution, and during that time he had received the fullest support and every consideration from the Grand Lodge officers and members. It had now pleased Her Majesty the Queen to confer on him the honour of Knighthood, and whatever he might think of the honour, and whether it was deserved or not, he was greatly pleased that the P.G. Lodge had recognised and congratulated one of their leading men on the honour which had been conferred on him; that apart from all other considerations, when the honour was conferred on a Mason, it was recognised by them. It added greatly to the pleasure he felt on receiving this honour, conferred by Her Majesty, to be thus congratulated by the P.G. Lodge, and he returned them his sincere thanks. There was a very large amount of general business, which was, however, greatly simplified by the fact that the P.G. Secretary, Brother James Slater, had placed in the hands of the members printed reports. These consisted of the Secretary's report for the year, the minutes of the meetings held during the year, and the annual balance-sheet. These were prepared with great care and scrupulous exactness. The worthy Secretary was on all sides warmly congratulated on the successful and intelligible manner in which these facts had been collated and presented to the members. The following Officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Bros. R. Kay P.G. Treasurer, Powles S.D., H. Ellis J.D., Hutchins Director of Ceremonies, Wilkinson and Luxford Marshals, J. M. McLaren Architect, Roberts Jeweller, Symons Bible Bearer, Briggs Standard Bearer, Dr. Walker Dance Music. Bros. Greenaway President of Grand Stewards, Forgie V.P., Bulford I.G., Tonge Tyler. The principal Officers of course retain their position.

The Consecration of the Richmond Lodge, No. 2032, will take place on Tuesday next, the 25th instant. The ceremony will be performed by V.W. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke P.G.D. Grand Secretary Grand Lodge England, at the Station Hotel, Richmond. Bro. Clerke will be assisted by Brothers Robert Grey P.G.D. as Senior Warden, W. T. Howe P.G.P. as Junior Warden, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford P.G. Chaplain as Chaplain, Frank Richardson P.G.D. as Director of Ceremonies.

NEW GARDENING BOOK.—We hear that, under the title of "The Illustrated Dictionary of Gardening," a most elaborate work on gardening is about to be issued in serial form. It is to be in the popular and convenient form of a dictionary, and will give particulars of, and cultural directions for, all garden plants, including annuals, biennials, and perennials (both flowering and foliage), bulbs, shrubs, trees, and other subjects for the open border; fruit, vegetables, and herbs; greenhouse, hothouse, and stove plants of all kinds, including ferns, orchids, cacti and other succulents, and palms; and information as to the various garden structures and implements, manures, soils, insecticides, and other requisites. Between 1500 and 2000 illustrations will be given, the publishers recognising the fact that an illustration is of the greatest service in making clear the description of a plant. The first part of the Dictionary is to be issued this week.

The Revised Book of Constitutions; Critically Considered and Compared with the Old Edition. London: Simpkin, Marshall & Co., 4 Stationers' Hall Court, E.C. Sent on receipt of stamps, One Shilling, by W. W. Morgan, Freemason's Chronicle Office, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville

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.

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SATURDAY, 22nd MARCH.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1297—West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
 1364—Earl of Zeland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1679—Henry Mugeridge, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.
 1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 1464—Erasmus Wilson, Pier Hotel, Greenhitho
 1777—Royal Hanover, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
 1982—Greenwood, Public Hall, Epsom

MONDAY, 24th MARCH.

- 4—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 26—Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 28—Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 183—Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, E.C.
 648—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 905—De Grey and Ripon, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1425—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington, at 8 (In.)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In)
 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Fox and Hounds, Putney, at 8. (Instruction)
 1608—Kilburn, Queen's Arms Hotel, Kilburn
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Clarence Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C., at 7 (Inst.)
 1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel Mile End Road, corner of Burdett Road. (Inst.)
 1632—Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1828—Shepherds Bush, Athenaeum, Goldhawk-road, W.

