

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

IT is a fortunate thing for those who value the reputation in which English Freemasonry is held by the outer world that the Charity which its members boast of as one of their grandest principles should occasionally present itself in a practical form, and that some of the good the brethren take credit for accomplishing should be carried out in such a way as to be apparent to other than members of the Mystic Tie. Were this not the case the brethren might run the risk of being considered as black as their opponents paint them, and in some cases this is black indeed. As it is, however, we feel that, in England at least, Freemasonry is hardly looked upon as being a source of trouble, either to the Church or the State. We recently read the letter which the Pope has thought fit to publish against Freemasons, and we were almost inclined to regret that we ever had associated ourselves with so vile a body as Freemasons are there made out to be, when our thoughts were diverted into another channel by a reminder as to what Freemasonry really is. This change was brought about by the fact that at this season of the year a duty devolves upon us;—to direct attention to the Institution which we name at the head of this article, the Annual Meeting, and Election for the benefits of which takes place on Friday next, the 16th inst. Although we may be accused of taking things somewhat out of their prescribed order, we have decided first to consider the Election, notwithstanding the fact that it is secondary to the Annual Meeting, some of the business of which we shall refer to later on.

The task which presents itself when we attempt to review the claims of the several candidates seeking a participation in the benefits of the Male and Female Funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution is one of the heaviest which falls to us in the execution of our duties, and look at it from whatever point of view we may we can find no satisfactory method of treating the subject, or of drawing comparisons, for the simple reason that all the candidates appear worthy, while all are of an age which entitles them to the respect of the younger brethren or the sympathy of the older ones.

We know that, in the case of the annuitants, none are in a position to provide for themselves, while the same can hardly be said with any certainty as regards either the Boys or the Girls who come forward as candidates. The rules of the Benevolent Institution stipulate that any brother in receipt of £40 a year, or any widow in receipt of £30, is ineligible. There is no such limit, or indeed any limit, attached to the candidates for the Schools, the friends of whom naturally feel that no matter what the position of the applicants may be, they are entitled to a place in the Schools, provided they can secure a sufficient number of votes. As is well known to our readers, this want of a limit has led to troubles in the past, and will, no doubt, lead to more in the future, but all this is avoided in the case of the Benevolent Institution, the aspirants for which must really belong to a necessitous class, or else put forward their claims backed up with false pretences, a line of action which, considering the searching inquiry to which each application is subjected, seldom proves anything but a failure. We think this limitation a feature of great importance, and shall never feel satisfied until something of

a similar character is imposed on the candidates for the Schools, but this is only one of many arguments which might be urged in favour of the Benevolent Institution.

We are often asked to give an opinion as to which is the most deserving of the three Institutions? In reply we adopt for ourselves the line taken up by the "Vicar of Bray"—each is best, in turn,—

"Until the times do alter."

At present it is the turn of the Benevolent Institution, and it is our duty to demonstrate that it has greater claims than the other two. This we can hardly do better than by following the arguments of the respective Secretaries. The Girls deserve first consideration, because they are the weaker sex, and are less fitted to struggle through life without assistance, than are their brothers. But, says Bro. Binckes, the Boys should have our first care; if we look after them while young, they will, in the ordinary course of things, look after the girls later on. Both these arguments are overruled by Bro. Terry, who, while appealing for the Benevolent Institution, truly points out that if it had not been for the Old People we should not have had either boys or girls, and not only should we be without boys and girls but we should likewise have had neither a Boys' School nor a Girls' School, while without the contributions of brethren in years gone by the very Fund to which these aged Masons and their Widows are now appealing would have had no existence. It may be true that some of those who now appear as applicants for Annuities have never contributed, directly, to the funds of the Benevolent Institution, but there is certainly not one among them but has done so indirectly, and they are therefore appealing for the benefits of a Fund for which they have each done something. Surely then they are deserving of especial consideration. Another feature in favour of support being given to the Old People is that their election on the Annuity Fund is often the last act of Masonic kindness which can be performed for them. There is especial satisfaction in knowing that the last years of a brother or his widow were rendered comfortable by the exercise of Masonic benevolence, and it generally happens that far greater appreciation is shewn by them for the assistance they receive than is the case in that of the girls and boys cared for in the other Institutions, not a few of whom never appear to give their benefactors a thought when once they are relieved from the restraint of school life.

Now a word as to the actual applications which are being made for the benefits of the Benevolent Institution. The ballot papers for Friday next give a list of thirty-eight male and eighty-two female candidates. The former, however, has been reduced to thirty-seven by the death of F. A. Chaplin, No. 24, on the list. These thirty-seven old Masons will have to compete for fourteen vacancies (three of which will be deferred), while for the eighty-two widows there are eighteen vacancies (three of these also deferred), so that we have a total of one hundred and nineteen candidates, of whom thirty-two only can be elected, unless the number of declared vacancies is increased previous to the opening of the poll; the course usually adopted, to compensate for the deaths which occur between the issue of the ballot papers and the day of election. This gives us upwards of seven candidates for every two vacancies; not divided equally, however, but strongly in favour of the Male Fund, for the benefits of

which the applicants number upwards of five for each two vacancies; while, as regards the Female branch, the proportion is over nine for two vacancies. We do not think any good would result from even a brief outline of the past history of the several candidates appearing in our pages, as each of the voters has been supplied with particulars, and most are by this time acquainted with the position of the applicant they intend to support. We cannot individualise any case concerning which further particulars are needed, nor do we feel justified in selecting any one as calling for universal support; each must depend on personal friends. We trust, however, at the head of the poll will be found those who are truly the most deserving. We echo the regret of very many brethren when we say we are sorry an election is necessary, but until the annual income is very much increased, or the number of calls for assistance very much reduced, these annual contests will be necessary, and so long as they continue there will always remain a great amount of hard work for those who seek a participation in the benefits provided by the Institution.

The business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting of the Institution, which is held previous to the Election, is of the usual routine character, with the addition, on this occasion, of a feature which will doubtless receive every consideration. This feature takes the form of a proposition by Bro. Charles Lacey (V.P.), P.M. 174, to reduce the limit of income disqualifying applicants, and also the amount of the annual annuities. The proposed alterations are as follows. In Law 2, (Male Fund) page 22 of the Rules and Regulations, which reads

II. No Brother having an income of £40 per annum, or who is otherwise in a situation to provide for himself, shall be admitted to the benefits of the Institution.

to substitute £30 in lieu of £40.

In Law 4 (Male Fund) page 22, which reads

IV. The amount of the annuity shall be £40 per annum.

to substitute £32 10s in lieu of £40.

In Law 2 (Widows' Fund) page 23, which reads

II. No Widow having an income of £30 per annum, or who is otherwise in a situation to provide for herself, shall be admitted to the benefits of the Fund.

to substitute £24 in lieu of £30, and

In Law 4 (Widows' Fund) page 24, which reads

IV. The amount of the annuity shall be £32 per annum.

to substitute £26 in lieu of £32.

By this it will be seen that the idea of Bro. Lacey is to reduce the actual outlay of the Institution as regards individual recipients for the purpose, as he states, of allowing a larger number to be benefitted without a greater expenditure of money than is at present possible. This is a matter that requires, and it will undoubtedly receive, full consideration, and we are convinced will be approached in that spirit of calm deliberation which should at all times characterise our assemblies.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

A SPECIAL Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, at the Fitzwilliam Hall, Peterborough, for the purpose of laying, in Masonic form, the chief corner-stone of the central tower of Peterborough Cathedral. After the Grand Lodge had been opened, it was adjourned to the Cathedral, where the ceremony of laying the stone was performed by the Earl of Carnarvon Pro Grand Master, in the presence of a large number of Masons of the Province of Northampton and Huntingdon, and the neighbouring Provinces of Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridge. Lord Holmesdale, Lord Cremorne, the Lord Mayor, Col. Shadwell Clerke, Captain Philips, H. B. Marshall, and most of the Grand Officers of the year were in attendance. The stone was laid with all the ceremonial usually observed on these occasions, and in the afternoon a luncheon was served. The Bishop of Peterborough proposed the health of the Earl of Carnarvon, who was present that day as the representative of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, who, in consequence of that family and national affliction which all deplored, was unable to be present. The Earl of Carnarvon in reply said he felt greatly the honour of the cordial welcome that they had been pleased to give him. If he might say so, he felt that it was a delight that those words of welcome should have been made to him

by one whom he honoured and prized so highly as the right reverend prelate who presided over that diocese. When he listened to him he felt, at least, the satisfaction that the illness from which he had been so mercifully raised up had taken nothing from him of his old eloquence, of his old wit, and of his personal kindness. His first duty that day in the few remarks he had to offer was to discharge the commands of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and to express for him his deep regret that in consequence of that great family bereavement to which allusion had been made he could not be present that day. He had deputed him to attend, and so far as the shadow could do duty for the substance he had endeavoured to fulfil the task which the Grand Master himself should have executed. The Bishop of Peterborough had given so minute a history and so accurate a description of all that concerned Freemasons, and of all that went on within the secret Lodge, that he had deprived him of one-half of the speech which he had otherwise intended to have made to them. The Bishop had done, he humbly thought, only justice to the Craft; but there was also another point of view to which the Bishop did not advert. There was a connection, and the closest connection, between the work which the Freemasons had done that day and their Craft. Freemasonry was no new art or profession. Those cathedrals to which the Bishop had alluded had in by-gone ages owed much to the chisel, mallet, compass, and square of the Freemason. During the Middle Ages all through Europe, from end to end of the great Continent, they might trace the footsteps of Freemasonry. They could read their eloquent and artistic record in the face of the great cathedrals, and in the foliage of the windows, in the delicate carving of the buildings, in the capitals of the columns, they might trace alike their history and their work. They numbered amongst their ranks in former times many Royal personages, and if the Prince of Wales had been present that day he would have simply discharged a duty which in former times many of his Royal predecessors might have executed. It was impossible for any one like himself to take part in that ceremony and not to recall as he gazed upwards upon the architecture of that cathedral some of its early history. It was impossible not to think how, in the earliest days, the Peterborough Minster rose on the edge of the Fens; how subsequently it grew through all the dull period of the Saxon times till he believed it acquired the name of the "Golden Borough." It was impossible not to think that it went on growing steadily through those rugged but noble times which made England as we know it now. And now there came the restoration of that building. Times were very much changed. Our Saxon and Norman ancestors built that cathedral, but still the same instincts were there, and the character of the country and the people are still the same. He thought, as he looked upon the architecture of that building, that in the consolidation and combination of all the different styles, the early Norman, the early English, and the perpendicular, each fusing with a certain harmony into each other, there was, as it were, a type of our English history and society. Those times had gone by, and the days in which we lived were very different. Some would tell them, indeed, that we were travelling on towards the ignoble gulf in which all that past was to be lost and forgotten. Others would tell them, and he thought more truly, that they were passing through an important phase, such as we had passed through before, in which, as he firmly trusted, the true instincts of the English people would prevail, and would remember the great past of England, and that possibly a still greater future was at hand. That was the true spirit in which, he believed, they were called upon to face the period in which we lived, and in that spirit he could not doubt of a successful issue.

EMERGENCY MEETING OF G. MARK LODGE.

