

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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FREEDOM OF DISCUSSION.

IN introducing the First Number of our Twenty-first Volume to our readers little remains for us to say after the remarks with which we closed our Twentieth. There is, however, one matter to which our attention may well be devoted. We allude to the course we have pursued in the past, of allowing to all sections of the Craft free discussion of their views in our columns. We feel we are best consulting the interests of Freemasonry in England when we afford to the views of all who address us an equal share of publicity. Of course there is a limit beyond which we should not allow a correspondent to go, but we have not found it necessary, except in a few instances, to put our veto on any letters addressed to us. Our conduct in this respect has called forth a word of caution from our esteemed contemporary the *Evening News*, which remarks that "the opening of a new year is a fitting time to caution the brethren against the perpetration of un-Masonic acts." "It is a curious fact," says our contemporary, "that a difference of opinion is seldom argued out inoffensively, a tendency being constantly shown by the disputants to endeavour to say something hurtful to each other's feelings." In this view we fully coincide; indeed it has often pained us to be called upon to publish in extenso the letters we have received, on account of their occasionally containing sentences which might be looked upon as offensive, and we have, in no few instances, suggested modifications; but bearing in mind our programme—our determination to afford a medium of discussion to all sides—we have felt unable to wholly exclude them. For this reason we cannot allow the expressions of the *Evening News* to pass unquestioned. "The Masonic Press," it says, "unfortunately exercises scarcely sufficient caution over the correspondence which it admits into its pages with respect to contentious matters, and from time to time hard expressions are allowed to appear which a little reflection must convince the writers had better not have been used." Speaking for ourselves, we consider that caution is used, and from our standpoint sufficient caution. We claim for ourselves freedom of discussion on all points connected with the Craft, and we allow our correspondents the same. The views of one writer can very rarely be the same as those of all who read them, but it is nothing short of presumption for any one individual, because he happens to disagree with the expressions of one side, to argue that they must of necessity be wrong, and that his ideas are the only correct ones. Neither can we agree with our contemporary in saying that "however trivial the subject, it is enough that every one should not be of the same mind on it to rush into print." "Nor do we believe it would be necessary in so doing to say what is supposed to be smart in order to hold up the opponent as an example of folly." Our contemporary must admit it is next to impossible to write on subjects of a personal character without introducing arguments which may be taken as offensive, and the class of correspondence to which our contemporary more particularly refers cannot be described as anything but personal. Under these circumstances we argue that what looks like "smart" writing is nothing more than the necessary emphasis of the writer. Our experience has convinced us that in many of the cases where offence was taken no one was more surprised or pained thereat than the offender himself. To prove more fully what we mean,

we may refer to past discussions to which we have devoted editorial attention. In not a few instances we have been blamed by both sides for showing favour to the other, thus proving, to our mind, the fairness of our arguments, and the all but utter impossibility of pleasing everybody. If this is the case with us, how much more likely is it to be so with those who, without experience, avail themselves, perhaps for the first time, of the columns of a newspaper to give publicity to their views. They may be sincere in what they do; they may desire to keep clear of everything likely to give pain or offence, and may write solely in the hope of doing good; yet they are misunderstood; the meanings of their sentences are twisted until they can hardly believe they ever wrote them, and such unworthy motives attributed to them that they feel actually ashamed of themselves. Very much of this abuse arises, we think, from the inability of most writers to keep their temper in the discussions in which they take part; if they would write in defence of the views they take, rather than in opposition to the writer on the other side, they would keep clear of the recriminations which are usually returned to them with interest. It should be possible to write in opposition to a man's views without writing in opposition to the man. The best of friends must occasionally differ in their ideas on particular subjects, but that is no reason for their quarrelling with each other. Indeed, we consider that the man is to be pitied who cannot read the fiercest onslaught of his opponent in a discussion without engendering feelings of personal antagonism to the writer.

The latest circumstances out of which this objectionable writing has arisen, remarks our contemporary, is the recent nomination of three brethren for election to the office of Grand Treasurer, and it will doubtless strike our readers that the letters which have appeared in our last few numbers more particularly account for the "caution" it has been deemed necessary to publish. The *Evening News* considers the correspondence in our pages is to be deplored and deprecated. If that correspondence was written simply with the object of personally attacking those referred to in it, it is most certainly to be deplored and deprecated, but if, as we believe, it was written without any personal malice, and with the object of drawing attention to a fair matter of discussion, it is neither to be deplored nor deprecated; on the contrary, if the reader can disassociate himself from all feelings of animus to individuals, and read it calmly and dispassionately, it will then, we urge, clearly show itself in its true light,—and will present features which will call for consideration by all who take an interest in the matter.

In saying we intend to follow, in the future, the plan we have adopted in the past, we do not intend it to be understood we ignore the opinions of others. On the contrary, we attach as much importance to those who abuse us as to those who applaud, but we do not yet feel disposed to depart one bit from our programme; we intend to continue to provide—as long as we are able—a field for free discussion.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to present to the funds of the Bookellers' Provident Institution, through Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., a donation of £20. Her Majesty has been the Patron of the Society since the year 1868.

THE PAST YEAR'S CHARITY WORK.

THE year 1884 has been one of great prosperity to the Masonic Charities, as a cursory glance at the figures we are now able to give, and a comparison with the receipts of past years, will amply prove. It is true that the amounts do not total up to so large a sum as did those of the previous year, but it must be borne in mind that the special efforts then made on behalf of the Boys' Preparatory School Fund raised the total of that Institution far above the average, and it would hardly be fair to compare an ordinary year with one of such a special character. The totals of last year reach the grand amount of £48,823 17s 7d as compared with £55,994 14s 3d for 1883, announced by us in our first number of 1884, so that there is an actual falling off last year of upwards of £7,000; but as the special appeal on behalf of the Boys' School in 1883 realised between £10,000 and £12,000, it follows that last year's total shows an actual increase over that of its predecessor of something like £5,000. The following is a detailed statement of the receipts of the three Institutions as well as of the grants made by the Lodge of Benevolence, during the past year:—

Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

	£	s	d
Donations and subscriptions	15,654	2	2
Dividends	1,915	0	6
Grand Lodge	1,600	0	0
Grand Chapter	150	0	0
Do. Special	500	0	0
Legacies	64	5	0
Rent of meadow	18	0	0
	19,901	7	8

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

	£	s	d
Donations and Subscriptions	13,051	4	7
Dividends—"General Fund"—3 qrs	945	0	0
Do. "Sustentation Fund"—2 qrs.	173	11	11
Grand Lodge	150	0	0
Grand Chapter	10	10	0
Do. Special	500	0	0
Sale of Old Stores	1	17	6
Sale of Lists of Subscribers	1	15	0
Legacies	95	0	0
	14,928	19	0

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

	£	s	d
Donations and subscriptions	12,242	7	3
Dividends	572	16	8
Grand Lodge	150	0	0
Grand Chapter	10	10	0
Ditto Special	500	0	0
Purchased admissions (2)	357	0	0
Music Fees	63	0	0
Sale of Lists of Subscribers	2	17	0
Legacies	95	0	0
	13,993	10	11

Lodge of Benevolence.