- R.A. 25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 188—Joppa, The Albion, Aldersgate Street
 R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1237—Enfield, Court House, Enfield
 M.M. 5—Mallet and Chisel, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge

- 49—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 899—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1894—Herschell, Masonic Rooms, Slough

- R.A. 241—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham
 M.M.—The Old York, Masonic Hall, Bradford

TUESDAY, 25th MARCH.

- 14—Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.
 56—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 92—Moira, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 141—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 141—Faith, Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's Gate, St. James's Park Station, at 8. (Instruction)
 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 186—Industry, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 259—Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 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)
 860—Dalbousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
 1158—Southern Star, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
 1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (In.)
 1348—Ebury, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, W.
 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)
 1441—Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road
 1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermy-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)
 1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Queen's Head, Essex Road, N., at 8. (In)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
 1719—Evening Star, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1744—Royal Savoy, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1940—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)

- Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30
 R.A.—Camden, The Boston, Junction Road, Holloway, at 8 (Instruction)
 R.A. 21—Cyrus, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 R.A. 228—United Strength, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street
 R.A. 1275—Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich

- 24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle, .30 (In)
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
 299—Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
 310—Unions, Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street, Carlisle
 573—Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Hales Owen
 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1358—Torbay, Town Hall, Plaignton
 1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans
 1566—Ellington, Town Hall, Maidenhead
 1579—Dramatic, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1936—St. Cecilia, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 1675—Ancient Briton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool

- R.A. 103—Beanfort, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 124—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham
 R.A. 721—Grosvenor, Masonic-chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
 R.A. 815—Blair, Town Hall, Hulme, Manchester

- R.A. 1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 K.T.—Plains of Tabor, Swan Hotel, Colne

WEDNESDAY, 26th MARCH.

- 2—Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 15—Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Windsor Castle, Southwark Bridge Road, at 8. (Inst)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 212—Euphrates, Masonic Hall, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street, E.C.
 229—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 539—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood
 754—High Cross, Seven Sisters' Tavern, Page Green, Tottenham
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 913—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 863—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 898—Temperance in the East, 6 Newby Place, Poplar
 902—Burgoyne, Victoria Hotel, Farringdon Road, at 7. (Instruction)
 1017—Montefiore, Regent Masonic Hall, Air Street, W.
 1056—Victoria, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 518 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst)
 1589—St. Dunstan's, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 1604—Wanderers, Adam and Eve Tavern, Palmer St., Westminster, at 7.30 (In)
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1681—Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Instruct)
 1768—Progress, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 1818—Clapham, Grosvenor Hotel, Victoria Station
 1820—Sir Thomas White, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)

- R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 R.A. 435—Mount Lebanon, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 R.A. 907—Royal Albert, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch Lane
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)
 R.C.—St. Andrew, Cafe Royal, Regent Street, W

- 32—St. George, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 117—Salopian of Charity, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury
 163—Integrity, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 220—Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 439—Scientific, Masonic Room, Bingley
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
 996—Sondes, Eagle Hotel, East Dereham, Norfolk

- 1030—St John, George Hotel, Lichfield
 1063—Townley Parker, Mosley Hotel, Beswick, near Manchester
 1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby (Instruction)
 1119—St. Bede, Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow
 1219—Strangeways, Empire Hotel, Strangeways, Manchester
 1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
 1283—Ryburn, Central-buildings, Town Hall-street, Sowerby Bridge
 1392—Egerton, Stanley Arms Hotel, Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1633—Avon, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1638—Brownrigg, Sun Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, at 8. (Instruction)
 1723—St. George, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square, Bolton
 1953—Prudence and Industry, George Hotel, Chard, Somersetshire
 1967—Beacon Court, Ghuznee Fort Hotel, New Brompton, Kent

- R.A. 225—St. Luke's, Freemasons' Hall, Soane Street, Ipswich
 R.A. 226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough
 R.A. 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 R.A. 605—De Tabley, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead
 R.A. 606—Segontium, Carnarvon Castle, Carnarvon
 M.M.—Howe, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 M.M.—Northumberland and Berwick, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 M.M. 174—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham

THURSDAY, 27th MARCH.