WE last week briefly referred to the emergency meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, which was held on the 25th ult., for the purpose of adopting addresses of condolence to the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Duchess of Albany, on the death of H.R.H. the late Duke of Albany. The M.W. Grand M.M.M. Lord Henniker in addressing the brethren, after the formal opening of the Grand Lodge, said he had considered it his duty to call the

members of the Grand Lodge together. The very sad event which had recently taken place—the death of their Past Grand Master the Duke of Albany—was one which called forth the warmest and most heartfelt sympathy, he might say all over the world; most certainly it had done so wherever there was a subject of the British Crown, and he felt such was particularly the case among Masons. The Masonic brethren would give place to no body of men in the British Empire as regarded loyalty to the British Crown. To Mark Masons the death of the Duke of Albany was a very heavy blow, and they could feel his loss very greatly when they remembered how much he had been among them during the last few years. The brethren would recollect that during the speaker's first year of office it was his privilege to instal His Royal Highness into the office of Past Grand M.M.M., while in the second he had the pleasure of presenting him and the Duchess of Albany with a gift from the brethren of the Mark Degree from all parts of the world, and it was then hoped that both the Duke and Duchess of Albany had long and happy futures before them. The brethren had lost one whose geniality must lead them to look back on his presence among them with the greatest pleasure, and as one who approached Masonry in a true Masonic spirit. He (Lord Henniker) felt that a few words only were necessary on such an occasion to enlist the sympathy of the brethren, yet he could but speak, before he sat down, on the loss which he believed the country generally, as well as Masonry, had sustained by the death of His Royal Highness. Each Prince of the Royal Family had chosen an active and useful career. The health of the Duke of Albany had prevented his following a life similar to that his brothers had chosen, but it had also attached him to a line which made the English people look to him as their future leader in literature, in Masonry, and the intellectual arts so important to all of us, as tending to soothe us in our troubles and take the edge off the rough-hewn stones and stumbling-blocks of our stormy and unhappy lives. He had endeared himself not only to those who knew him personally, but also to the public at large. He felt he might say that the death of the Duke of Albany was not only a great loss to the Masonic body but also to the country generally. Now he should like to say one word about Her Majesty the Queen. All knew how Her Majesty had borne her great and terrible sorrow; that she had borne it with her usual fortitude and courage. They could but feel how great the blow had been to her, from the fact that the Duke of Albany had perhaps lived with the Queen at home more than any of her sons, and of course, from his constant ill-health was a source of anxiety to her. They could but feel that the blow which she had received had come upon her with redoubled force. All knew there was no joy and no sorrow among the people of England that the Queen did not share in, and he thought they would indeed be cold on such an occasion if their sympathy was not of the warmest and sincerest kind. He should also like to say a few words as regarded H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany. All hearts must be drawn to her just now—to her who so lately came to make her home amongst us, and who, as he had already said, they had so recently joined in wishing, with the Duke of Albany, all the happiness that they might have reason to look forward to. But now she was left a widow among us, and he thought that she had found warm hearts to mourn with her. He concluded by asking the brethren to pass votes of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen and to the young widow H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, and was sure he should call forth but one feeling, that of the warmest sympathy with the Queen, the Duchess of Albany, and the whole of the Royal Family, not only in the Grand Lodge but also among Mark Masons all over the world. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M.M.M. Hants and Isle of Wight, seconded the resolution, and the addresses were unanimously voted. Bro. the Rev. Canon Portal, Past Grand Master, proposed that an address of condolence be presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, which proposition was seconded by Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Provincial G.M.M.M. Middlesex and Surrey, and carried unanimously.

Bro. Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary then formally announced the decease of Bro. D. M. Dewar, his late Assistant. He was followed by the Grand Master, by the President of the General Board, and by the Grand Treasurer, who all spoke of the respect they entertained for Bro. Dewar, and expressed their willingness to unite in any movement which might be started to show the appreciation of Mark Masons generally of their late bro-

ther's devotion to the cause. Grand Lodge was soon afterwards formally closed.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

IN another part of this week's issue we refer to the Benevolent as the Institution of the hour, but we also hint that it is not likely long to retain that position. Very brief intervals usually suffice to separate one from another of the great Masonic charitable events of the year, and as soon as we have got clear of one, another comes upon us. Such is the case at the present time. The Annual Meeting and Election of the Benevolent Institution is fixed for Friday next, and five days later (on Wednesday the 21st inst.) we have the Ninety-sixth Anniversary Festival of the Girls' School. We have so recently referred to this subject in a general way that we not intend to devote much space to the matter on the present occasion, but there one or two points which we may well touch on to-day.

Coming events, we are told, cast their shadows before. This may be so in many instances, but it certainly is not the case with the Girls' School Festival, or at least that part of it which most concerns the general body of subscribers,—the total amount of money subscribed for the year. It not unfrequently happens that when we get as near to a Festival as we are now to that of the one for the Girls' School, we can realise an idea of what is to be expected in the way of a total, but in this case we cannot obtain any really reliable estimate. Very few of the Provinces, we are afraid, will run into average totals, but we should like to get somewhat near the mark. As an instance we will single out Essex, the Province which this year supplies the chairman for the Girls' Festival. Now what may we expect from Essex? It certainly cannot be classed as an inferior district from a subscribing point of view, but we know that it has other calls on its benevolence. It is urged the earthquake of a few days since will materially affect the total it will send up for our Girls. We might perhaps be nearer the mark if we say that the tales of the earthquake will do so, for we cannot believe that anything really spent in relief for this casualty ought to affect the Festival, and yet we are told that if one thousand, two thousand, or more, goes to relieve distress at home, those outside will not get so much. Let us hope that the result will prove otherwise, and that the brethren of the district will as liberally support the Masonic Girls' School now as they would have done had there been no special distress nearer home to the relief of which they were asked to subscribe.

Essex has twenty-two Lodges, and from these, we understand, there will be nineteen Stewards. It is not for us to dictate, but would it be too much to expect that every Lodge in the Province should try and support their Provincial Grand Master. We do not know those unrepresented, but we hope for the sake of that unanimity which should exist among Masons that they may send up a Steward ere it be too late. Which Lodge will be the first to reduce the minimum of those not represented? We should like to hear that our appeal had brought forth one more Steward, at least.

As regards the amount to be expected from the Chairman's own district. Are the brethren keeping a surprise in store for us? We have made some considerable inquiry, and can get no clue as to the likely sum that is coming up. We can only hope it may exceed our most sanguine expectations. Nineteen Stewards from twenty-two Lodges in such a district as Essex, with its Provincial Grand Master at the head of affairs, should produce a good round sum. Would £1200 be too much to expect?—sixty guineas per Steward as an average. That is certainly a large sum to collect, but it is within the range of possibility, if only united action be taken by the Province. Perhaps we have put the figure too high, but we do sincerely hope that Essex will come forward with a four-figure total, and we earnestly urge on every friend of the Charities in the district to work for such a result. Upwards of £1000 is not too much to expect, as it has been exceeded time after time by Provinces smaller in every respect, as regards number of Lodges, number of Masons, and number of Stewards. We do not think the Masons of Essex require continued urging to do their best, but the need is urgent, and it is to be hoped they will do their utmost, if only for the purpose of setting an example to those who may come after them.

THE HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.*

IN this volume, Bro. Gould is occupied with the most difficult portion of his task, and we are not employing exaggerated terms of praise when we say that he appears to have exhibited the same thoroughness in his investigations which has characterised his work in the preceding volumes. He will probably, nay even certainly, not meet with the same sympathy from his readers with the conclusions he has drawn—at least in respect of his first chapter, but this must not be allowed to detract from his general merits as a most conscientious writer, whose principal object is to determine the truth. We have again and again pointed out the fault which has been committed by the majority of Masonic historians, to wit, their determination to clothe every tradition that has been handed down to us with as much circumstantiality as possible. On the other hand, as we have also again and again pointed out, the latest school of Masonic investigators seems anxious to go to the very opposite extreme of rejecting everything which cannot be reasonably well authenticated. This class of student must have chapter and verse for every proposition it lays down, and there is too much reason to fear that many cherished traditions, which may be accepted as reasonable, will be rejected quite as peremptorily as even the most monstrous assumptions of writers of the Oliver School. We must take the liberty of pointing out that this chariness of accepting only what is capable of demonstration by the means ordinarily employed in determining historic truths is likely to prove almost as unsatisfactory in its results as an extreme readiness to accept anything and everything, no matter how casual or slight may be its bearing on the subject.

The few remarks contained in the opening paragraph of his new volume sufficiently indicate the plan on which Bro. Gould has conducted his latest inquiries, while his treatment of the Wren tradition as clearly indicates the extreme severity with which he is resolved on carrying out his plan. It is no doubt true enough that as yet we have failed to obtain such evidence as will serve to establish as an absolute fact that Wren was a member of our Fraternity, but though there may be no such evidence forthcoming to the effect that he was a Freemason, there is, on the other hand, nothing which justifies the assumption that he was not. Yet, after what we readily concede is a most careful study of the circumstances, extending over nearly the whole of Chapter XII., Bro. Gould is enabled to see no other way out of his difficulty than by dismissing the acceptance of "the great architect—at any period of his life—into the Masonic fraternity" as "a mere figment of the imagination." We must protest against this stern denunciation of a cherished belief, merely because it is incapable of being demonstrated as a fact; in this case, at all events, the probabilities are in favour of the belief. But let us follow the author through the successive stages of his arguments, so that the reader may have an opportunity of judging for himself if Bro. Gould's conclusion is justified by his premises.

Speaking generally, we see nothing exceptionable in the statement that the historian "is concerned with facts and not with possibilities;" but this represents only a part of the historian's duty. He must be careful not to substitute or mistake possibilities for facts, but he is not called upon to discard wholly the possibilities which more or less remotely affect a disputed point. It is in the nature of things that what is impossible can never acquire the status of a fact; but setting impossibility aside, as being, so to speak, the zero of possibility, we must not forget that there are degrees of possibility which no historian can afford to leave unconsidered in his treatment of a question. For instance, in this case of Wren's alleged membership of our Society, the historian has no option but to discard it as a fact, but he will not be thoroughly alive to his duty if he discards it as a possibility, so reasonable as to approximate very closely to a fact. On the other hand, the proposition that Adam or Moses was a Freemason is a possibility so far removed from the status of a fact that it

may at once be described as an impossibility. In other words, while the historian must never be allowed to confound facts and possibilities together, he should not do otherwise than endeavour to determine the value of his possibilities by their several degrees of probability or improbability. If we apply this "test of credibility" to the case of Wren, we shall find that his alleged membership merits a better fate than to be pooh-poohed as a "mere figment of the imagination."

Again, nothing has given us so much pleasure in studying this work of Bro. Gould as the severity with which he denounces the ridiculous nonsense which has been palmed off upon Craftsmen as Masonic history, but this pleasure will not induce us to go so far as to discard all Masonic traditions alike, and this of Wren's is far too reasonable to be treated thus unceremoniously. We do not need to be reminded that "in traditional truths each remove weakens the force of the proof; and the more hands the traditions has successively passed through, the less strength and evidence does it receive from them." We also bear in mind the quotation from Locke, being well aware of the fact that "propositions, evidently false or doubtful enough in their first beginning, come by an inverted rule of probability to pass for authentic truths; and those which found or deserved little credit from the mouths of their first authors are thought to grow venerable by age, and are urged as undeniable." These as general propositions are unobjectionable, but we have in our mind strong doubts, amounting almost to certainty, as to their particular applicability to the Wren tradition. We do not regard the statement of his having been Grand Master with inordinate affection, but we see no reason, either *à priori* or *à posteriori*, against his having been a Freemason. The allegation as to his having been such may be nothing else than a "traditional truth," but, in the circumstances, it must not be ranked among those "traditional truths" which acquire "less strength and evidence," the "more hands" it successively passes through. It is not one of those propositions which are "evidently false or doubtful enough in their first beginning," or, be it said rather, though it must be set down as "doubtful," to the same extent that everything is "doubtful" which cannot be distinctly proved, it is not "evidently false," seeing there are few propositions which have attached to them so strong a probability of their being true. Then there is the passage which the author has quoted from Dalcho, and which we take the liberty of transcribing. "The road to truth, particularly to subjects connected with antiquity, is generally choked with fable and error, which we must remove, by application and perseverance, before we can promise to ourselves any satisfaction in our progress. Because a story has been related one way for an hundred years past is not alone sufficient to stamp it with truth; it must carry, on the face of it, the appearance of probability, and if it is a subject which can be tried by the evidence of authentic history, and by just reasoning from established data, it will never be received by an enlightened mind on the *ipse dixit* of any one." It must be understood that we raise no objection to the opinions expressed in this or other passages quoted by Bro. Gould, or to those which he himself has formulated, so far as they may be applied generally. What we maintain is, that whether we apply them, so far as they are applicable, severally or collectively, they will be found, in either case, to have the effect of strengthening instead of weakening our grounds of faith in the Wren tradition. The passage in Aubrey's "Natural History of Wiltshire," from which "historically, the general impression derives what weight it may possess," may be an "obscure" one—we shall not trouble to inquire why Bro. Gould thus designates the passage—and, "traditionally (or Masonically) the acceptance of the 'legend,' and its devolution from an article of faith into a matter of a conviction" may be "dependent upon our yielding full credence to statements in Dr. Anderson's Constitutions of A.D. 1738, which"—but this of course is only a matter of opinion—"are quite irreconcilable, with those in his earlier publication of 1723." Nevertheless, there is the passage, and even according to Bro. Gould's own showing, the statement as to some great Masonic event having occurred in 1691, the year it mentions, is corroborated by Prichard, while Anderson in 1738, as in 1723, had by him the same learned brethren and Past Grand Masters, Payne and Desaguliers, as critics at all events, if not as coadjutors. It must also be borne in mind, as regards these two sources of authority, namely, the "obscure passage" in Aubrey, and the "statements in Dr. Anderson's Constitutions of A.D. 1738," that,

* *The History of Freemasonry, its Antiquities, Symbols, Constitutions, Customs, &c.* Embracing an Investigation of the Records of the Organisations of the Fraternity in England, Scotland, Ireland, British Colonies, France, Germany, and the United States. Derived from Official Sources. By Robert Freke Gould, Barrister-at-Law, Past Senior Grand Deacon of England; Author of "The Four Old Lodges," "The Atholl Lodges," &c. Volume III. London: Thomas C. Jack, 45 Ludgate Hill. 1884.

if "Aubrey's memorandum of Wren's approaching initiation was not printed or in any way alluded to until 1844," and has consequently "exercised no influence whatever in shaping or fashioning the belief (among Masons) which, from 1738 onwards, has universally prevailed as regards the connection of the great architect with the ancient craft," neither can it be said to have influenced Anderson in making his statement. Thus Aubrey's memorandum and Anderson's statement must have been made independently of each other, and possess that greater value which belongs to all independent statements when they fortuitously corroborate each other, and especially when the people who made them were contemporaries of the events or circumstances they claim to describe.