Month.	Cases relieved.	Amount.
		£ s d
January	16	535 0 0
February	21	490 0 0
March	32	890 0 0
April	29	1,000 0 0
May	33	1,075 0 0
June	22	855 0 0
July	26	615 0 0
August	16	535 0 0
September	19	560 0 0
October	34	1,160 0 0
November	37	710 0 0
December	38	827 0 0
	323	9,252 0 0

A WORD IN SEASON.

THE circular issued by the zealous and hard-working Secretary of the Boys' School, a copy of which appears in another column, is one which should command at once—as we have no doubt it will—the earnest attention of every Worshipful Master, Treasurer, Secretary, and the brethren also of each Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. There is no necessity to remind the brethren of the steps which last year led up to the institution of the Preparatory School, the building of which was commenced last September, near the Boys' Institution, Wood-green, and which is expected to be completed by Midsummer this year. That such a supplement to the Wood-green establishment was needful and desirable was sufficiently demonstrated at the time; and it became a subject for general congratulation when at length it was announced that sufficient support had been guaranteed to warrant the executive in commencing operations. Now, however, comes the point to which Bro. Binckes so timely and forcibly draws the attention of the Craft, and we can only hope that the various Lodges will give it that consideration which the importance of the subject demands. With no uncertain sound we are reminded that the executive are "face to face with the anxious question" as to whence are to be derived the additional means necessary for the maintenance of the Subsidiary Establishment, for the advantages of which the Committee will no doubt be prepared to recommend the election of a proportion of the number of boys for whom the additional accommodation is provided *not later than* at the Quarterly General Court next October. The statistics recently issued with regard to the financial results of the Masonic year—and with which we deal more exhaustively in another article—reveal the fact that the Boys' School was lowest on the list in the amounts secured during the year in aid of the three Great Institutions. This may, of course, be accounted for in a great measure by the fact of the extreme pressure which was put upon the Craft during the preceding year, to make a start for the Preparatory School; and thus all the money which could be raked up, to the end of 1883, was paid in, so as to secure the extra votes which the contributions handed in on or before 31st Dec. in the year carried. We have frequently heard it said that the services of individuals who make special exertions—often at great personal sacrifice—receive no recognition; and the question which may probably yet have to be considered is, whether it would not be to the advantage of the Institution, and a great assistance all round, if a competent Collector were appointed, as in the case of the Benevolent Institution, the result of which has shewn so satisfactorily during the last year or two. However, that is a matter of collateral interest in the face of the present appeal to the extended activities of the Craft. All we have to consider now is: The school has been projected, and is nearing its completion; how is it to be brought to a successful and happy issue? We have more faith in the solid and business-like energies of our brethren everywhere than to believe for one moment they will allow the work, so well begun, to fall through in consequence of any apathy or niggardliness on their part. But we know, on the other hand, that the past year has been exceptionally bad in every department of trade and commerce; and that the balances in the hands of the bankers at the end of the year just closed are small compared with that of former prosperous times. For all that, we hope and believe the brethren generally will ponder over the circumstances of the case brought before them with a frankness and candour that are eminently characteristic of the Secretary of the Boys' School. Bro. Binckes does not beat about the bush. He tells us, straightly, that supposing the experiment he tentatively tried by the admission of twenty-five boys, and the administration based on the most economic system possible, the expenditure cannot be less than from £1000 to £1200 over and above that now required. This is certainly not a very formidable request to make, and Bro. Binckes is fully justified in asserting that the long-contemplated extension of the Schools having been carried out in strict compliance with the wishes of the Craft, "nothing further in the shape of argumentative appeal need be resorted to." The suggestion of organising and maintaining a steady annual subscription in every Lodge within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England is equally sensible and sound; and we should hold but

a very poor opinion of any Lodge who could or would not "put on the screw," so to speak, and contrive to send its guinea annually to the fund for carrying on the grand scheme which has been so admirably inaugurated. Hitherto, as we have seen, the idea of an annual and steady subscription has not been much favoured by Lodges in this country; although we have heard it dinned into the ears of the brethren over and over again, for years, what wonders could be effected if only the brethren would collectively unite and send a trifling sum, the loss of which they could not possibly feel, to the coffers of our Charities. Thus out of 68 District and Provincial Grand Lodges, there are only half a-dozen annual subscribers; and amongst 2019 private Lodges in England and the Colonies, there are only 135 that have yet adopted the principle urged by Bro. Binckes. In the Royal Arch there is a similar, if not graver, proportion of failure in this respect, for out of 650 Chapters only seven are annual subscribers. We can but echo the expression of assurance contained in the concluding sentences of the circular—"Surely something can be done to remedy this unsatisfactory state of things." And so would add, that whereas every Lodge could, if it so pleased, send its guinea a-year to help the executive in carrying out satisfactorily what they have so well begun; many are able, and will be glad, to send double and treble that amount, "either by donation direct; or through the medium of a Steward as representative of a Lodge;" so that it may not be said there is any diminution of the fervent zeal and sturdy determination we have always seen amongst the members generally of the Craft, in carrying out the great principles of Charity, of the past results of which they are so justly proud.

INTEREST IN LODGE WORK.