- General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 10—Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 22—Neptune, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 34—Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 66—Grenadiers', Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 99—Shakespeare, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
 861—Finsbury, London Tavern, Fenchurch-street
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1185—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1227—Upton, Swan, Bethnal Green-road, near Shoreditch, at 8 (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In)
 1614—Covent Garden, Cranbourne, 1 Up. St. Martin's Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1658—Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C., at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1816—Victoria Park, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park Road
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)

- R.A. 5—St. George's, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)

- M.M. 13—Hiram, Greyhound, Richmond
 M.M. 118—Northumberland, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street

- 51—Angel, Three Cups, Colchester
 78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire
 111—Restoration, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 286—Samaritan, Green Man Hotel, Bacup
 348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 651—Brecknock, Castle Hotel, Brecon
 784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal
 807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham
 935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 966—St. Edward, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford
 1313—Fermor, Masonic Hall, Southport, Lancashire
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer Street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)

1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, nr Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1892—Wallington, King's Arms Hotel, Carshalton. (Instruction)
 R.A. 57—Humber, Freemasons' Hall, Hull
 R.A. 292—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 303—Benevolent, Holland's Road East, Teignmouth
 R.A. 394—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Albion Terrace, Southampton
 R.A. 442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough
 R.A. 732—Royal Sussex, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 R.A. 1037—Portland, Masonic Hall, Portland, Dorset
 M.M. 32—Union, Freemason's Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 K.T. 8—Plains of Mamre, Bull Hotel, Burnley
 K.T. 34—Albert, Masonic Rooms, 23 Ann-street, Rochdale

FRIDAY, 28th MARCH.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc.
 60—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 107—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruc.)
 569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, E.C.
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8 (In.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall, N.
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbrooke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 R.A.—Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 65—Prosperity Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall St.
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 K.T. 26—Faith and Fidelity, Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.
 453—Chigwell, Loughton Tavern, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30 (Inst)
 810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton
 1303—Pelham, Freemasons' Hall, Lewes
 1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion, Barnet
 1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1621—Castle, Crown Hotel, Bridgnorth
 1712—St. John, Freemasons Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
 1821—Atlingworth, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A. 61—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's Place, Halifax
 R.A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 R.A. 242—Magdalen, Guildhall, Doncaster
 R.A. 471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock Street, Newport, Monmouthshire
 R.A. 897—Loyalty, Masonic Buildings, Hall Street, St. Helens
 R.A. 945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chambers, Abingdon
 R.A. 1086—Walton, Skelmerdales Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 K.T. 20—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 29th MARCH.

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)
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1706—Orpheus, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel Penistone

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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TRANQUILLITY LODGE, No. 185.

A MEETING of this Lodge was held on the 17th instant, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C., Bro. Solomon Barnett W.M. in the chair. There were also present Bros. A. E. Staley I.P.M., Boaz S.W., Peartree J.W., W. D. Bailey P.M. Treasurer, A. Myers Sec., H. Tipper I.G., P.M.'s J. Croaker, J. Ross, T. W. C. Bush, J. D. Barnett, N. Gluckstein, E. Gottheil, and others. During the evening Bros. David and Michael Walter were raised to the third degree, and Bros. Thompson, Loebel, and Baeobenbacher were passed to that of Fellow Craft. The sum of £10 10s was voted on the list of Bro. J. Croaker P.M., who will represent the Lodge at the coming Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. After ample refreshment the usual toasts were given and responded to, the remarks on all sides being distinguished by commendable brevity. Bro. Captain Nicols P.M. of 1974 took occasion to say that in a Masonic career of upwards of five-and-twenty years—during which time he had travelled in many countries, both in Europe and elsewhere—he could state without flattery that nowhere was his welcome more heartily cordial than among brethren of the Jewish persuasion. He had visited the Lodge of Tranquillity before, and had on that occasion made a similar statement. His appreciation of the kindnesses he had everywhere received from Jewish brethren was however so strong, that he thought it a pleasure to tell the same story on every opportunity. He would only add that it had been his lot during a quarter of a century to listen to many able and talented Masters, and could assert that few surpassed the present W.M. in the manner in which the ceremonies were performed that evening. Bro. Staley, in giving the health of the W.M., endorsed the opinion of the foregoing speaker. Bro. Algernon Sydney, one of the oldest Past Masters, replying for the P.M.'s, said, although he did but seldom visit the Lodge, yet his heart was always with them. He was delighted to observe the great prosperity of the Lodge, whose prestige was well maintained by the number and high respectability of the members. Songs by Bros. Reeves, Thompson, Bailey, Heines, and J. D. Barnett enlivened the proceedings, and after the Tyler's toast the brethren separated at an unusually early hour.