No one who has even glanced at the volumes of Brother Gould's work which have thus far appeared will dream of charging him with having treated his subject in a half-hearted or perfunctory manner, and we agree with him that it is an evidence of wisdom on his part to have had "mortality before him," and not risked leaving his work in an unfinished state in the hope that some new evidence might present itself. Yet, in the case of this particular tradition about Wren, it is greatly to be regretted—and we imagine none will regret it more keenly than Bro. Gould himself—that he did not take the advice of those friends on whose judgment he places so much reliance, and instead of attempting "to deal exhaustively" with the matter, leave it—as it ever has been, and is very likely to be—an open question. Instead, however, of exhibiting, in circumstances so extremely delicate, that discretion which is reasonably expected from such a writer, he has plunged headlong into the very thickest of the critical battle, and in the vain hope of achieving that recognised impossibility of proving a negative has laid himself open to many a fatal thrust. Moreover, the question of Wren's membership of our Society, though highly interesting, is not one of paramount importance. If we succeed in establishing it as a fact, we shall do no more than convert what is now only a reasonable probability into an absolute certainty. The obscurity will be removed from that passage in Aubrey which has received from Bro. Gould so harsh a designation, and Dr. Anderson's character for trustworthiness will be enhanced. But the cause of Masonic historical truth will have made no serious progress; no new link in the chain of evidence which carries us further forward into the seventeenth century will have been forged. We shall be, to all intents and purposes, as we have been, with the exception that Wren's name will have been added for a certainty to our roll of worthies. On the other hand, if we assume that Bro. Gould has proved his negative and that Wren never was a Mason, what follows? The passage in Aubrey will remain as obscure as ever, and we shall have it established in one more instance than is known already that in dealing with history Anderson's zeal was often permitted to outrun his discretion. But was it worth the expenditure of so much time and trouble to build up an elaborate argument extending over some fifty pages in order to achieve a purpose so comparatively valueless?

We have said that the question of Wren's membership is not one of paramount importance, by which we must of course be understood to mean that it cannot materially affect the evidence already known to exist, of there having been a non-operative element in Masonry long anterior to the year 1717. No amount of argument can destroy that. But there are many reasons why it is desirable that the evidence we already have, should, if possible, be strengthened, and the chief of those reasons undoubtedly is, that in such case, Masonic history will be less amenable to the charge of being indebted for its facts principally to the imagination of sundry enthusiasts, who have pieced together such information as they could lay their hands upon and instinctively shaped for themselves certain theories that would combine them all. We purpose, therefore, following Bro. Gould through the other points of his argument, but to do so with justice we must embody such remarks as we are desirous of making in a further paper.

(To be continued.)

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.—Sores, wounds, ulcerations, and other diseases affecting the skin, are amendable by this cooling and healing Ointment. It has called forth the loudest praise from persons who have suffered for years from bad legs, abscesses, and chronic ulcers, after every hope of cure has long passed away. None but those who have experienced the soothing effect of this Ointment can form an idea of the comfort it bestows, by restraining inflammation and allaying pain. Whenever this Ointment has been once used, it has established its own worth, and has again been eagerly sought for, as the easiest and safest remedy for all ulcerous complaints. In neuralgia, rheumatism, and gout, the same application, properly used, gives wonderful relief.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. WILLIAM KELLY, F.S.A., F.R.H.S.

ON Tuesday evening, 29th April, the Freemasons of the Province of Leicestershire and Rutland presented to their Right Worshipful Past Provincial Grand Master a life-sized portrait of himself, to be hung in the Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester, in place of the portrait which, as the brethren of the Province well know, has for many years appeared on the walls, but which it was generally thought was not a faithful representation of the esteemed brother. The portrait had been very generally and liberally subscribed for, and Brother James Luntley, the well-known and successful artist, of Beeston, Nottingham, was specially engaged to paint the portrait, and a most faithful likeness of Brother Kelly was produced. We may state that the cost of the portrait, without the frame, was about eighty guineas, and it was generally regarded not only as an admirable likeness of Bro. Kelly, but as really a first-class work of art. It has been placed in the Masonic frame of the original portrait, and will now permanently remain on the walls of the Masonic Hall. On the frame is a plate bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to the Right Worshipful Bro. William Kelly, F.S.A., F.R.H.S., Past Provincial Grand Master, by the brethren of the Province. Tuesday, 29th April 1884." Owing to a variety of engagements, Masonic and otherwise, a number of subscribers to the portrait were unable to be present at the presentation on Tuesday, but upwards of forty assembled at a grand banquet in the Masonic Hall, and the proceedings were altogether of a very interesting character. Bro. George Toller jun. P.G.S.B. England, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, occupied the chair, and Bro. Robt. Michie W.M. 279, being the oldest Lodge in the Province, filled one of the vice-chairs, and Bro. F. J. Baines P.P.G.S.D. P.M. 523, the second oldest Lodge in the Province, occupied the other vice-chair. The following other brethren were amongst those present:—Bros. W. Kelly F.S.A. F.R. Hist. S., &c., Rev. W. Langley P.P.S.G.W., C. Stretton P.P.S.G.W., C. E. Stretton P.P.S.G.W., Miles T. Walker P.P.J.G.W., J. Orlando Law P.P.G.J.D. P.M. 279, C. Gurden Prov. G.A.D.C., W. Millican 1560, J. Vaughan P.M. 86, 279, 1007, G. Oliver P.P.G.P. P.M. 1007, R. Taylor P.P.G. Sup. Works, J. B. Fowler I.G. 1560, T. Macanlay, R. S. Toller W.M. 1560, I. Hart, J. D. Harris S.W. 1560, E. Watson I.P.M. 1391, R. Symington S. 1330, Holmes, W. H. Lead 279, G. A. Anderson 1391, W. P. Maturin, J. Spurway I.G. 279, J. B. Waring S. 523, Rev. W. R. Hurd 1391, W. H. Barrow, J. Metcalfe, F. B. Wilmer, E. Jeeves S.D. 1130, E. Newton 279, W. A. Fielding S.D. 279, A. Foster, L. Ball, G. Jessop J.D. 2028, and many others. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from R.W. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers Prov. Grand Master, Bros. Rev. C. Wood P.P.G.C., W. Napier Reeve, W. S. Allen, Wing, Dawson, Luke Turner, Joseph Young Prov. G.D.C., &c. During the banquet the following telegram was received from the Howe and Charnwood Lodge, 1007, then holding its meeting at the Bull's Head, Loughborough:—"From the members of the Howe and Charnwood Lodge now sitting. The W.M. and Bro. E. P. Steads, Secretary, tender to R.W. Bro. Wm. Kelly, the Chairman and brethren, fraternal greetings and hearty good wishes, and trust Bro. Kelly's life may long be spared. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, the Chairman next rose to propose the health of their honoured guest, R.W. Bro. Kelly—a toast which we need hardly say was received and drunk with enthusiasm. In a very able speech Bro. Toller briefly sketched the highly distinguished Masonic career of Bro. Kelly, mentioning incidentally some of the very many useful and valuable services which during a period of nearly fifty years the esteemed brother had rendered to the Craft throughout the Province, and concluding by presenting the portrait of Bro. Kelly in the name of the subscribers, coupled with a request that it might be permitted to hang on the wall of the Masonic Hall. The uncovering of the portrait was the signal for loud and continued applause, and the health of Bro. Kelly was heartily drunk by all, accompanied on all sides with cordial greetings and many good wishes for his long life and happiness. R.W. Bro. Kelly acknowledged the compliment in a deeply interesting speech, in which he reviewed at length his associations with Freemasonry in the Province, and gave numerous historical reminiscences of the progress of the Craft. The Chairman afterwards proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Clement E. Stretton, who had so ably and so effectively acted as Secretary to the Portrait Committee. The toast was heartily drunk, and was briefly acknowledged by Bro. Stretton. Bro. Partridge P.G. Secretary proposed the health of Bro. George Toller jun. Chairman, paying a well-merited tribute to him for his services. The Chairman suitably acknowledged the toast, and the proceedings, which had been pleasantly varied by very excellent songs, concluded shortly afterwards, all agreeing that the gathering had been not only of a deeply interesting, but also one of a most enjoyable character.

The following Festival Meetings have been held at Freemasons' Tavern during the week, ending 10th May:—

Monday, 5th—Joppa Lodge, Unions Lodge; Wednesday, 7th—St. Mary's Hospital, United Lodge, Grand Chapter Club, French Cooks' Ball; Thursday, 8th—Lodge of Regularity, Pilgrim Lodge; Friday, 9th—Britannic Lodge, Bedford Lodge; Saturday, 10th—Phoenix Lodge.

AMATEUR GARDENING FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY, the first number of which has just appeared, is an attractive illustrated periodical, well edited, and embracing topics relating to the Home Garden, Villa Farm, Poultry Yard, and Housekeeper's Room. As a popular weekly journal, published at a penny, *Amateur Gardening* bids fair to meet with a hearty reception.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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JOPPA LODGE, No. 188.

THE regular meeting was held on 5th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C. Bros. G. Bean W.M., A. Martin S.W., J. Dewsnap J.W., L. Lazarus P.M. Secretary, Wall S.D., G. M. Lyon J.D., L. Davis Steward, A. G. Dodson P.M. D.C., I. Benjamin I.P.M.; P.M.'s H. M. Levy, L. Alexander, S. Hickman, L. M. Myers, O. Roberts. Visitors—Bros. R. La Fenillade 1387, J. Shaw 1987, F. Matthews 1766, S. Marks late 188. After preliminaries, Mr. Coombes, who had previously been balloted for, was duly initiated into the Order by the W.M. The W.M., in feeling terms, informed the brethren of the death of Bro. E. P. Albert P.M. P.G.P., who all respected. It was unanimously agreed to send a letter of condolence to his daughter and his sorrowing family. This was seconded by Bro. L. Alexander P.M. An acknowledgment of the letter sent to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W. G.M. on the death of the Duke of Albany had been received, through the Grand Secretary, and the letter was ordered to be entered on the minutes. A candidate for initiation at next meeting was proposed, and the resignations of two brethren were accepted. The Lodge was then closed until October. A sumptuous banquet and dessert, provided by Messrs. Spiers and Pond (Limited), and superintended by Bro. E. Dawkins, followed. The W.M. in due course proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. and V.P. responded to the toast of the Joppa Benevolent Fund. The Fund at one time had nearly reached £1400, but by giving to deserved brethren large grants, it amounts now to only £730. He hoped the brethren would give their mites to help the widow and orphan so that they should not apply to G. Lodge. The following contributions were announced:—Bros. Coombes 21s, J. Levy 10s 6d, Grenwall 21s, J. Dewsnap J.W. 21s, Mussard 10s 6d. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Initiate. Bro. Coombes was a son of an old and respected member of the Lodge, and all were proud to see him among them. The toast was very appropriately responded to. Bro. Coombes hoped to follow in the footsteps of his father, who it was gratifying to know was so respected. Bro. I. Benjamin I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., said the brethren had seen how ably that brother had worked to render the ceremony perfectly. He hoped during his year of office the Officers would render him every assistance. The W.M., in response, said it was no easy duty to occupy the chair; if he could do anything to conduce to the comfort of the brethren, his services would always be at their disposal. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bros. Brown and Marks. Bro. I. Benjamin responded for the Past Masters. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Treasurer, regretted Bro. Lyon's absence, from indisposition. Bro. L. Lazarus, an old P.M., had kindly, at almost a moment's notice, taken upon himself the arduous duties of Secretary, in the place of our late Bro. E. P. Albert. The work had been done satisfactorily and in a manner that reflected great credit on him. He trusted he might retain the office for many years. Bro. L. Lazarus, in responding, thanked the brethren for their marks of appreciation; it was a labour of love to him, and his services for the good of the Lodge were always at their command. The several toasts of the Wardens, Officers, and Tyler, followed. The W.M. provided a very excellent selection of music, superintended by Bro. P. E. Van Noorden. Miss Clara Myers, Miss Reba, Bro. H. Prenton, and Mr. Walter Van Noorden assisted.