ONE of the most difficult questions, and one that has, at all times, presented itself to the Craft, is how to keep up the interest of the members in the Lodge work. The degrees have been so expanded in these latter days that a considerable amount of time is taken up in working them, and when, as it sometimes happens, two or three are given in the course of the evening the business gets very wearisome to the floor members who, when a chance occurs, gradually drop off, leaving the Lodge, perhaps, to be closed by a bare quorum. Many brethren there are who have an affection for their Lodge, but are frightened away by the tedium involved in giving too much work, and we have often heard the remark made that the whole business got wearisome. This plan of crowding too much into an evening can be easily avoided by setting apart a certain night for each degree, and letting same be intimated to the brethren generally. Should work accumulate, an emergency meeting held occasionally would clear all off, and relieve the regular meetings to an extent that would be readily appreciated by the members. By this method also the tax upon the Officers of the Lodge would be considerably less, with advantage to the general work and the proper rendering of the ritual. It may be urged that brethren would be kept back from taking their degrees in the usual monthly style generally adopted now, and, although at first sight this may possibly appear a hardship, yet we think that a closer look into the matter will show that, instead of being such, it would be a positive benefit not only to the candidates but the Craft in general. The present practice of rushing candidates through, night after night, who are really unacquainted with the degree they have just taken, and who, in a great many instances, are quite ignorant of the necessary qualifications for passing or raising, is one greatly to be deplored, and cannot be said to be either beneficial to the recipient of the degree or to the advantage of the Fraternity. With the fixed nights mentioned for the different degrees, these brethren would have time to prepare themselves, and, with the knowledge that at a certain date they must present themselves for advancement or wait a few months more, they would be more anxious to befit themselves for the occasion. With one degree only for each regular Lodge night, the meetings would terminate earlier; and should the Lodge favour the refreshment board, a few more minutes would be made available for that social intercourse that forms so important a part of the Masonic gathering.

We have, however, another side to look at. All Lodges are not overburdened with work, and possibly these Lodges

contain some of the bone and sinew of the Craft, who, being more scrupulous and particular who they admit, have not so many brethren knocking at the door of the Lodge. These Lodges suffer from a want of something to do, and perhaps not feeling sufficient interest to play dummy and work a degree for practice only, merely open the Lodge and close it for, as they say, form's sake. Now, it would be ten chances to one but that within these Lodges there are many members extremely anxious to know "more about Masonry" than is given in the degrees and usual lectures, and it would range within the same amount of certainty that there are other members who are in a position to afford light to their inquiring brethren. What an ever ending fund of mutual instruction opens itself here! The Lodge would, indeed, be a source of pleasure and profit, and even the dullest of dullards must be benefitted by a discussion carried on in a fraternal spirit. Subjects there are without number, and all capable of having more light thrown upon them.

The bounden duty of Worshipful Masters is to make their Lodges bright and attractive to the whole of the brethren, and we commend the few lines just penned to their careful consideration.—*Victorian Freemason.*

Obituary.

BRO. ALFRED CHARLES RAWLINGS.

WE regret to have to announce the decease of Brother Rawlings, the Worshipful Master of St. Luke's Lodge, No. 144, which sad event took place on Sunday evening, the 21st ult. Bro. Rawlings was only installed into the Chair of King Solomon in October last, though it was apparent his state of health was unsatisfactory, but the brethren of his Lodge and many friends were in hopes he would recover. It has, however, pleased the Great Architect to will otherwise, and our lamented brother has died, at the early age of 37; rapid consumption having set in a few weeks back. The funeral took place on Saturday last, at the Great Northern Cemetery, Wood Green. Bros. Unite (Treasurer), Witts (Secretary), Barham, Ball, and Taylor P.M.'s of the Lodge, Coulthard, Hughes, Knight, Wittingham, Brown, Mann sen., and others were present. It is singular that a brother of the deceased, who was also an Officer of the St. Luke's Lodge, died a few years since, also at the age of 37; while, on the last Saturday in 1883 the brethren were called to attend the funeral of their then S.W. (Bro. G. W. Cole).

The obsequies of the late Warden of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon, whose demise was briefly mentioned in our last issue, took place on Saturday last, at Croydon Cemetery. The coffin in which our deceased brother was buried was literally covered with floral wreaths and crosses, sent as affectionate tributes of respect, and sorrow at the loss of a venerable and highly-honoured friend. Amongst the chief mourners were Bro. James Creed Norris, son of deceased, and three grandsons; Bros. J. A. Farnfield, Thomas Cubitt P.G.P. and Edgar Bowyer P.G.S.B., members of the House Committee; Bro. James Terry Secretary and Bro. John Mason Collector of the Institution; Dr. Strong and Dr. Adams; and on behalf of the residents in the Asylum Bros. Shoring, Everest, Turner, Beckett, Maxwell, Mobbs, Churchhouse, Hole, Seabrook, and others. The home of the "Old Folks" has naturally been wrapped in gloom during the usual merry season, for the late Bro. Norris, though a rigid disciplinarian, was beloved by all, over whom he exercised a firm but gentle rule. When he died he was within a month of his 95th year, having been a resident in the Institution twenty-two and a-half years. Up to the last, although his hearing was rather defective, he was hale and hearty and enjoyed nothing more than a pleasant and lively chat with the visitors to the Asylum. His idea was that he was the oldest Freemason in England then living; but we are not aware as to the accuracy of our venerable brother's cherished idea, so many having claimed that distinction at various times. Anyhow, he had been a member of the Craft longer than the "allotted span" of human existence, and had he lived to the 10th of March next, he would have completed a Masonic career of seventy-three years. He discharged the duties of his position as Warden of the Institution with a considerable amount of tact and consideration.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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THE GRAND TREASURERSHIP.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It seems to me hardly worth while to enter into a controversy which can neither add to, nor detract from, the great question which may be at the present moment agitating the minds of certain sections of the Craft; but as the surface of Masonic opinion is just now ruffled by the openly-expressed ideas of correspondents, probably it may be opportune to reflect a word or two of that which is current amongst those who are most intimately acquainted with the subject. I have sought for no information in the matter, but it is impossible to move among Masons without being acquainted with the truth that the election of Grand Treasurer is (in the minds of some) one of those events with which the welfare of Freemasonry is inseparably connected. Really, the first question one is inclined to put to oneself is—Why all this fuss? And is the game really worth the candle? When so great a stand was made, “on principle,” against the office of Grand Treasurer being a permanent one, and most strenuous efforts were made to vindicate the rights and privileges of the brethren with regard to the chief honour it was in their power to bestow, there was some show for objection to the proverbial anomaly, “once an Alderman always an Alderman.” But that having been satisfactorily got over, by the succession of Bro. J. Derby Allcroft and Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, the Craft had settled down into the belief that the honour was one that should be made a subject of emulation; although, if it be such a sinecure office, as many would have us believe, why all this contention for the bauble which lasts only for a year? Is Freemasonry to descend into the position of a mutual admiration society, and to become more and more limited in its sphere? If so, the grand aims of the Craft have been missed, and the arrow must fall short of its mark. None of us can fail to appreciate the stand which was made two or three years ago, in reference to the appointment of Grand Treasurer; though I am one of those who think that, after all, there is a vast amount of responsibility, as well as honour, attached to it. What honorary Treasurer of any institution—be his duties heavy or light—but is regarded in a proper sense as the safeguard and protector of the funds which are subscribed towards the object for which that institution was designed? And so in our own Order, it cannot be—must not be—supposed that the brother who is considered worthy of being entrusted with the collar of Treasurer of one of the grandest institutions under the sun, should be a mere marionette, to be dressed in his purple and yet be content to gyrate and dance at the bidding of wire-pullers. I contend that the office is not a sinecure, or the person who fills it a nonentity; were it so, the honour would be divested of its worth, and no man of sense would covet such an anomalous position. That it should be conveyed to the outside world, who are astute in all matters of financial integrity, that the coveted honour of Grand Treasurer of English Freemasons is merely to sit clothed upon the dais with twelve months’ “blushing honours” thick upon him, but that in reality he is no more nor less than the tool of those who perched him there, is only an idea fitted for a pantomime. Every post has responsibility, and certainly that of Grand Treasurer of England is vested with some responsibility as well as dignity.