HENGIST LODGE, No. 195.

THE usual monthly meeting, held at Bournemouth on 6th inst., was unusually well attended by the members, who were favoured with the presence of several visiting brethren; the attraction, in addition to the ceremony of raising, being the presentation of a very handsome Past Master's jewel to Worshipful Bro. W. Merson, subscribed for by the brethren, as a recognition of his great services to the Lodge, especially during the two years which he had occupied the responsible position of Master of the Lodge. The presentation was made in a very happy speech by Worshipful Bro. J. Drnitt jun., and at the conclusion of the business the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, spending the remainder of the evening in a very pleasant manner.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE, No. 242.

THE consecration and dedication of the Nether Hall took place on the 7th inst., by Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., P.M. P.P.G.W. D.P.G.M., and Senior Grand Deacon of England, in the presence of about 60 members of the Provincial Grand Lodge. After the usual ceremonial the D.P.G.M. delivered an oration, in which he gave a *résumé* of the History of Freemasonry, showing considerable research, and making special reference to the History of the St. George's Lodge and its continued existence for 104 years without any incident to mar its prestige, or the good feeling which has during the whole time existed between the Lodge and the Mayor and Corporation of Doncaster. In concluding Bro. Tew thanked the members of the Lodge for their hearty welcome and for the care bestowed on all the details connected with such an important and beautiful ceremony, and on behalf of Sir Henry Edwards Provincial Grand Master. He looked upon this day as strengthening the bond of union between the Lodge of his native town and the Provincial Grand Lodge of which he had the honour to be Deputy Grand Master. The proceedings concluded with the singing of the anthem "Hail! Masonry sublime."

NEW FOREST LODGE, No. 319.

THE monthly meeting of the Officers and brethren of this Lodge was held at the Bugle Hotel, Lymington, on Tuesday, 11th inst., when there was the usual attendance, including visitors from Southampton, &c. The impressive ceremonies of the day were ably performed by the W.M. Bro. J. P. Rawlins, on the conclusion of which the brethren adjourned to a banquet provided by Bro. S. Dore P.M., and spent a friendly and Masonic evening together, the company separating between seven and eight o'clock.

SPHINX LODGE, No. 1329.

THE regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, on Saturday afternoon, 15th inst. There were present the following Officers, namely, Bros. Middlemas W.M., Dr. Gross S.W., J. J. Brinton J.W., G. Marsden S.D., J. D. Voisey J.D., J. G. Herneman I.G., C. Wilson Secretary, J. C. Reynolds Treasurer, and Bros. Forbes and Gooding Stewards; P.M.'s J. Sugden, H. Bickerstaff, B. R. Bryant, B. Lyon, G. Bickerton; also Bro. D. Mercer, F. G. Lewin, H. S. Bigg, C. Lye, A. Rammage, W. Andrews, J. Arnold, G. J. Allen, H. Chabot, W. J. Brookes and R. Storey. The Visitors were Bros. W. Briant 1641, J. E. Kettlewhite 1641, W. Trewharst 1728, W. Whitely 1513, and R. Brown 1558. Lodge was opened in due form punctually at the hour named on the agenda. Afterwards the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Then followed the reading of the report of the Committee appointed at the preceding meeting in reference to the emendation of the Bye-laws. This Committee recommended that the initiation and joining fees should be seven guineas, and that a member being in arrears twelve months shall be disqualified and his name erased. Moreover, that July shall be one of the months in which a regular meeting shall be held. The fee of seven guineas shall include the certificate and registry fee payable to Grand Lodge. An animated discussion ensued upon all points recommended by the Committee; eventually, however, their report was received and adopted. The W.M. then vacated the chair, which was occupied by Bro. Mercer W.M. of the Crichton Lodge, as, by fiat of the W.M., Bro. Thomas Edmund Kettlewhite, of 1641, was to be passed. This ceremony was gone through by the Brethren of these respective Lodges conjointly, and most effectively. This is the second time that this reciprocity of "Brotherly Love" has been manifested on emergency in this Lodge in reference to the Crichton Lodge. The Lodge was then closed in due form, and the Brethren adjourned to an adjoining room to partake of "refreshment after labour." On the removal of the cloth the W.M. introduced the usual toasts; that of the W.M., the Past Masters, Visitors, and Officers followed, and responses were made. The catering of Bro. Slawson, under the supervision of Stewards Forbes and Gooding, was justly praised. The lack of proper ventilation notwithstanding, a most agreeable evening was spent.