SYKES LODGE No. 1040.

THE installation meeting of this well-known and flourishing Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Great Driffield, on the 16th ultimo. There was an unusually large number of members present, and the proceedings throughout were marked with the utmost enthusiasm. The brethren assembled in good time under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. H. Holgreaves, who was supported by the following Officers:—Bros. Bains S.W., Wigmore J.W., Bielby as S.D., Highmoor as J.D., Wrigglesworth I.G., and Potts Tyler. There were also present P.M.'s Elgey, Dunn P.P.G.P., James Scott Wilson P.P.G.P., P.M.'s Esau Wilson, Chadwick, Porritt, Percy P.P.G.S.W., Bryan 294, Winterbottom 734, Gray 734, Creaser 734, Cheeseman 1605; Bros. Bordass, Roberts, Walter Highmoor, Pickering, House, Sellers, Watson, Bowman, Golding Westoby, Smith, Hind 57, Severs 734, Kemp 734, &c. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, a successful ballot was taken for Mr. A. W. Stanley, contractor, Hull. The report of the Audit Committee was read, which showed the funds of the Lodge to be in a highly satisfactory condition. Bro. J. P. Bell, M.D., J.P., P.G.D. of England and Deputy P.G.M. of North and East Yorkshire now assumed the Master's chair, and Bro. Porritt P.M. P.P.G.J.W. the W.M. elect was presented by Bros. Holgreaves and Esau Wilson to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. All the M.M.'s having retired, the ceremony was performed in a manner which gave great satisfaction to the Board of Installed Masters. On the re-admission of the brethren, the W.M. was saluted in a most hearty manner, and afterwards invested the following Officers:—Bros. Holgreaves I.P.M., Bielby S.W., Bordass J.W., Elgey Treasurer, Esau Wilson Lecture Master, Bains Chaplain, James Scott Wilson Secretary, Robinson S.D., Highmoor J.D., Elgey Almoner, Tate Organist, Watson I.G., House and Overend Stewards, Potts Tyler. At six o'clock the brethren adjourned to the Bell Hotel, where a very enjoyable and instructive evening was spent.

New Concord Lodge of Instruction, No. 813.—The usual meeting of the above Lodge was held on Wednesday last, at the Jolly Farmers Tavern, Southgate Road, Brother Dixie presiding, supported by Bros. Smith S.W., Marks J.W., Perl Secretary, Ashton

S.D., Ferrar J.D., Turner I.G., Powell, Langdale, and others. Lodge was opened, and the accustomed preliminaries were observed. The ceremonies of raising and passing were rehearsed, Bros. Turner and Powell acting as candidates. Bro. Dixie, assisted by the brethren, worked the first section of the first lecture. Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and adjourned until Wednesday, 14th May. The brethren of the Percy Lodge of Instruction having accepted an invite to work the Fifteen Sections, have fixed Wednesday, 21st May. Bro. I. P. Cohen Preceptor will preside, supported by Bro. Gush S.W., Powell J.W.

AMHERST LODGE, No. 1223.

THIS Lodge, celebrated for its hospitality, was even more honoured than usual with Visitors on Saturday last, on the occasion of the Installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Charles Edward Birch. The Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes were read and confirmed, after which Bro. Sydenham Hall, who had been initiated at the previous meeting, was passed to second degree, and Bro. E. J. Dodd presented, on behalf of Bro. C. E. Birch the J.W. and W.M. elect, to Bro. T. J. Baker, the Presiding Master, a very handsome collar and chain for the acceptance of the Lodge. Bro. Baker in a few suitable words accepted the same, and trusted the incoming Master would enjoy health to wear it during his year of office, and that it might be handed down as an heirloom to many generations of Masters. Bro. A. W. Duret P.M. then took the chair as Installing Master, and it being announced by the I.G. that the R.W. Prov. Grand Master the Viscount Holmesdale was without the door of the Lodge, he was admitted with due honours and saluted in the customary manner. Bro. C. E. Birch having been presented by Bro. E. J. Dodd P.M., gave his assent to the ancient charges, and was inducted into the chair of K.S. in a Board of Installed Masters. The newly installed Master having been saluted and proclaimed in the usual manner, he appointed the following as his Officers:—Bros. T. J. Baker I.P.M., C. J. Craig S.W., E. S. Strange J.W., R. Durnell P.M. Prov. G.S. Treasurer, J. W. Jewell P.M. P.P.G.O. Secretary, J. I. Birch S.D., W. Sparrowhawk J.D., P. Hanmer I.G., H. E. Lee D.C., Alex. Ross Organist, J. Hamlin and C. Monier Williams Stewards, and W. South Tyler. The very efficient manner in which the Installing Master performed the ceremony won the encomiums of all present. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting and the Lodge was closed, after a perfect *feu de joie* of congratulations from the visiting brethren. The banquet which followed took place in the adjoining school-room, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The W.M. gave the usual toasts in a terse and pleasant manner, and to that of the Prov. Grand Officers past and present Bro. Spencer Prov. Grand Secretary responded, and expressed the pleasure he experienced in attending the Lodge, and at the cordial reception he had met with from the brethren. He had never witnessed the work of the Lodge, especially as regards the Installation, better performed, and with such Officers he felt assured the Lodge must go on and prosper. He had had a great deal of correspondence with the Secretaries of the Province, and he must say that the Secretary of this Lodge (Bro. Jewell) was most prompt and correct in all his returns and correspondence, and he must congratulate the Lodge upon its possessing so excellent an officer. The W.M. in proposing the health of the I.P.M. said it was a pleasant duty for him to present to Bro. Baker a Past Master's jewel, from the Officers and Brethren of the Lodge, in acknowledgement of his services as W.M. during the past year. Bro. Baker in responding thanked the W.M. and brethren for the very handsome jewel he had just received; it would be an incentive to him to devote more zeal to his duties in the Lodge. He spoke in highly eulogistic terms of the W.M., who he was sure, from the Masonic spirit which had ever characterised his work in the Lodge, would be still more earnest now he was placed in the chair as W.M. Other toasts were given and suitably responded to. The Tyler's toast then brought the meeting to a close. The pleasure of the evening were much enhanced by the vocal efforts of Bros. W. F. Parker and J. I. Cantle P.M. Among the visiting brethren we observed Bros. Alfred Spencer P.M. Prov. Grand Secretary, W. Jarvis P.M. P.P.G.S. (North Wales), E. J. Dodd P.M. P.P.G.O. (Kent), J. H. Jewell P.M. P.P.G.O. (Kent), R. Durnell P.M. P.G.S. (Kent), Walter Jardine P.M. 329 (Cape Town), J. T. Gibson P.M. 1420, F. D. Vine W.M. 173, J. I. Cantle P.M. 1441, T. Walker Cooper P.M. 538, W. H. Cronk P.M. 1414, Stephen A. Cooper P.M. 1637, Edward Harvey S.W. 1314, W. J. Collins W.M. 766, J. G. Calway W.M. 1619, T. Durrans J.D. 1305, Sidney Clarke P.M. 706, Henry Glenn P.M. 19, T. F. Tyler S. 1685, G. Graham Bell 144, W. H. Barber, H. M. Hammond 569, W. H. Cates 1579, R. Edwards W.M. 913, T. J. Woods 1475, W. F. Packer 1571, G. B. Bolton 1314, and many others. The menu was furnished in Host Waller's best style, while the toast list, with quotations from the immortal bard, was arranged by the Secretary.

RICHMOND LODGE, No. 2030.

THE first regular meeting of this new Lodge, which was consecrated so recently as the 25th March, was held on Tuesday last, at the Station Hotel, Richmond. The Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. B. E. Blasby P.M. 780, at 3.30, when the following brethren were present:—C. I. Digby P.M. 933 S.W., E. J. Goodacre P.M. 1260 J.W., W. F. Reynolds P.M. 820 Treasurer, W. R. Phillips P.M. 975 Secretary, J. P. Houghton S.D., E. Dare J.D., J. Ireland D.C., T. Callander A.D.C., H. Sapsworth I.G., C. Maton Steward, B. Banks Tyler. Visitors—W. T. Peat 1656, W. W. Morgan W.M. 211, J. J. Gunner W.M. 780, C. E. Botley W.M. 1996, E. Roberts Organist 1623, W. Hill 1922, C. H. Cooper 1420, John Probert 340, F. J. Croger 1679, A. Kent 211. After the minutes of the consecration meeting had been read and confirmed, the ballot was brought into requisition for the admission, as joining members, of the

following:—Bros. T. Skewes-Cox G.S., E. D. Kennedy P.Pr. G.D.C. Middlesex, J. W. Marjason 975, J. McLean P.M. 177, F. A. Crew 1363, J. M. Lucas 780, J. W. Sperring 780, W. Clifford 975, W. E. Scantlebury 975, F. C. Moullet W.M. 1305, and J. Munro 820. In each case the result was in favour of the candidate, and thus a goodly muster of worthy Masons has been added to the roll of members of the Lodge. In addition there were no less than ten candidates who expressed their desire to join the Order. The ballot was taken for these, and with a like successful result. In due course, four of these gentlemen presented themselves to receive the benefits of Masonic Light, namely, Messrs. Aldin, Covell, Rowland, and Aldridge. In each case the ceremony—in order that it might not lack impressiveness—was performed separately; Bro. Blasby exercising his prerogative in favour of the three candidates first named, while Bro. Digby, the S.W., took the chair and initiated his friend Mr. James Aldridge. We need scarcely add the work was correctly and impressively carried out. The bye-laws of the Lodge as recommended by the Committee were approved, and after routine work, hearty good wishes were tendered, and Lodge was closed. A capital banquet was supplied by Bro. Munro, and after the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave the customary loyal toasts, which were supplemented by the singing of the National Anthem and God Bless the Prince of Wales. In speaking of the toast of the Grand Officers Present and Past, Bro. Blasby referred to the unavoidable absence of Bro. Joshua Nunn, who had taken so lively an interest in the establishment of the Lodge. On the occasion of the Consecration of the Lodge they were honoured with the presence of a very large number of the representative men of the Craft, and though it could scarcely be expected they would be so fortunately circumstanced at many of their meetings, still he (the W.M.) felt he expressed the sentiments of the members when he stated they hoped those who attended on that occasion would repeat their visit. Bro. Blasby then made graceful allusion to the many sterling qualities of the late Duke of Albany, a Past Grand Officer, and one who always evinced a deep interest in all the doings of Masonry. The several Lodges were draped, and the brethren wore the insignia that denoted their grief, and testified their respect for the late Prince. He would ask the brethren to recognise the toast on this occasion in a suitable manner, but in a suppressed form. After due honours had been done, Bro. Morgan delivered Tennyson's "In Memoriam" lines, the effect of which was rendered more deeply impressive by Bros. Egbert Roberts and Collings, who played the "Dead March" on the organ and pianoforte. In replying to the toast of his health, Brother Blasby expressed his gratification at the success that had attended the formation of the new Lodge, and assured the brethren he appreciated the honours they had conferred on him in appointing him its first Master. The Initiates were next toasted, and each in turn acknowledged the compliment. The Joining Members also received a hearty greeting from the Lodge, and those who were present responded in suitable terms. The proceedings throughout were of a most agreeable character, and some capital singing emanated from Bros. Egbert Roberts, John Probert, Julian Croger, A. Kent, &c. Bro. J. A. Collings accompanied throughout the evening, and the meeting altogether was a most agreeable one, the claims of the Charities of the Order being fully recognised, and substantial amounts contributed to the list of the W.M., who has undertaken the duty of Steward at the approaching Festival of the Girls' School.