Having delivered myself of these sentiments, as the elder Weller would say, let me, by way of personal satisfaction express my opinion as to the centripetal force which is becoming unpleasantly manifest in certain circles of Freemasonry. By this I mean that there is a tendency amongst some Grand Officers Past and Present, and Past Masters of Lodges, to arrogate to themselves great powers, invented by their self importance, so newly acquired, and assume authority which before they passed the chair they thought almost ethereal. In my travels, and they are not “within a hundred miles of London,” I have seen men who, aspiring to the “proudest position” they can attain in their Lodges, overwhelmingly grateful for the honour conferred upon them by the brethren and inspired by the warmest enthusiasm for the future benefit of the cause they have hitherto espoused, fall back into the serried ranks of the veterans, and become—what? Ardent supporters of the Craft? Anxious and solicitous to aid by their counsel and experience those who follow them in the chair? Not at all. By industry and perseverance—well-intentioned no doubt—they have achieved the object of what should be to every Mason an ambition; they have been decorated with the coveted honour of a Past Master’s jewel; and after all the pretty things which could be said of any man have been said, they fall back into the veteran rank, and so, in military parlance, attach themselves to the “Staff” of Freemasonry. Decorated with the medal of merit—and merit it undoubtedly is to those who have faithfully and zealously won it—they seem to lose their individuality amongst the brethren who have assisted them to rise to the position they have gained, and, perhaps not intentionally, kick away the ladder by whose steps they have climbed to fame. These men who, if genuinely actuated, would form a phalanx of support to those who are travelling along the same path, graduate into the rear-guard, and here it is that a consolidation of presumptuous authority is formed, such as is now assuming to itself dictation to the Craft in the selection of its Treasurer. We should not have any of this “wheel within wheel” business in Masonry. It is antagonistic to the principles of “free will and accord” which are the foundation-stones of the whole fabric of our Order. When men advance in position in the Craft, and earn by fervency and zeal their title to the purple, we must all rejoice unfeignedly at the honour which rewards

merit. But what can be said of the brother who, having had his talents recognised and services rewarded, holds himself Saul-like above his fellows, and would dictate amidst personality and self-assumed supremacy what others should do?

Was it not Shylock who, answering Bassanio, in the “Merchant of Venice,” exclaimed “I will buy with you, sell with you, talk with you, walk with you, and so following; but I will not eat with you, drink with you, nor pray with you?” And is there not too much of the spirit of the dramatised old Israelite at present actuating some of those who are insisting upon the qualifications for, or rather the personal attributes of, those who are aspiring to the office of Grand Treasurer?

There is one other point to which, now that I have committed myself to the indiscretion of scribbling, I may as well allude, if it does not encroach too much upon your valuable space, and that is the miserable support which is accorded to the Masonic Press. It may, perhaps, be irrelevant to the heading of this letter; but the amateur is permitted to “digress.” The observations of a writer in your pages (Bro. Whytehead) have been endorsed by our brethren across the Atlantic, when he says:—“It is a disgrace that with our long roll of Lodges, containing an important proportion of the wealth and intelligence of England on their books, there should be any lack of support to the Masonic Press. Various are the excuses given by Lodges and brethren for not subscribing to the Masonic papers. I am not prepared to admit any excuse from Lodges save that of absolute want of funds; but there really must be very few Lodges indeed unable to afford the very small sum demanded for an annual copy of one or both of the Masonic papers.” With our brethren across “the pond” the case appears to be very different. I do not wish, Sir, to harrow up those feelings which must damp the well-intentioned ardour of an English Masonic editor, but it is nevertheless true that in this country Masons do not read. Inquire of Bros. Gould, Hughan, Whytehead, and other of our shining lights who have spent a vast amount of their time in Masonic research, whether their efforts have received appreciation in any shape or form. I would add to this—is there any Lodge or Lodge of Instruction perfect that has not a record of the doings of the Craft on its library shelf, unless the brethren are content to go through in “dummy” form the monotony of “work,” which after all often resolves itself into the hands of a coterie, whose ambitions bend is to swell the ranks of those who will ultimately form the centripetal body who arrogate to themselves the governing of all elections, for Treasurer or otherwise?

I fear my remarks have been rather discursive than otherwise, but I intended them to be so, for in all this argument about “qualification” and “attributes” for the office which some of your correspondents dub a “sinecure” there appears to have been as much argument and difference as there is between tweedledum and tweedledee. The brethren know for whom they will vote when the time comes. At any rate let us have a man who will not regard the honour as a shuttlecock, who will recognise the responsibilities as well as the dignity which the brethren seek to confer upon him, and let me say, in accordance with the old axiom, “May the best man win.”