HIGHGATE LODGE, No. 1366.

AT a regular meeting of the above Lodge, on Monday, the 10th, at the Gate House Hotel, Highgate, there were present Bros. W. B. Trick W.M., Underwood S.W., B. L. Wilson J.W., Sheppard S.D., Galer J.D., Gregory I.G., Marsh Tyler, and J. D. Collier Secretary; also Past Masters Cussans, Davies, Fish, Hamberger, Shelton, and Ryde, and a large muster of the brethren. The work comprised the first and second degrees, which was performed in a very efficient manner by the W.M., who was ably supported

by his Officers. The W.M. having returned thanks to the Lodge and brethren for the way in which he had been supported by them in acting as Steward for the Old People, intimated that it would give him great pleasure to represent them again on the occasion of the Boys' Festival, it being his intention to act as Steward for that Institution. The brethren and Visitors (of whom there were a good number) afterwards sat down to a very excellent banquet, which was served in the good old style of this ancient hostelry. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Most Worshipful Grand Master the Prince of Wales, expressed the pleasure it gave him to do so, especially on this occasion, it being the twenty-first anniversary of his Royal Highness's wedding day. A telegram was forwarded during the evening to Marlborough House from the W.M. and brethren, congratulating his Royal Highness on the happy recurrence, to which the following reply was received:—

From A. Cookerell, Marlborough House, to W. B. Trick W.M.
Highgate Lodge.

The Prince and Princess return thanks for your kind congratulations on their wedding day.

The remainder of the Masonic toasts having been given, and duly responded to, the brethren separated after having spent a delightful evening.

Kent Lodge of Instruction, No. 15.—Held at Bro. Serjeant's, the King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E., on the 19th inst. Present—Bros. Serjeant W.M., Gieseke S.W., Clark J.W., Patrick acting Preceptor, Legge S.D., Kramm I.G., Millington Secretary, Stroud, &c. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Stroud candidate. Bro. Stroud answered the questions in due course, and was entrusted. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Lodge was resumed to the first degree, when Bro. Patrick worked the first section of the first lecture, assisted by the Brethren. Bro. Gieseke was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

Justice Lodge of Instruction, No. 147.—Held at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, on Thursday, 13th March. Bros. R. Stringer W.M., Greener S.W., Penrose J.W., Banks Treasurer, S. R. Speight P.M. Secretary, Thomas S.D., Fisher J.D., Ingram I.G.; P.M.'s Hutchings (Preceptor), E. Good; also Bros. Catt, J. J. Pitt and Emblin. After preliminaries, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Catt personating the candidate. Lodge was then advanced to the third degree and called off. On resuming, the brethren severally saluted the W.M. in the three degrees. Lodge was then closed to the first degree, and Bro. Greener was elected as W.M. for the ensuing Thursday.