Tredegar Lodge of Instruction, No. 1625.—A meeting was held on Monday, 5th inst., at the Royal Hotel, Mile End Road. Present—Bros. Clements W.M., Sinclair S.W., Oxley J.W., B. Stewart Secretary, Hammond J.D., Stewart D.C.; also Bro. Wakeham 1278. After preliminaries, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Wakeham acting as candidate. Bro. Wakeham answered the questions leading from the first to the second degree. Bro. Sinclair was unanimously elected W.M. for the next Lodge meeting. Bro. Stewart proposed, and Bro. Oxley seconded, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Clements for the able manner in which he had worked the ceremony in this Lodge. This was carried unanimously.

Kingsland Lodge of Instruction, No. 1693.—A meeting was held on Monday, 5th inst., at Bro. Baker's, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N. Bros. Dixie W.M., Weeden S.W., Jones J.W., Forge Treasurer, Collingridge Secretary, Cosgrove S.D., Turner J.D., Isaacs acting Preceptor, Ware I.G.; P.M.'s Mullord, Cusworth, Western, and other brethren. Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes were read. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed by Bro. Trewinnard, Bro. Dixie candidate. The W.M. was saluted in the three degrees, and he invested the Officers, and the Installing Master gave the various addresses in a most efficient manner. The W.M. (Bro. Dixie) then rehearsed the ceremony of passing. Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned till Monday, 12th inst., when Bro. Weeden will occupy the chair.

HIGHBURY QUADRANT HALL.

ON Friday evening, the 2nd inst., a most successful concert was given at the above hall by the students of the Highbury and Islington Organ School and College of Music. Miss Berrie Stephens, the Principal of this establishment, is certainly a most persevering young artist. She has much to congratulate herself upon in the fact that several of her pupils sang with a taste and finish that would have done credit to any vocal academy in England. We tender our most hearty congratulations to Miss Stephens on the result, and fully recognise the care and attention she must have bestowed in the production of such an array of talent as was placed before her audience (upwards of 1000 persons) on this occasion. To see Dr. Stainer's Sacred Cantata, "The Daughter of Jairus," as announced to be per-

formed, and the name of so young a lady as Miss Stephens down as the wielder of the baton for the occasion was to us a novelty which excited our curiosity. We have come to the decision, however, that in these days of progress the ladies are certainly capable of even more than hitherto we had given them credit for.

At the North London Chapter of Improvement, on Thursday, 8th May, at 8 o'clock, Comp. Gregory was the M.E.Z., Carter H., Brasted J., George S.N., and Shaw P.S. This Chapter of Improvement hold its meetings all through the summer season.

CHARITY.

"The greatest of these is charity."

THERE is no word in the English language which contains such a depth and height of meaning as the word Charity. In its more common signification it is used to designate that disposition of mind which invites to almsgiving, and he is esteemed a charitable man who "bestows his goods to feed the poor." But the word is used in a more comprehensive and exalted sense in the great Light of Masonry. There we read of giving all one's goods to feed the poor without having charity. He would be thought a very charitable man who should bestow all his goods upon the poor, and as a rule such an one would be possessed with this noble principle to a wonderful extent. But a man might do this and yet be very uncharitable. He might do it to increase his fame, in which case he would be much more selfish than charitable. He would lack that fervent love of his fellow beings which lies at the foundation of all true charity. And the world affords many examples of this kind. Instances are not rare where donations are made in a pompous manner, which reveals the animus of the donor. And who has not known people to bestow on strangers with great liberality when a true charity would have dictated the bestowal of a small moiety, and the appropriating of the remainder upon a destitute family at home? But to appear generous in the eyes of the world, causes many to assume the guise of charity, when they possess little of its genuine spirit.

True charity is closely allied to disinterested benevolence. It does not take time to catechise the needy, further than to know whether they are worthy of confidence, or, in other words, are not impostors. It asks nothing about party issues or sectarianism. It knows no nationality, but regards the race as the children of a common parent, and, Samaritan like, delights in binding up the wounds and caring for the needy, even though their nationality be unknown. And it heeds the calls of the destitute as quickly when alone as when the multitude is present to applaud. Indeed, true charity is modest and retiring. It prefers that the left hand should not know what is done by the right.

And it may be said, without boasting, that Masonry inculcates such charity. Its spirit is the very opposite of that ostentation which would parade its good works before the gaze of the world. It would rather its votaries should steal away to the homes of the poor, to the couch of the suffering, as quietly as the dew of Heaven falls upon the tender plants, and soothe and refresh by deeds of love and words of kindness. And in these times of parade and show it does seem refreshing to find some of the seeds of true charity germinating and springing up into a healthy growth, even if unseen and unknown to the busy bustling world. It does afford gratification to know that one Institution at least can do good quietly and secretly, and can foster a charity which goes even beyond the bestowing of goods upon the poor and suffering of earth, and provides a place where the king has to meet upon the same level with the poor brother who earns a scanty living for his dependent family by his daily toil.

Masonry has no sneers for the poor, no frowns for the humble unfortunates of earth. It does not honour men for their wealth or birth, but rather for their moral worth and intrinsic goodness of life. Its lessons are all grand, but none more truly so than its lessons of Charity.—*Freemason's Monthly*.

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WIDOW of Brother George Henry Tribe, who was initiated 1858 in No. 601, Lyttelton, New Zealand; joined No. 609, Christchurch, New Zealand; was first Worshipful Master of No. 1241, Ross, New Zealand; subsequently District Grand Chaplain Westland; and District Grand Treasurer North Island, New Zealand.

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The services of brethren as Stewards are earnestly solicited.

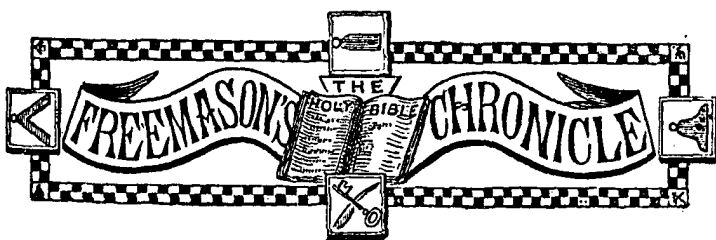
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8th May 1884.

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MESSRS. CHARLES GRIFFIN & Co., Publishers of Mackey's "Lexicon of Freemasonry," think it right to caution Freemasons and others against giving orders for this work to any persons representing themselves as their agents. Messrs. Griffin have given no authority to any person to collect moneys for them for the above work.

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MARK MASONRY.

—:—

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

THE half-yearly meeting of this body was held at Sheffield on the 23rd ult., under the banner of the Britannia Lodge, No. 53, when there was a very general muster from the Province. The Britannia was opened by the W.M. (Bro. Unwin P.S.G.W.) and his Officers at 4.15 p.m., and at 4.30 the R.W. Prov. G.M.M. (Bro. C. L. Mason) accompanied by his Deputy (Bro. the Rev. W. C. Lukis) and other Officers, entered the room, when the P.G. Lodge was duly opened and the usual salutations given. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, in response to the salutation, then delivered the following able address to the brethren:—Brethren,—I thank you for your kind salutation and hearty reception to-day. Since we met in Leeds in October last, two events of great importance have occurred which will in no mean degree affect the future interests of our Order. At the meeting of Grand Mark Lodge in June last, the M.W. Grand Master announced that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was about to join the Order. Although some may have thought that such a step as this was a first indication of what some brethren have longed for, viz., an amalgamation of our Order with the Grand Lodge of the Craft, yet, as our Most Worshipful Grand Master then pointed out, the Prince did not wish that his taking the degree should in any way be construed as a desire on his part to see the Grand Mark Lodge amalgamated with the Grand Lodge of the Craft; and, for my own part, I cannot see why it should. It might as well be said, when the Prince of Wales became Grand Master of the Order of the Temple, it was from a desire to see all Masonic Orders united under one head. Such a thing is not possible; and day by day, as the Mark Lodges increase in number and importance, a union becomes more and more unlikely. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was advanced to this honourable degree on the 30th October last, and installed as a W.M. the same day. On the 4th of December he was elected a M.W. P.G.M.M.; and at a special meeting of Grand Mark Lodge, held on the 8th of December,

was duly invested. Some of our West Yorkshire brethren were present, and it was one of the largest and most important meetings of Grand Mark Lodge ever held. Apart from any selfish motives, I think the accession of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the high office he now holds will be beneficial to the Order. From this let me turn your thoughts to what I consider a very great loss to our Order—I mean the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany. He was the first of the Royal Princes who was advanced to our degree, and I think I may say, without fear of contradiction, that it was to his appreciation of our Order that we have now his Royal Brother as one of our number. H.R.H. was advanced in the University Lodge, No. 55, on the 25th November 1875; was elected to, but had not filled, the office of W.M.; and in 1881 was elected and invested as a M.W. P.G.M.M.; and it was with great pleasure that I, with other members of this Provincial Grand Lodge, on the 5th December 1882, attended Grand Mark Lodge, and took part in the presentation of that wedding gift subscribed for by Mark Masons all over the habitable globe. The same evening he consecrated the Grand Mark Master's Lodge. I believe he took a great interest in Freemasonry, and had his life been spared he would have raised the prestige of the Craft still higher; but upon this we must not dwell; may we say, with all reverence and respect, *Requiescat in pace*, "till the day dawn and the shadows flee away." I shall ask you shortly to pass a vote of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen and also one to the widowed Duchess.

A few words about our Order. Is it of ancient origin or only a modern institution? Closely connected with it is that of Masons' Marks. We are told by those who have a right to speak that, prior to the Union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, the Mark Degree was regularly worked in many Lodges, but at the Union it was rigidly excluded. The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland governs the Mark Degree in that country, and it was reported in 1865, by a committee appointed to investigate the subject, "In this country, from time immemorial, and long before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1736, what is now known as the Mark Masters' Degree was wrought by the operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry." Whether any ceremony was used in the conferring of the Degree is not known at present; but we may fairly hope that, as time progresses, and old minute books are more carefully studied, some definite information may be obtained. In Scotland and Ireland it is a necessary prelude to the Royal Arch. Let us, however, bear in mind that formerly only two Degrees were given in an ordinary Lodge—the Entered Apprentice and the Fellow Craft—the Third Degree being conferred in Grand Lodge only; but more about this at some future meeting. This fact is patent to all—that Masons' Marks have been found on buildings of the greatest antiquity, and that the marks found on the stones used in building the Temple of Jerusalem have proved the correctness of the Bible statement that Phœnician artizans were employed, and "That Solomon's builders and Hiram's builders did hew the stones." The study of Masons' Marks is one that may well commend itself to our notice, and I hope, ere long, we may be favoured with a paper specially on the subject.

The present Grand Mark Lodge was formed in June 1856 and comprises several Lodges which have worked the Degree for about a century. Its growth, at first slow, has of late rapidly increased, and there are now between 300 and 400 Lodges working under the English Constitution. At the same time, I am sorry to say there has not been very great increase in our own Province, but rather, may I say, a backward tendency. We have on our roll in West Yorkshire nominally eight Lodges. Two working under warrants of confirmation (Time Immemorial), viz.—

14 Prince Edward, Eastwood, warrant of confirmation dated 28th May 1862.

T.I. Old York, Bradford, warrant of confirmation dated 8th November 1873.

And six other Lodges, viz.,

53 Britannia, Sheffield,	warrant dated 21st January 1861:
58 Fearnley, Halifax	" 13th October 1865.
110 Integrity, Wakefield	" 11th March 1870.
111 Copley, Leeds	" 20th June 1870.
127 Portal, Dewsbury	" 25th January 1871.
137 Truth, Huddersfield	" 9th August 1871.

So that during the last thirty years we have had no increase in the number of Lodges.

No.	Name.	Members.	P.M.'s & Officers.
14	Prince Edward, Eastwood	22	22
53	Britannia, Sheffield	94	14
58	Fearnley, Halifax	37	20
110	Integrity, Wakefield	(no return)	
111	Copley, Leeds	45	15
127	Portal, Dewsbury	(no return)	
137	Truth, Huddersfield	23	14
T.I.	Old York, Bradford	59	16

Now, although nominally we have eight Lodges on the roll, practically we have only six Lodges; and from the balance-sheet attached to the summons convening this meeting, we find two of these had no admissions last year to their number. Brethren, why this apathy? Is the Degree worth nothing? Has it no symbolical teaching? I know there is in Freemasonry, like everything else, a time of ebbing and one of flowing. Trade is bad, and it is said Masonry is a luxury, and the higher degrees greater luxuries, so that we must deny ourselves, and wait for brighter and more prosperous days. There are others who ignore the Degree altogether; but these I will dismiss without a word. Masonry is a science, and the several Degrees are successive steps: "She does not unfold her mysteries to all who seek her shrine." It hath been said of our Degree, "It assists in strengthening the social affections, it teaches us the duty we owe to our Brethren in particular, and the whole family of mankind in general, by ascribing praise to the meritorious and dispensing rewards to the diligent and industrious." May I ask, and ask not in vain, for the kind co-operation of the Brethren in resuscitating the dormant Lodges in this Province, either by re-kindling new life into their dying energies, or by the transfer

of their warrants to districts where the Degree is more understood and appreciated, so that when my term of office shall expire, I may hand over to my successor a roll of active Lodges, worked by zealous and loyal Mark Master Masons.