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

QUIZ.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am quite ready to exchange opinions on this subject with “ONE WHO WILL NOT READILY ACCEPT THE RESULT OF THE BALLOT.” Save in the one passage where he suggests I may be actuated by a dog-in-the-manger spirit, there is nothing in his letter to which even the most thin-skinned person could take serious exception. His tone and manner of treating the question are almost irreproachable, and if I saw my way clear to accepting his arguments, I should do so unhesitatingly and with a great deal of pleasure. However, as I cannot do this, I must try my best to meet them, and whether I succeed in the attempt or not, I shall have at least the satisfaction of knowing that, in any reply he may think proper to make, I shall not be rated vulgarly as if I were a pick-pocket.

It was inevitable that your correspondent should consider my first letter was wanting in good taste. I should probably have said the same kind of thing had I been replying to it. I felt that the question of Bro. Willing’s candidature was a delicate one to handle, and I knew, when I raised it, that I should have this particular charge of want of delicacy laid at my door. But the choice lay between my sense of taste and my sense of duty. My justification for writing was and is that the principle for which I, in my humble capacity, contend so strongly will be utterly destroyed if a man of no eminence in Masonry is put forward as the champion of that principle. At the same time, I studiously avoided offering any remarks of a personal character. I explained as fully as I could why Bro. Willing’s name was introduced into my letter, and in one part of his your latest correspondent has offered a similar plea in extenuation of his having followed my example. Under these circumstances I think I may dismiss the charge of want of taste laid against me as at all events “not proven.”

As to the charge of being “ignorant of the ordinary routine of election by the voice of the people,” I plead emphatically “not guilty.” I said, in effect, as to Bro. Willing, that his being a P.M. and founder of sundry Lodges, a good fellow, and all that, did not confer on him “the slightest shadow of a shade of claim to be placed on an eminence above his brother members of the same standing in Grand Lodge.” Here I beg to observe it will be noticed that I use the word “claim”—as underscored for your correspondent’s especial behoof—not “right,” which he has nevertheless substituted for “claim.” I fully agree with your correspondent as to the

absurdity of saying "that a man has no right to be placed on an eminence when it is only by right he can be placed there, but as I have not said this, I have been guilty of no absurdity. May I be so presumptuous as to suggest that when your correspondent with the long designation—I mean nothing offensive by thus describing him—has settled in his own mind the relative meanings of "claim" and "right," he will be in a better position to argue this point? My contention is that the principle of electing annually a new Grand Treasurer was urged chiefly, if not entirely, on the ground that it would give Grand Lodge the opportunity of conferring an exceptional honour on a succession of brethren of exceptional merit, instead of as heretofore on one brother only. On this contention I build up my argument thus. The Grand Treasurership is bestowable on a brother of exceptional merit; Bro. Willing, having done no more than hundreds and thousands of his equals in rank, is not a brother of exceptional merit; Argal, Bro. Willing is not worthy of having the Grand Treasurership bestowed on him. I may not have stated my syllogism quite in the manner of a correct logician, but I have striven to make my meaning clear, and I hope I have done so not unsuccessfully.

I accept all your correspondent says in favour of Bro. Willing personally, short of regarding him as worthy to be Grand Treasurer. I believe him to be a thoroughly good fellow, but, happily for the world in general and the Craft in particular, there are very many others who answer to this description. This qualification, therefore, gives him no preferential claim over others of the same class to the support of the brethren. He is a P.M. and P.Z., so are thousands of others; he is a founder of Lodges and Chapters, so are others; he is a supporter of our Institutions, but of the others who are likewise supporters of them the number is legion. But will some one kindly point out in what lies Bro. Willing's exceptional merit; or, in other words, what he has done that is worthy of honour, which others, possessing the same powers and opportunities, have not done equally well? When I find that A has been selected to champion a particular cause, I look to hear that he has been so selected because he has done something which his equals in point of rank have not done, or has done it better than they; not that he has been chosen because he is a very good fellow, or has done what the others have done. I am afraid I must be repeating myself, but this is my idea of a man who has achieved distinction and merits a *quid pro quo* in the shape of exceptional honour, and Bro. Willing's picture, as drawn by your correspondents, does not correspond with the idea. It is for this reason, and not because I wish to decry the qualities which Bro. Willing possesses, that I hope his candidature will prove, as I have said in my first letter, a complete and disastrous failure. An honour ceases to be one when it is bestowed without justification.

I will mention one other point on which I think some light may with advantage be thrown. As regards Bro. Willing's candidature, how came it about? I know who proposed and seconded him in Grand Lodge, but who is responsible for his figuring before the Craft as the champion of the principle successfully enunciated last year when Bro. Marshall was elected, and the year before when Bro. Allcroft was elected? The modesty which has characterised all Bro. Willing's actions forbids me suggesting that he elected himself as champion, while if a Committee elected him, by whom and when was it authorised to do so? In other words, has the party supporting the principle of annually electing a fresh Grand Treasurer had anything to do with choosing Bro. Willing as its representative?

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

SYMBOL *a*.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—We read in the good old Book of a certain personage who, when he went into the Temple to pray, thanked God that he was not as other men—even the poor publican who tremblingly offered up his supplications near him in the common sanctuary. Your correspondent "SYMBOL *a*" reminds me most grotesquely of that man, for having poured out his vials of disdain upon one of the candidates for the Grand Treasurership, and upon this poor sinner who ventured to point out one or two discrepancies in his most paradoxical effusion, he holds up his hands with Pecksniffian horror, and exclaims, "'AUDAX' is an expert at abusive personality; I am not!" (The italics are mine). A "war of words" with "SYMBOL *a*"? Not for worlds! "AUDAX" does not wish yet awhile to be annihilated by an avalanche from the vocabulary of Billingsgate. "SYMBOL *a*" has betrayed the cloven foot when drawn away from the real question at issue, and tried to copy the "expert of abusive personality." I have too sincere a regard for the courtesies of journalism to prolong a correspondence which threatens to descend into regions where those amenities are not unrecognised or not understood, and wishing your correspondent may learn better manners when next he is troubled with *cacoethes scribendi*,

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Fraternally yours,

AUDAX.

HOLLWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—As winter advances and the weather becomes more and more inclement and trying, the earliest evidences of ill-health must be immediately checked and removed, or a slight illness may result in a serious malady. Relaxed and sore throat, quinsy, influenza, chronic cough, bronchitis, and most other pulmonary affections will be relieved by rubbing this cooling Ointment into the skin as near as practicable to the seat of mischief. This treatment, simple yet effective, is admirably adapted for the removal of these diseases during infancy and youth. Old asthmatic localities will derive marvellous relief from the use of Hollway's remedies, which have successfully relieved many such sufferers, and restored to health after every other means had signally failed.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL, 1885.