On 20th inst. Bros. B. R. Banks W.M., Stringer S.W., Penrose J.W., S. R. Speight P.M. Secretary, Fisher S.D., Catt J.D., Smith I.G. Past Masters Bros. Hutchings Preceptor, Good, Ingram. Bros. J. Bedford Williams, Greener, H. C. Freeman. After all formalities had been complied with, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. J. Bedford Williams being the candidate. Lodge was called off; on resuming, entry drill was practised. Lodge was closed in the third. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Greener candidate. Bro. Stringer was elected W.M. for the first Thursday in April, and then Lodge was closed.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—At the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., on Saturday, 8th instant. Bros. Hirst W.M., Moss S.W., Gellen J.W., Fenner S.D., Turner J.D., Woolveridge I.G., Cohen Preceptor, Galer Secretary; also Bros. Powell, Robinson, Archer, B. Robinson, Payne, C. Woolveridge, Ashton and Weedon. After preliminaries, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Ashton candidate. Bro. Fenner was presented as W.M. elect, and took the obligation. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of installation was ably rehearsed. Bro. Moss gave the lecture on the first tracing board, which was much appreciated by the brethren. Bro. Cohen worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by Bro. Ashton. Lodge was resumed to the second, and Bro. Moss worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bro. C. Woolveridge, of the Burgoyne Lodge, was elected a member. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Hirst for his rehearsal of the ceremony of installation. Nothing further having offered for the good of Freemasonry, Lodge was closed.

On the 15th inst. there were present Bros. Gellen W.M., Turner S.W., Harding J.W., Cross S.D., Parker J.D., Woolveridge I.G., Percy acting Preceptor, Galer Secretary; also Bros. Powell, Ashton, Richardson, Giller, Fenner, Williams, Recknell, Gregory, Leber, Ketterick. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Lodge opened in the second degree, and Bro. Ashton having offered himself candidate, was examined and entrusted. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. Bro. Fenner worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge closed in the third and second degrees. Bro. Turner was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Nothing further having offered for the good of Freemasonry, Lodge was closed, and adjourned to Saturday, 22nd instant.

New Concord Lodge of Instruction, No. 813.—On Wednesday, 12th inst., at the Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, Bro. Lone occupied the chair; Bros. Turner S.W., Ashton J.W., P.M. Cusworth Preceptor, F. Perl Sec., Smith S.D., Langdale J.D., Ferrar I.G., P.M. Braine; and others. Lodge having been duly opened, the W.M. proceeded to rehearse the initiation ceremony, Bro. Perl acting as candidate. Bro. Perl then proved himself efficient to be passed, and was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. Lodge was then opened in the third, and closed in the three degrees.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, 18th inst., at the Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road,

Dalston. Bros. Robinson W.M., Smyth S.W., T. Clark J.W., F. Carr Secretary, Watkinson S.D., Baker J.D., O'Donnell I.G.; P.M. Bro. Brasted acting Preceptor; Bros. Christian and Lorkin. The work of the evening comprised the rehearsal of the ceremony of the third degree. Bro. Baker candidate, the W.M. giving the traditional history, Bro. Lorkin worked the third section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was regularly closed to the first degree, when Bro. Smyth was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Lodge was closed, and adjourned.

Islington Lodge of Instruction, No. 1471.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, 18th March, at the Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street. Present—Brothers W. Winnett W.M., Shurmer S.W., G. Ousey J.W., A. Millar Secretary, C. S. Buck S.D., Liebmann J.D., Petch I.G., J. L. Mather Preceptor. Bros. Tregaskis, Hepburn, Coffey, Boyles, F. Tyler, Couchman, Price, Coxon, Beale, Bilby, Petley, Thompson, Hunter, Goldney, Beadell, Soudamore, F. Binckes. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of Initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Bilby being the candidate. Bro. Goldney answered the question leading to the 2nd degree, and was entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. Bro. Winnett retired in favour of Bro. Millar Secretary, who now took the chair. Bro. Beale answered the questions leading to the 3rd degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Tregaskis candidate. On Bro. Winnett resuming the chair, the Lodge was resumed to the 1st degree, when it was proposed by Bro. J. L. Mather and seconded by Bro. Hunter, that Bro. Frederick Binckes P.G.S., Secretary Masonic Institution Boys, become a member of this Lodge of Instruction. This was carried unanimously. Bro. Binckes, in his usual effective manner, acknowledged the compliment, and paid a high tribute of praise to the working of the Lodge. After routine business, the Lodge was closed.

Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693.—A meeting was held on Monday, 10th March, at Bro. Baker's, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N. Present—Bros. Western W.M., Collingridge S.W., Stretch J.W., Turner S.D., Goddard J.D., Ware I.G., Forge Acting Preceptor. Lodge opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Dixon acting as candidate. Bro. Cook, as candidate for passing, answered the questions and was entrusted. Lodge opened in second degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Lodge opened in third, and closed in each degree. A letter was read from Bro. Killick, sending in his resignation as Treasurer; this was received with much regret. Bro. Collins Org. 1693 was elected a member.

Monday, 17th March. Bros. Pearoy W.M., Western S.W., Rhodes J.W., Collingridge Secretary, Jones S.D., Turner J.D., Symons I.G., Isaac P.M. Acting Preceptor; also Past Masters Bro. Killick sen., Cusworth, Osborn and other brethren. After preliminaries, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Ashton candidate. Bro. Western was appointed W.M. for Monday, 22nd March. Bro. Hunt, No. 228, was elected a member; Bro. Forge P.M. 1693 Treasurer, and Bro. Collingridge, 1677, Secretary. The Annual Supper will take place on Monday 21st April, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 4s each, to be had of the Stewards; of Bro. Isaac P.M. 1693, who will occupy the chair; of Bro. Forge P.M. 1950, vice-chair, and Bro. Collingridge, 66 Thornhill-road, N., Secretary.

At the usual quarterly meeting of the Lodge of Love and Honour, No. 94, held at the Masonic Hall, Royal Hotel, Falmouth, on 4th inst., the W.M., Bro. Richard Carter Prov. G.S.O. presiding, Bro. William D. Rogers P. Prov. G.S. Works and S.W. of the Lodge was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. W. F. Newman P.M. P. Prov. G.S.W., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer; as was also Bro. William Rusden to the office of Tyler.

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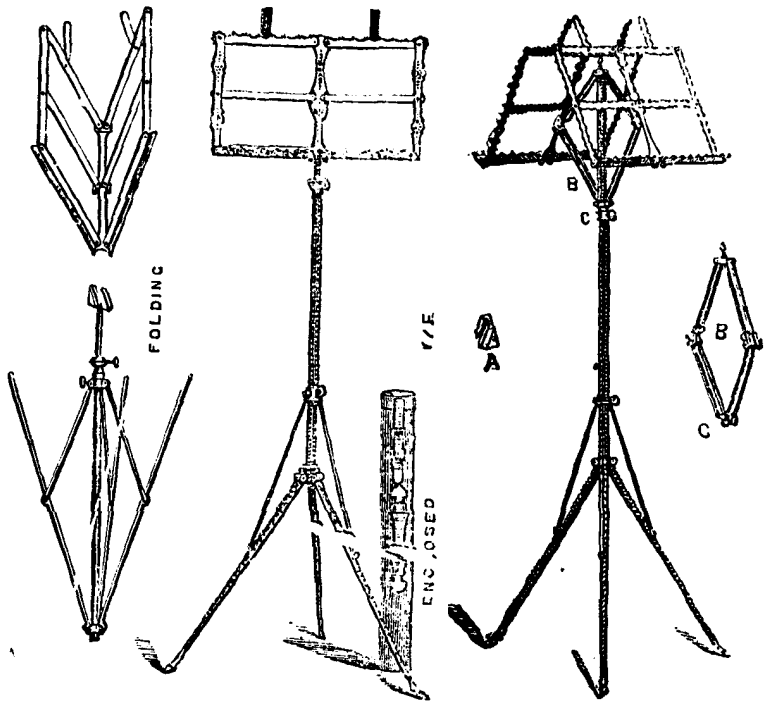
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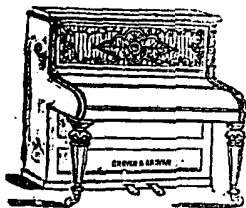
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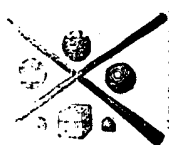
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