I offer to my Brethren of the Britannia Lodge my hearty and sincere thanks for their kind invitation to hold the meeting last October under their banner; and when that, under peculiar circumstances, could not be accepted, so kindly renewing their invitation for the present meeting, and for their kindness in making the preparation for and hearty welcome of Provincial Grand Mark Lodge this day; and I am sure I may, at the same time, convey the thanks of every member of this Provincial Lodge.

Brethren, before I sit down, let me for one minute call your attention to the last anathema that has been hurled against us as Freemasons. We are told that "Freemasonry, which is ever assuming more terrible proportions, aims at the ruin of the Throne, the Altar, and of the public welfare." The classification of Freemasonry, Socialism, and Communism under one category, and the declaration that their common object is the subversion of all civil society, and the destruction of religion, is as far as regards Freemasonry such an utter disregard for all Truth, that the language used in the Encyclical about to be issued is incredible. We, as Freemasons, know better than this. Does the teaching of "the correction of irregularities and the subjugation of our passions" lead to the dishonour of God, our Sovereign, or the welfare of society? Those charges have been made before, and they will be made again. One of the newspapers states that the information on which the Encyclical is founded is on a mass of documents which some short time ago was communicated to the Pope by a personage in a high position who once was a Freemason. That I emphatically deny,—not that our ritual and symbolic teaching may have been communicated, but that there is nothing in Freemasonry, as practised in England or the United States of America, that can, even in the most distorted form, be made the groundwork on which to build such statements. Resting assured in the dignity and grandeur of our Order, and firm in conscious rectitude, let us quietly pursue our course, unimpeded by such attacks, so that we may be enabled in all Truth to say,—

Have we mark'd well, Great Overseer,
A work to last beyond our time?
Each his allotted task fulfilled?
The glory and the praise be Thine.

In this degree we find the Truth,
On earth below, in Heaven above;
The corner stone of every work
Should be *unselfish, lasting* love.

Still will we work, and working pray,
Trusting that in a better land
Our mystic keys one may be raised
And fitted by Thy Master hand.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, in a feeling speech, then spoke of the great loss which the Order had sustained by the sudden death of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, M.W. P.G.M.M., and moved that the condolence of this Provincial Grand Lodge be forwarded to Her Majesty the Queen and also to H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, and that the same be entered on the minutes. This was forcibly seconded by the W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, supported by other Brethren, and carried unanimously.

The only visitor present was Bro. Morton, P.G. Sec., Lincolnshire. Bro. Monckman, P.P.G.W., on behalf of the Old York Lodge, T.I., having invited the R.W. Prov. G.M.M. to hold the annual meeting at Bradford in October next, the P.G. Lodge was duly closed, and the Brethren spent an exceedingly pleasant evening together until the time arrived for the various trains to take them to their respective homes.

CONSECRATION OF THE KINTORE LODGE, No. 333.

AN important addition to the roll of Lodges in the degree of Mark Master was made on Tuesday, the 29th ult., by the consecration of the Kintore Lodge, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E., under most favourable auspices, and in the presence of a large number of Grand Officers and other distinguished members of the Order. It was expected that the proceedings would be honoured by the presence of the Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore M.W. G.M.M.M. elect, who had taken great interest in the formation of the Lodge which bears his name, and had promised to attend. Unfortunately, however, his Lordship, who had travelled from Scotland expressly, took a severe chill on the journey, and was thus prevented from attending a meeting where his absence was deeply regretted. The R.W. Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Prov. Grand Master Middlesex and Surrey, who had undertaken to perform the consecration ceremony, was also unexpectedly detained elsewhere, and deputed the R.W. Bro. Fredk. Binckes P.G.W. (G. Secretary), to officiate on his behalf. Bro. Binckes was supported by (amongst others who had omitted to sign the attendance book) the R.W. Bros. A. M. Broadley P.P.G.M. Mediterranean, Frederick Davison Grand Treasurer D.P.G.M. Middlesex and Surrey, the V.W. Bros. H. C. Levander G.R. of Marks, James Stevens P.G.J.O.; Bros. H. Lovegrove P.G.D. Wks., F. H. Cozens P.G. Org., Thomas Poore P.G.I.G., T. C. Walls P.G.W. Middlesex and Surrey, J. Mason, Clements, &c. The Founders of the Lodge, seven in number, viz., Bros. G. H. Newington Bridges 22, Thomas Edmonston 22, J. Hepburn Hastie 104, Charles Fountain 104, Philip Dakers 41, B. R. Bryant P.M. 22 and W. H. Thomas 104 were present, as were also Bros. W. H. Saunders S.D. 238, R. J. Voisey S.W. 22, George Waterall 104, Thompson Old Kent T.I., W. Liddall 104, Goss 22, &c., and in attendance for advancement were Bros. G. Norington and J. R. Routledge of the Royal Leopold Craft Lodge 1669, Capt. C. H. Nevill, H. C. Ingram and R. A. Marshall of the Macdonald Craft

Lodge 1216, G. J. Venables of the Surrey Masonic Hall Craft Lodge 1539, W. G. Temple of the St. Paul's Craft Lodge 194, and J. S. Terry of the United Pilgrims Craft Lodge 507. The brethren assembled punctually at the hour named in the summons and awaited in the Temple the commencement of the interesting proceedings of the day. The pedestals and furniture of the Temple were most tastefully draped in crape, relieved by silver cord, and corner knots to pedestals and cushions; and, in accordance with the mandate of the Mark Grand Lodge, mourning was worn by all present in memory of His late Royal Highness the Duke of Albany, Past Grand Master of the Order. A Mark Lodge having by special dispensation been opened by Bro. B. R. Bryant P.M. 22, Bros. Walls acting as S.W., Lovegrove as J.W. and T. Poore as S.D., the candidates for advancement, as above named, were introduced and duly advanced into the Order, the admirable working of Bro. Bryant deserving especial mention for its perfect and eloquent style of delivery. With such able assistance as that rendered by Bros. Poore as Deacon and Cozens as Organist, the whole ceremony was without fault or blemish, and formed a most interesting introduction to the more important business which followed. The Grand Officers having been received in due form, the R.W. Bro. Binckes P.G.W. and Grand Secretary assumed the chair of A., and appointed the following brethren to assist him, viz., R.W. Bros. Broadley Orator, T. C. Walls S.W., H. Lovegrove J.W. and J. Stevens Director of Ceremonies. He then proceeded with the ceremony of consecration in ancient form, most impressively rendering the invocation and the dedication. The following Oration by Bro. Broadley was listened to with earnest attention, and at its conclusion was received with Masonic applause.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN,

We are assembled here to-day in accordance with our traditional rites and ceremonies to place one more stone on the ever-rising fabric of Mark Masonry. If anything could lend a greater interest to the fact that our labours this evening will result in the addition of another Mark Lodge to the muster roll of the Order, it must, I think, be found in the circumstances surrounding the origin of the lodge we are now about to consecrate. The Kintore Lodge of Mark Master Masons is destined to commemorate and perpetuate the accession to supreme office in the Mark Degree of one whose skill, energy, and assiduity in the past confidently inspire us with the highest hopes for the future of Mark Masonry during the time he will rule over its fortunes and guide its destinies. The elevation to the Grand Mark Mastership of so distinguished a member of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Scotland as Lord Kintore is no unimportant epoch in our history, for we feel that it cannot but more closely strengthen and cement the union of Mark Masters on both sides of the Tweed. An oration or address has from a remote period in the history of our Craft formed part of the consecrating ceremony which precedes the solemn dedication of our Lodges. I know of no more difficult task than an attempt to compress any general disquisition on the fruitful theme of Freemasonry into the short space which this oration or address should with propriety occupy, and I must be pardoned if I shrink from so ambitious an effort and limit the few remarks I shall trouble you with to what I conceive to be the characteristic and distinctive features of the Mark Degree. I assert without fear of contradiction that the history of the rise, progress, and prosperity of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons finds no parallel, or indeed anything like a parallel, in the annals of the Craft. There is one at least amongst us to-day who can look back through the vista of 27 years to the time when that Grand Lodge was first called into existence, and I will venture to say that its present prosperity and unrivalled vitality have surpassed the most sanguine expectations of the most enthusiastic of its founders. To what, then, must we attribute the signal and peculiar success of the Mark Grand Lodge? We owe much, no doubt, to the individual energy and high administrative ability of its successive rulers, as well as to the untiring labours and dauntless activity of the Grand Secretary, that veteran in the ranks of Mark Masonry—Bro. Binckes—but it seems to me there is something more than ability and activity to account for the proud position our Order has come to occupy. For myself, I have no difficulty in finding this secret of success in the inherent value and peculiar interest of the degree itself. It is precisely of two features of the inherent value and peculiar interest of the Mark Degree that I purpose speaking to you this evening. I allude to the wholly unequalled archaeological associations which surround it, as well as to the practical and cosmopolitan nature of its symbolic teaching. I conceive that both the one and the other have contributed not a little to the general popularity of our Order. I may be pardoned if I endeavour to make my meaning clear to you by an allusion to my own personal experiences as a humble worker amongst Mark Masons beyond the seas. My lot happened to be cast on ground richer perhaps than any other in the Masonic traditions of the remote past—Tunis, Carthage, Malta, the Knights of St. John, Egypt. What time-honoured memories each of those well-known names are capable of calling into existence. It is on such classic sites as these that we can appreciate perhaps better than anywhere else the legends which are treasured up in the teachings of the Mark Degree. It has often been my privilege to explore with Masonic brethren from a distance the ruins of the wondrous city of Carthage—at once the marvel and the terror of the day of her zenith—where even yet one can view the traces of those ancient Tyrian builders, our fathers and ancestors in Masonry, our operative prototypes, to whose genius we owe directly or indirectly those art treasures which are the boast of all ages and the patterns for all time. The creators of these wondrous fabrics, the architects and sculptors of these exquisite stones, have engraved their names in undying characters, and have moreover individually distinguished each man his work by means of that cipher which even to this day is practised—I mean the Mason's mark. Brethren, our legends come to us from the period of the erection of that stately edifice which crowned the Mount of God in Jerusalem, and we are told that in the process of building that Temple the sound of workmen's tools was not heard. Why? Because the stones were all cut, *marked* in the quarries, and the *marks* guided the builders, who with square,

trowel, and plumb-line of wood, fitted the stones joint to joint until the last keystone was lowered into its place amid the plaudits of the crowds of admiring Masons. Descending through history and examining the ancient temples, military erections, and domiciles of the several ages, we still find Masons' marks in use amongst the builders, and whether we examine the ruined cities of Jordan, the walls of Jerusalem, the palaces of Venice, the cathedrals of England and the Continent, the wall of Hadrian, the mosques of Constantinople, still the same silent, yet speaking, story comes to us—the story of the fraternity of builders, whose marks, handed from father to son, record on the old stone the deeds of those who wrought them. There is no break in the story, which continues even to this day, on which we have met as Mark Masons, to perpetuate the principles which guided our forefathers. Each Mason had his mark, which he indented on his completed stone, and the plan or tracing board, committed by the master builder to the Overseer's care, is referred to to guide the Masons in the progress of their work. Each Mason is known to his Overseer by his mark, just as he was in the days when Hiram, the widow's son, wrought in the quarries of Mount Moriah. So much for the Operative side of the history of Mark Masonry, and the archaeological associations which distinguish our Order. But at the same time it can hardly be contested that as Speculative Mark Masons we have an origin coeval with that of our Operative brethren. The workers in stone of the present day have lost their Speculative knowledge, which is preserved by us. The Operative and Speculative bodies of Masonry became divorced about the time that the spoliation of the monasteries in England by the eighth Henry caused the building profession to fall into comparative disrepute. The monks had been the great patrons of the Freemasons, and, their patronage removed, the occupation of the architectural fraternity was well-nigh gone. But the speculative teaching, though dormant, was not lost, and was revived, as we believe, by our brethren at the commencement of the eighteenth century, who found it amongst the treasures which they banded themselves together piously to preserve, and which has come to us from them through various channels—to be at length condensed and perfected in the ritual which we now practise under the Grand Mark Lodge of England. At the present moment the Grand Mark Lodge of England occupies so splendid a position that any Mason may indeed be proud to be enrolled under its banner. It enjoys the fraternal recognition of every orthodox body working the Mark Degree, and it can boast of a succession of Grand Masters second in social rank, as well as in Masonic knowledge, to none in the world. No teachings could be purer than those inculcated by its symbolism; none could certainly be more cosmopolitan. Charity, hospitality, constancy, and courage under difficulties, perseverance—such, my brethren, are the practical lessons taught us each time that we witness the beautiful ceremonial of the Mark. Can we wonder, then, at our success? The brightness of the present, the calm survey of the past, the cheering prospects for the future, should unite every one of us in our determination to do our duty in upholding the best interests of this ancient and honourable Order. Brethren, I cannot do better than conclude with the words of one of the oldest Mark rituals—“While virtue is your ruling principle, hope will always find a residence in your bosom. Under the frowns of fortune keep this consolation in your mind, that he who has a due faith in the dispensations of his beneficent Creator and a becoming charity for his fellow-creatures will be sure of receiving that just reward which is the consequent attendant on good and virtuous actions.”