Memorandum specially addressed to the Worshipful Master, Treasurer, Secretary, &c., of each Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England.

THE Preparatory School Buildings were commenced in September last, and are expected to be completed by Midsummer next; at all events there is little doubt that the Committee will be prepared to recommend the election of a proportion of the number of Boys for whom the additional accommodation is provided *not later than at the Quarterly General Court in the ensuing October.*

The Executive is thus being rapidly brought face to face with the anxious question—"Whence are to be derived the additional means necessary for the maintenance of the Subsidiary Establishment?" Supposing the experiment be tentatively tried by the admission of twenty-five Boys, and the administration based on the most economical system possible, the expenditure cannot be less than from £1,000 to £1,200 over and above that now required. Having regard to the fact that the Extension so long contemplated, and now in course of completion, has been carried out in strict compliance with the wishes of the Craft, nothing further in the shape of argumentative appeal need be resorted to.

The situation I thus venture to draw your attention to is a serious one—But all anxiety may easily be allayed if only every Lodge will organise and maintain a steady Annual Subscription, from which source an increase ought to be secured of as permanent a nature as that derived from invested Capital. So far from this being the case, I find that during the past year, 1884, the result was as follows:—

	Total.	Annual Subscribers.
of District, and Prov. Grand Lodges ...	68	6
„ Private Lodges, including Colonial, &c. 2019	2019	135
„ R.A. Chapters do ...	650	7

The total amount received being £252 : 5 : 0.

Surely something can be done to remedy this unsatisfactory state of things—One Guinea per Annum, could not, and would not, affect the finances of any Lodge—while many are in a position with equal facility to contribute Two Guineas, and others even a larger amount, by special continuous Resolution operating annually, without affecting in any way the support rendered from time to time, as circumstances arise, either by donation direct, or through the medium of a Steward as representative of a Lodge.

Commending the above to the favourable consideration of the influential Members of the various Lodges,

I am, Brethren,

Your faithful and obliged Servant and Brother,

FREDERICK BINCKES,

Secretary.

Our readers are reminded that the annual North London Masonic Benevolent Ball will take place at the Holborn Town Hall next Wednesday evening, and, from all we hear, the affair promises to be a gratifying success. This is the more cheering from the fact that the proceeds are to be devoted to the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which, as will be seen by reference to the subject elsewhere in our columns, are in need of special aid just now. Bros. P. Forge and Western, the M.C.'s., are to be assisted by the following Stewards:—Bros. H. Sprake 813, J. Baker 1471, W. G. Akhurst D.C. 1693, H. B. Harding 1471, J. Moulton, J. Potter, G. F. Snook, G. Batten 1693, S. Stretch 1950, R. Baker P.M. 188, and C. Dearing 1602. Bro. C. Harwood 820, &c. is acting as Treasurer, and Bro. E. Woodman S.W. 1950 as Secretary. It is interesting to note that on Thursday evening Bro. Woodman, who lent such active assistance in the arrangements for this ball, was elected, by the unanimous voice of the brethren of the Southgate Lodge, No. 1950, as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and that his installation will take place on the first Wednesday in March. Reverting, however, to the ball, we may add that the refreshment department has been entrusted to the well-known purveyors, Messrs. Spiers and Pond, and the musical arrangements to Bro. Collings, Organist of the Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693. Under such auspices a numerous company of guests may be confidently expected, and there is little doubt that all the essentials of a happy and enjoyable evening will be present to perfection.

MARRIAGE.

GREENWOOD-WINNETT.—On 31st December, in the Chapel Royal, Savoy, by the Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Savoy, and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, united by the Rev. F. A. Wright, Chaplain of Greenwood, of Serjeant's Inn, Temple, and Thomas Eaton, Surgeon to Florence, daughter of the late Augustus White, Esq. (a British subject), and grand-daughter of the late Sir William Winnet, Governor of Cape Coast Castle.

A VISIT TO THE ROYAL YORK BATHS.

MEDICAL reading is not precisely congenial, perhaps, to all tastes while the merriment of "ye festive season" is still ringing in our ears; but, after all, it may be that those who value the greatest of all blessings—a sound mind in a healthy body—will find it not unprofitable, especially when the subject is treated in a palatable way, just as we administer homœopathic doses of needful medicine to children in very large spoonfuls of jam. In dealing with the matter from the particular standpoint taken by the writer of an interesting brochure* before us, let all draughts, pills and nostrums—all physic, indeed—be thrown, where the Immortal Bard would consign them, "to the dogs." We want to see no wry faces in these "jolly" times; and would that everybody, ourselves included, should put a pleasant face on matters of the highest hygienic importance—the preservation of health by the prevention of disease. Physicians who are considered "eminent" find that after all their draughts of oil from the liver of the cod—how we shudder when we think of them!—and the mysterious manipulations of *materia medica* have failed, the next best thing the patient can do, seeing that he must inevitably die, is that he should perform that operation at as great a distance as possible from home—in some puffed-up "resort" for sufferers from all the ills that flesh is heir to.

In the little work before us there is no such dolorous theme propounded, and yet the treatise is, to all intents and purposes, medical. Nor is it in any spirit of satiation with the "creature comforts" which so often belie their name at this time of year—no dyspepsia or bile after "fat living"—that we take a glance over the pages of the interesting publication before us, for it reminds us of much of the surprise and refreshing luxury we experienced after we had taken our first "Turkish Bath," ever so many years ago. Who does not recollect the sensation of buoyancy and light heartedness when, having escaped from the hands of the "manipulator," in the hot room, shampooing-room and the rest, he has lain turban'd like a Turk over his siesta, revelling in the mingled fragrance of a mild Havannah and a cup of choice Mocha? Even in the old days, when the appliances of so-called Turkish Baths were crude in form, when the baths themselves were by no means suggestive of the Oriental, and before medical science had been brought to bear upon the subject of baths as a preservative, as well as a restorative, of health, they were a luxury to those who had the means and leisure to enjoy them; but since science and art have combined to develop the therapeutic practice, and to render it capable of being turned to account in so many ways for the amelioration of disease, the assuaging of pain, and the prevention of ailments which can be arrested by no other means, the study becomes enlarged and vastly more interesting. For those who are impelled to "try" baths by the physical infirmities under which they suffer, we now find, added to the popularly understood Turkish Bath, various forms of electric, medicated, warm and cold shower, douche, spray, needle, hip, plunge, and other baths, each having its peculiar and delicate manipulation and effect; but of these we may speak in more detail later on.