Bros. Davison and Levander assisted in distributing the consecrating elements, accompanied by grand honours and appropriate choral service under the direction of Bro. Cozens. The constitution of the Kintore Lodge having been thus completed, the W.M. designate, Bro. G. H. N. Bridges, was presented to Bro. Binckes for installation. On the completion of that ceremony, the investiture of Officers for the year was made in the following manner, viz.:—Bros. T. Poore acting I.P.M., Thomas Edmonston S.W., J. H. Hastie J.W., C. Fountain M.O., P. Dakers S.O., B. R. Bryant P.M. 22 J.O., C. H. Nevill Secretary, J. W. Routledge R.M., G. Norrington S.D., H. C. Ingram J.D., G. J. Venables I.G., R. A. Marshall D.C., W. G. Temple W.S., J. S. Terry C.S., T. B. Potter Tyler. The election of Treasurer was deferred to the ensuing meeting. The addresses to Master, Wardens, Overseers and Brethren having been delivered by the Installing Master, the W.M. addressed the Lodge in feeling terms, expressive of thankfulness for the inauguration of the Lodge, and his hope that order, peace and harmony might ever be associated with its proceedings and its future progress. In recognition of the services which had been rendered by the Grand Officers on this occasion, he proposed that thanks be recorded, and honorary membership be offered to, Bros. Binckes, Bradley, Davison, Levander, Stevens, Walls, Lovegrove, and Poore. This was unanimously agreed to, and Bro. Binckes thanked the Lodge on behalf of himself and the several brethren named. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the dining hall, and partook of a liberally-provided and well-served banquet. At dessert the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given with commendable brevity, and were responded to with equal consideration for the convenience of the Visitors, who had long journeys before them. Reference was made to the loss which the Order of Mark Masonry had sustained by the lamented death of the Duke of Albany, and the mourning which that loss had occasioned had its effect upon the customary hilarity with which the introduction of a new Lodge is associated. Nevertheless, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present, and the Worshipful Master's hope that good luck would attend the numbers seven (represented by the founders of the Lodge), and thrice lucky threes (represented by the number of the Lodge), was cordially endorsed by members and visitors alike. We are requested to state that a Mark Lodge of Instruction, working under the sanction of the Kintore Lodge, will be held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell, on alternate Friday evenings. It will be supported by well-known and skilled professors of the ritual of the degree, with Bro. Thomas Poore P.G.I.G. as Preceptor.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

THE regular convocation of Grand Chapter was held on Wednesday, 7th instant, when Companions J. Havers presided as Z., Dr. Wendt as H., and J. A. Rucker as J. The business, of which we last week published the agenda, was of routine character, and was speedily transacted. It was announced from the chair that the following Companions had been appointed by the M.E.Z. as Grand Officers, and those who were present were in due course invested with their respective collars.

Comp. The Earl of Carnarvon - - Pro Grand Z.
The Earl of Lathom - - Grand H.

The vacancy caused in the third chair by the death of the Duke of Albany, was left vacant.

Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke	-	Scribe E.
The Earl of Onslow	-	Scribe N.
Lord Cremorne	-	Pr. Sojourner
Baron de Ferriers, M.P.	-	1st A. Sojourner
F. Davison	-	2nd A. Sojourner
Horace Brooks Marshall, C.C.	-	Grand Treasurer
F. A. Philbrick, Q.C.	-	Grand Registrar
James Smith Eastes	-	Grand Sword Bearer
Edward Letchworth	-	1st Standard Bearer
Alfred Richards	-	2nd Standard Bearer
Griffiths Smith	-	3rd Standard Bearer
Major Edward Locock	-	4th Standard Bearer
James H. Matthews	-	Director of Ceremonies
E. M. Lott	-	Grand Organist
H. G. Buss	-	Asst. Scribe E.
Henry Sadler	-	Janitor

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes was adopted, and the prayers of the petitions recommended were in each case acceded to. The suggestion from the Committee that Grand Chapter do not hear the appeal of Comp. Paul Smith until he had made due submission to the Grand Superintendent of his Province was adopted, and the several grants proposed were carried. In due course Grand Chapter was closed.

The General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys held its meeting on Saturday last, at Freemasons' Hall, Brother Raynham W. Stewart, Past Grand Deacon, in the chair. The brethren passed a resolution to sell out £5,000 stock belonging to the Preparatory School Building Fund, in order that they might complete the purchase of some property at Wood Green, and commence operations at once. Three petitioners were placed on the list of candidates for the October election. Outfits of £5 were granted to four former pupils of the School, and £10 was granted to another. One application for an outfit was deferred. The House and Audit Committees for the ensuing twelve months were then nominated. Brother C. F. Matier expressed a wish to retire from the Audit Committee, but on request that he should not do so, he placed himself in the hands of the Chairman and Secretary. The proceedings closed with the customary vote of thanks to the Chairman.

MAY ELECTION 1884.

To the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

YOUR VOTES and INTEREST are earnestly solicited on behalf of

WILLIAM HENRY MAIN,

AGED 64 YEARS.

W. H. MAIN was initiated in 1861 in New Concord Lodge, No. 813, served all offices; joined the Fitzroy Lodge in 1863; was exalted in New Concord Chapter, 813; served as Steward for the Benevolent Institution in 1872, and is a Life Governor of all the Charities. Owing to defective sight and rheumatism he is unable to follow his business as a decorator, and is dependent upon his relatives for maintenance.

The case is strongly recommended by:

THE NEW CONCORD LODGE, 813.	Bro. H. T. TIDDEMAN W.M. 813,
Bro. JNO. BERTRAM P.M. 742, 813, P.Z.	50 Finsbury Square.
25, V.P. Institution, Newport Villa,	Bro. R. R. HARPER P.M. 813, 86 Clifton
Upper Norwood, S.E.	Street, Finsbury.
Bro. J. LINZELL P.M. 754, 1237, 1579,	Bro. J. SMITH W.M. 193, 21 Russia
P.P.G.D.O. Middlesex, P.Z. 1237,	Lane, Victoria Park.
Talbot House, Tottenham.	Bro. A. TRANTER, 55 Medland Street,
Bro. J. W. LONG P.M. 569, 212, P.Z. 22,	Ratcliff.
31 Finsbury Square.	Bro. H. FITCHER 860, 2 and 3 Warwick
Bro. H. J. GABB P.M. 813, P.Z. 813,	Lane, City.
28 Holywell Row, Finsbury.	Bro. F. W. SWALES 813, 61 Spencer
Bro. T. HAMMOND P.M. 212, 232 Cable	Road, Herne Hill.
Street, E.	Bro. S. S. PHILLIPS P.M. 173, 10 Baker
Bro. H. COCKING, 31 Camden Square.	Street, Portman Square.

By whom Proxies will be thankfully received, and by the Petitioner, 9 Little Trinity Lane, E.C.

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, 10th MAY.

- 173—Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
 188—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1375—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1328—Granite, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1635—Guelph, Red Lion, Leytonstone
 1686—Paxton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1928—Gallery, Brixton Hall, Acre Lane, Brixton
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 R.A. 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green
 M.M. 231—Brixton, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottons, Eastwood
 1929—Mozart, Harewood House, High Street, Croydon
 R.A. 1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court
 R.A. 1423—Era, The Albany, Twickenham

MONDAY, 12th MAY.

- 5—St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 58—Felicity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street
 136—Good Report, Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln Inn Fields
 171—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 193—Confidence, Anderton's Fleet-street, E.C.
 518—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 957—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1237—Enfield, Market-place, Enfield
 1366—Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate
 1425—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington, at 8 (In).
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
 1480—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In)
 1507—Metropolis, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1571—Leopold, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge
 1585—Royal Commemoration, Fox and Hounds, Putney, at 8. (Instruction)
 1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1623—West Smithfield, Clarence Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C. at 7 (Inst.)
 1625—Tredgar, Royal Hotel Mile End Road, corner of Burdett Road. (Inst.)
 1670—Adelphi, 4 Adelphi Terrace, Strand
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, Masonic Hall, Air-street, W.
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Greyhound Hotel, Streatham
 R.A. 720—Pannure, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 R.A. 862—Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 R.A. 933—Doric, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 7. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1118—University, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 M.M. 230—Royal Naval, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C.
 R.C. 53—Holy Sanctuary, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
 40—Derwent, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 75—Love and Honour, Royal Hotel, Falmouth
 104—St. John, Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport
 151—Albany, Masonic Hall, Newport, I.W.
 240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields
 292—Sincerity, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
 297—Witham, New Masonic Hall, Lincoln
 302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Heblen Bridge
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 481—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 502—Rectitude, Town Hall, Rugby
 587—Howe, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 599—Druids of Love and Liberty, Masonic Hall, Redruth
 665—Montague, Royal Lion, Lyme Regis
 721—Independence, Masonic Chambers, Eastgate-row-north, Chester
 724—Derby, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 797—Hanley, Hanley Hall, Dartmouth
 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury
 893—Meridian, National School Room, Millbrook, Cornwall
 949—Williamson, St. Stephen School, Monkwearmouth, Durham
 1021—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Custom House Buildings, Barrow-in-Furness
 1069—United Brothers, Castle Hotel, Southsea
 1112—Shirley, Masonic Hall, Shirley, Hants
 1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 1253—Travellers, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
 1350—Fermor Hesketh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1436—Sandgate, Masonic Hall, Sandgate
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Carterbury
 1474—Israel, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham
 1592—Abbey, Suffolk Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds
 1611—Eboracum, Queen's Hotel, Micklegate, York
 1618—Handyside, Zetland Hotel, Saltburn-by-Sea
 1691—Quadratic, Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court
 1861—Claremont, School-room, Esher, Surrey
 R.A. 89—Royal Cheshire, Ashley's Arms, Dukinfield
 R.A. 100—Friendship, Crown and Cushion, Great Yarmouth
 R.A. 149—Elias Ashmole, Chapter Rooms, Warrington
 R.A. 306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds
 R.A. 379—Tynne, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath
 R.A. 1278—Kennard, Masonic Hall, George Street, Pontypool
 M.M. 9—Egerton, Royal Rock Hotel, Rock Ferry, Cheshire
 M.M. 9—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, South Molton, Devon
 R.C.—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool

TUESDAY, 13th MAY.

- 46—Old Union, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 141—Faith, Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's Gate, St. James's Park Station, at 8. (Instruction)
 167—St. John, Holly Bush, Hampstead
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 235—Nine Muses, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 654—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)
 890—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)

- 1044—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
 1269—Starhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (In.)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1380—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1448—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich (Instruction)
 1540—Chancer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1593—Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich
 1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Middleton, Queen's Head, Essex Road, N., at 8. (In)
 1604—Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1668—Samson, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, W.
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
 1769—Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street
 1918—Brixton, Prince Regent Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 1969—Waldeck, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30
 R.A.—Camden, The Boston, Junction Road, Holloway, at 8 (Instruction)

- 93—Social, 23 St. Giles Street, Norwich
 124—Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn, Burnley
 131—Fortitude, Masonic Hall, Truro
 184—United Chatham of Benevolence, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Kent
 211—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 272—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Main Ridge, Boston
 284—Shakespeare, Masonic Rooms, High-street, Warwick
 403—Hertford, Town Hall, Hertford
 406—Northern Counties, Masonic Hall, Maple Street, Newcastle (Instruct)
 448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
 473—Faithful, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 496—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Zetland Street, Wakefield
 503—Belvidere, Star Hotel, Maidenhead
 510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
 603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cheekheaton
 626—Lansdowne of Unity, Town Hall, Chippenham
 650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich
 696—St. Bartholomew, Anchor Hotel, Wednesbury
 726—Staffordshire Knot, North Western Hotel, Safford
 779—Ferrers and Ivanhoe, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 829—Sydney, Black Horse Hotel, Sidcup
 892—Royal Edward, Royal Oak Hotel, Leominster
 903—Gosport, India Arms Hotel, High-street, Gosport

- 1250—Gilbert, Masonic Rooms, Sankey Greenhall, Street, Warrington
 1314—Acacia, Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer Street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1414—Knole, Masonic Hall, Severoaks
 1466—Ockenden, Talbot Hotel, Sutton, Sussex
 1509—Madoc, Queen's Hotel, Portmadoc
 1546—Baildon, Masonic Room, Northgate, Baildon
 1678—Tonbridge, Masonic Hall, Tonbridge
 1713—Wilbraham, Walto. Institute, Walton, Liverpool
 1823—Royal Clarence, Masonic Hall, Clare, Suffolk

- R.A. 70—St. John's, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Princes Street, Plymouth
 R.A. 111—Vigilance, Masonic Hall, Archer Street, Darlington
 R.A. 253—Justice, Masonic Hall, Gower Street, Derby
 R.A. 285—Judea, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley
 R.A. 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 R.A. 402—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
 R.A. 660—King Edwin, Freemasons' Hall, Yorkergate, New Walton
 R.A. 1055—Derby, Masonic Rooms, Bedford Street, Cheetham, Lancashire
 M.M. 6—Adams, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness
 M.M. 15—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Gandy Street, Exeter
 M.M. 152—Dover and Cinque Ports, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover

WEDNESDAY, 14th MAY.

- 3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 13—Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich
 15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street
 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)
 186—Industry, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, at 7. (Instruction)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 228—United Strength, Prince Alfred, 13 Crownvale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In)
 538—La Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst)
 720—Pannure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E.
 913—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond
 867—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Victoria Hotel, Farringdon Road, at 7. (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, E., at 8. (Inst.)
 1289—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1306—Lodge of St. John, City Arms Tavern, St. Mary Axe
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst)
 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)
 1694—Imperial, Cadogan Hotel, Sloane-street, Chelsea
 1791—Creston, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In.)
 1986—Honor Oak, Moore Park Hotel, near Honor Oak Station
 2033—University of London, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. (Consecration)

- R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)
 R.A. 857—St. Mark, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 M.M.—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, at 8 (Instruction)
 M.M. 284—High Cross, Seven Sisters Hotel, Tottenham

- 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham-street, Rochdale
 146—Antiquity, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 191—St. John, Knowsley Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
 225—St. Luke's, Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich
 274—Tranquillity, Bour's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
 291—Fortitude, Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster
 298—Harmony, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
 299—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
 493—Sympathy, Old Falcon Hotel, Gravesend
 567—Unity, Globe Hotel, Warwick
 625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
 666—Benevolence, Private Rooms, Prince Town, Dartmoor
 708—Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court
 750—Friendship, Freemason's Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton
 759—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
 852—Zetland, Albert Hotel, New Bailey-street, Salford
 854—Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, near Oldham
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)

- 1013—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
 1031—Fletcher, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1060—Marmion, Masonic Rooms, Church-street, Tamworth
 1094—Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1101—Grey Friars, Masonic Hall, Reading
 1206—Lewises, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate

- 1248—Denison, Grand Hotel, Scarborough
 1261—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
 1342—Walker, Hope and Anchor Inn, Byker, Newcastle
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill Street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool
 1393—Baldwin, Dalton Castle, Dalton-in-Furness
 1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
 1421—Brownrigg, Assembly Rooms, Old Brompton, Chatham
 1431—Nottinghamshire, George Hotel, Nottingham
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1520—Earl Shrewsbury, Public, Rooms, Cannock, Stafford
 1547—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1582—Llanidloes, Trewythen Arms, Llanidloes
 1638—Brownrigg, Sun Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, at 8. (Instruction)
 1643—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Hebburn-on-Tyne.
 R.A. 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 R.A. 24—De Swinburne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 R.A. 280—St. Wulstans, Maconic Hall, 95 High Street, Worcester
 R.A. 298—Unity, 23 Ann Street, Rochdale
 R.A. 333—Royal Preston, Preston
 R.A. 848—Strawberry Hill, Grotto Hotel, Twickenham
 R.A. 1548—Stanmore, Abercorn Hotel, Great Stanmore

THURSDAY, 15th MAY.

- 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 55—Constitutional, Inns of Court Hotel, Fleet-street, W.C.
 67—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 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)
 813—New Cord, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 8.30. (Instruction)
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1185—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1227—Upton, Spotted Dog, Upton
 1278—Buddett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park
 1321—Emblematic, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1359—Clayton, White Hart, Clapton
 1385—Clayton, White Hart, Clapton
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 8.30 (Inst.)
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (Inst.)
 1614—Covent Garden, Cranbourne, 1 Up. St. Martin's Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1623—West Smithfield, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1744—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1983—Duke of Albany, Masonic Hall, Shaftesbury Park, Lavender Hill
 R.A. 63—St. Mary, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 R.A. 217—Stability, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 R.A. 607—United Pilgrim, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 R.A. 733—Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood
 R.A. 742—Crystal Palace, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
 R.A. 763—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 834—Andrew, Bell and Anchor Hotel, Hammersmith Road
 R.A. 1216—Macdonald, Head-quarters 1st Surrey Rifles, Camberwell
 R.A. 1383—Friends in Council, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square
 R.A. 1471—North London, Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 7—Carnarvon, Café Royal, W.
 M.M. 189—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, at 8.30 (Inst.)
 42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lancashire
 56—Howard, High-street, Arundel
 98—St. Martin, Town Hall, Burslem
 100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor, Great Yarmouth
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 215—Commerce, Commercial Hotel, Haslingden
 288—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street, Ashton-under-Lyne
 343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston
 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn
 367—Probity and Freedom, Red Lion Inn, Smallbridge
 523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester
 600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford
 605—Combermere, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead
 971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial Street, Batley
 1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford
 1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool
 1320—Blackheath, Green Man, Blackheath
 1327—King Harold, Britannia Hotel, Waltham New Town
 1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon
 1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1672—St. Margaret's, St. Mark's School, Surbiton
 R.A. 97—Strict Benevolence, Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland
 R.A. 107—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, King's Lynn
 R.A. 204—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 R.A. 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 288—Wisdom, Swan Inn, Haslingden
 R.A. 337—Confidence, Masonic Hall, Brownhill Vale, Upper Mill
 M.M. 1—Canynoges, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol

FRIDAY, 16th MAY.

- Annual General Meeting Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc.)
 143—Middlesex, Albion, Aldersgate-street.
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 786—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (Inst.)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hall, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1118—University, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (Inst.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1801—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1—Panmure O. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 78—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 95—Eastern Star Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall St.
 M.M. 1—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 K.T. 49—Kemeys Tynte, 33 Golden Square, W.
 127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate
 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 271—Royal Clarence, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 347—Noah's Ark, Wagon and Horses Hotel Tipton
 453—Chigwell, Loughton Tavern, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30 (Inst.)

- 518—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket
 541—De Lorraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme
 1098—Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
 1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1773—Albert Victor, Town Hall, Pendleton
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7
 R.A. 31—General Chapter of Improvement, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
 R.A. 31—Bertha, Masonic Hall, St. Peter's Street, Canterbury
 R.A. 41—Union, Masonic Hall, Greyfriars Road, Reading
 R.A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Fitzwilliam
 R.A. 837—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
 M.M. 65—West Lancashire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 K.T.—De Farnival, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

SATURDAY, 17th MAY.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1384—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1584—Loyalty and Charity, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge
 1624—Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1787—Kensington, Courtfield Hotel, Earl's Court, S.W.
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 R.A. 1572—Carnarvon, Albion, Aldersgate Street
 M.M. 205—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 410—Grove, Sun Hotel, Kingston
 811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 1328—Lebanon, Lion Hotel, Twickenham
 1494—Felix, Clarence Hotel, Teddington
 1558—Addiscombe, Harewood House, High Street, Croydon.
 R.A. 64—Royal Clarence, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 1194—Royal Middlesex, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court
 M.M. 14—Prince Edward's, Station Hotel, Stansfield, Todmorden

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

—O—

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No. 65.—A meeting was held on Tuesday last, at Bro. Maidwell's, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. Present—Bros. Sainte W.M., Walker S.W. (Hon. Sec.), Haynes J.W., Dyson S.D., Rich J.D., Steed I.G.; also Bros. Weil, Lazarus, Hermann, Schadler, and S. Heidenreich Prudence 632, New York. The minutes of previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hermann candidate. Bro. Hermann answered the questions leading to the second degree, and retired. Lodge opened in second degree. Bro. Sainte vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Rich. Bro. Weil having answered the questions leading to the third degree, that ceremony was rehearsed. Bro. Walker was elected W.M. for ensuing week. Nothing further offering, Lodge was closed and adjourned.

Justice Lodge of Instruction, No. 147.—On Thursday last, at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford. Bros. Penrose W.M., Cooper S.W., Thomas J.W., Speight P.M. Secretary, Greener S.D., Pitt J.D., J. Bedford Williams I.G.; Bros. Bolton, Freeman, Hutchings Preceptor, and Stringer. The ceremonial work comprised the rehearsal of the ceremonies of passing and initiation, Bros. Stringer and Penrose respectively personating the candidates. Lodge was then closed in due form.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—At Bro. Langdale's, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., on Saturday, 3rd instant. Bros. Giller W.M., Powell S.W., Gush J.W., Cohen Preceptor, Fenner Acting Secretary, Weeden S.D., Turner J.D., Dixie I.G.; also Bros. Woolveridge, Hirst, Ashton, Richardson, A. Mullord, F. Perl, &c. After preliminaries, Bro. Cohen worked the fourth and fifth sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Powell was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting night. The New Concord Lodge of Instruction, No. 813, having sent invitation to work the Fifteen Sections, on the 21st instant, it was unanimously resolved to accept the same. A Committee, consisting of Bros. I. P. Cohen, A. W. Fenner, R. W. Galer, and A. J. Dixie, was deputed to wait upon Bro. R. Percy, who is at present prostrated by illness, and present him with the illuminated testimonial subscribed for by his brother Masons, after which Lodge was closed and adjourned.

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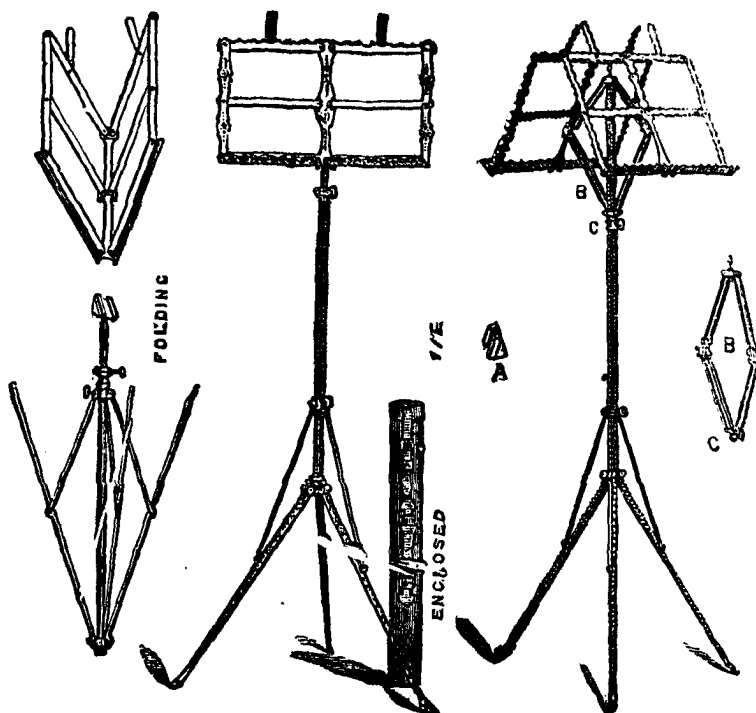
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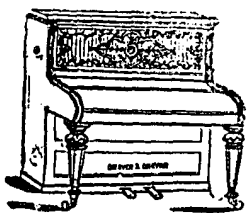
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