Leaving for a moment a consideration of the little book referred to at the commencement of this article, let us briefly describe a visit we recently paid to the Royal York Baths, 51 York-terrace, York-gate, Regent's Park, N.W., through the courteous invitation of Bro. Dr. Jagielski, the managing director. We had made up our mind to see something *recherché* in the style and appliances of an establishment which had been carried on for some years by Mr. Adolphus, who did so much to bring electric baths into popular favour; but confess to an agreeable astonishment at the perfection to which every detail of arrangement has been brought under the present management, since the reconstruction of these Baths. The elevation of the building is undoubtedly one of the finest and most attractive of all the baths in the metropolis, and the Moorish style of architecture which pervades the interior is in pleasant keeping with every idea of Oriental luxury, elegance and refinement. The three doors between the columns of the façade are each separately reserved for lady and gentleman bathers and the private residence of the consulting physician. There are separate waiting-rooms for the sexes, with corridors from each leading to what may be described as the most luxurious and perfect set of Turkish, electric and medicated baths to be found anywhere. All the walls of the baths are built of coloured glazed bricks, the seats are of white marble, the floors of Italian mosaic; while all are easily washed and flushed. The ceilings being all beautiful in design and colour, furnish a pleasing diversion to the bather's eye when in a recumbent position. The door lintels are of Sicilian marble, and all the woodwork is of pitch pine; whilst the architectural ornamentation is Moorish, and most beautifully carried out. The well-appointed needle bath, of pure solid nickel, the douches ascending and descending, hot and cold; the shower, spray, hip, needle, &c., are all on a level with the rooms; the shampooer's waiting-room close at hand; the "plunge," beautifully light and airy, its water's surface rippled by the waves created through the fountain from the Turk shampooer statuette squeezing a sponge. This has been executed by Bro. E. Gelfowski, the well-known sculptor of Bruton-street, W, in beautifully fine white marble. The cooling-room is not only handsomely designed, but perfectly ventilated, and altogether worthy of the high reputation of the talented architect, Mr. Thomas Durrans, of Upper Baker-street, N.W., as also the vestiary, with the elegant and lofty dressing-room and gallery. The cooling-room is most luxurious, the floor being laid with Moorish carpet, delightful easy couches, mirrors, and every elegant Oriental surrounding; the ventilation is simply unique; whilst here and there are handsome marble tables, and coffee or tea is served

* Galvano-Electric, Electro-Chemical and Medicated Baths, according to Potin's system, by Royal Letters Patent for Great Britain, Ireland and France; also Turkish, Electro-Turkish and Private Baths." London: Published at 51 York Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W.

to those who may wish it—and who does not, after a luxurious Turkish Bath? The vestibulum is a passage in the pure Moorish architectural style, ending in an alcove.

The greatest and most important feature, however, in the whole of the interior arrangements is the perfect ventilation throughout the entire suite of apartments, so that no bather can leave them without a pleasant feeling, contrasting most favourably with other baths in London which are described by puff advertisements to be well ventilated, but whose proprietors cannot give ocular demonstration, or explain how this is effected, to thoughtful and investigating bathers. We have been into Turkish Baths the atmosphere of which has reminded us more of the sulphuric regions of the underground railway than anything else; where the skin has been shrivelled up with the dry heat, instead of a healthy perspiration being engendered; and where, when the hot rooms have been any way full, the air has been so vitiated by the eliminations from the skin and lungs that the pleasure that had been anticipated from the bath has been turned into nausea, amounting almost to torture. Here, however, all is changed, and the great difficulty hitherto experienced in the construction of Turkish Baths, namely, the maintenance of suitable ventilation consistent with the heat required and the avoidance of draughts, has been triumphantly overcome. Thus, instead of experiencing headache and languor after the Turkish Bath, as many complain of, unsuspecting that this has been produced by the inhalation of foul air, there is perfect purity, with all the essential elements required by the bather. A tunnel, seventy feet long, seven feet high, and five feet wide, has been constructed, by means of which an abundant supply of a constant fresh air current is secured. By introducing the fresh air through such a large channel into the convoluted heating stove a back draught is impossible, as may be seen by holding up the flame of a candle in the direction of the stove. This is assisted on the south-west side by a shaft, which sends down additional fresh air to the other side of the stove, and at last, heated, it penetrates upwards through a huge grate into the *Sudatorium* or hottest room, and thence diffuses itself into the *Calidarium* or hot room, the *Tepidarium* or warm room, the shampooing, and douche rooms. In each of these there are built exhausting shafts from below the seats, close to the ground, so that all vitiated air which, being heaviest, accumulates here, is extracted constantly through patent ventilators. In this way a constant stream of fresh oxygen is established in the Baths, a most decided and pronounced novelty in London Turkish Baths, where usually, from want of such arrangements, the vitiated air of the bath is again sent through the stove at once, whence it returns to be re-breathed, and thus produces unpleasant and unhealthy symptoms in the bathers. The ventilation of the cooling room is also most excellent. In winter, the fresh air running through the *down shafts* into the grates over the pipes is most successfully heated; whilst in summer the same shafts introduce fresh cooling air into the room when the warming apparatus is not in operation.

Electric Baths are a prominent feature in this establishment, and the most careful study and scientific research have been brought to bear upon them by Dr. Jagielski, who is most assiduous in personally superintending the institution and giving directions for the guidance of bathers when asked to do so. There are 18 separate rooms for these baths, and as they are now so much used in therapeutics, patients can have them here in the most luxurious style.

The command of a large supply of electricity in the warm water baths is extended to, and utilised in, the Royal York Turkish Baths, which is not only novel, but medically and otherwise most important. The previous heating and sweating of the body render it more susceptible to the influence of the all-searching fluid. In its application it can be controlled by the bather or patient to any desirable degree of strength. It can be taken standing, sitting, or reclining, soothing and alleviating pain, and ultimately effecting most remarkable cures. Such are a few of the most salient advantages of the newly and handsomely reconstructed Baths, which are now under the immediate supervision of a resident superintending and consulting physician, who will be able to advise patients as to the kind of medicated baths, &c., best suited to their particular requirements.

A visit of inspection will convince any one that in the construction and equipment of the Royal York Baths no effort has been spared to secure the convenience of bathers, who are specially invited to observe the following, among other salient points:—(1) The various bath-rooms for electric, warm, and other private baths are placed all along and on both sides of a corridor, warmed in the cold season by a hot-water apparatus in connection with a separate saddle boiler. (2) All the rooms of the Turkish Bath are arranged on the same ground floor, the dressing-boxes alone being placed slightly above their level. In this way no trouble is given to the weak and suffering bather unable to move easily about. (3) The light of the whole of the baths is derived from lofty skylights, which can be opened, closed, and ventilated *ad libitum*. No inconvenience is caused to the eyes, as is the case in most London Turkish Baths, when attempting to read by daylight. (4) The gas in all the Turkish Royal York Baths is disconnected from the rooms, thus preventing the vitiation of the air within by the products of its combustion.

In addition to the recommendations already enumerated, and they are by no means effusive, something must be said on the score of healthiness of situation. Here again the Royal York Baths are peculiarly fortunate. The immediate neighbourhood of the south side of Regent's Park, on the east side of York Gate, which leads from Marylebone Church, along by the bridge of the Regent's Park lake, to the Botanical Gardens, gives the Baths one of the most healthy positions in London. The fresh air in the Park, with the blooming scents exhaled by its trees, shrubs, flowers, meadows and gardens, tends to make patients forget the dark and sombre streets of the city, with their noisy and crowded surroundings. The great elevation of Regent's Park, over Oxford-street, Holborn, Piccadilly, the Strand, Thames Embankment, &c., renders the air purer, and more invigorating. The whole surroundings of Bayswater, Paddington, St. John's Wood, and the neighbourhood, with their widely-

scattered population, living in detached and semi-detached villas with gardens, are also most important factors in securing the proverbial good-health of the district, through entire absence of smoke and other unhealthy emanations which prevail in more densely populated parts. The Baths are, moreover, easy of access, being within three minutes' walk from the Baker-street and St. John's Wood Metropolitan stations (near Madame Tussaud's) and but a few yards more from the underground station at Portland-road. The position is not a thoroughfare, but select and private, and very convenient for those whose ailments impede their free locomotion, as is often the case in rheumatism, gout, neuralgia, &c., when patients have at first to be carried into the Electric Bath, but are soon able to leave without assistance. This is an advantage not enjoyed at other London baths, where the entrances are exposed and open to the curious.

Space precludes us from entering more fully into the advantages of this admirable institution, which were so apparent during our visit, or the interesting little brochure in which the details are expanded; but we heartily commend the latter to the attention of our readers, who will be more than satisfied if they follow our example, and "go and see for themselves" what a wonderful improvement and transformation has been effected at the Royal York Baths.

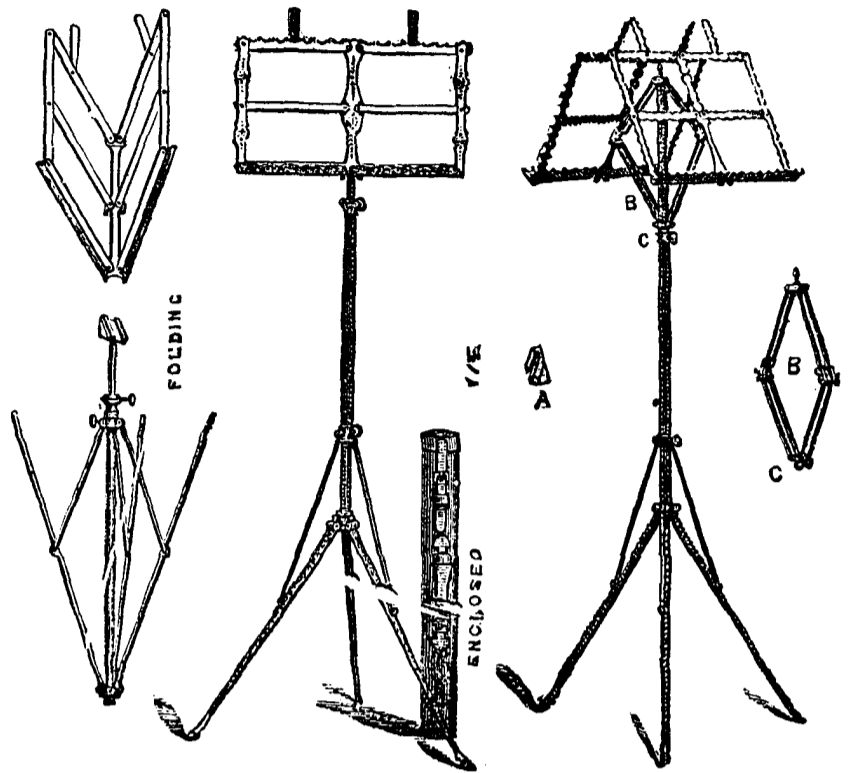
We join heartily in the congratulations which have been profusely expressed to Bro. Nathan B. Headon, of The Great City Lodge, on his election to a seat in the Court of Common Council, on St. Thomas's Day, for the Ward of Farringdon Within. As many of our readers are aware, Bro. Headon is senior partner of the firm of Freeman, Headon and Co., upholsterers' trimming manufacturers and warehousemen, 65 Friday-street and Milton-street, with which establishment he has been associated for upwards of thirty years. He was the originator and founder of The Great City Lodge, and whilst W.M. of the Lodge entertained the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge, at a banquet. This was the first Masonic banquet at which the Lord Mayor was ever known to have attended in state. At the termination of his year of office, Bro. Headon was presented with a handsome testimonial, in the shape of a gold watch, accompanied by an illuminated address, expressing the sincere esteem and affection of The Great City Lodge, and their appreciation of the valuable service he had rendered to it. He was one of the Stewards at the time of the Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of the Craft at the Albert Hall, in 1875; and all will remember his active efforts in promoting the movement for making the election of Grand Treasurer an annual one, instead of the appointment being considered a permanent one, as heretofore. Bro. Headon is likewise a life subscriber to the three Masonic Charitable Institutions, as well as to the Earlswood Idiot Asylum, the Infant Orphan Asylum; a manager of the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools; a liveryman of the Needlemakers' Company; and vice-President of the London General Porters' Benevolent Association. Amongst other works of public usefulness, he founded the Provident Association for Warehousemen, Travellers, and Clerks, in 1871, an institution which is doing an incalculable amount of good amongst the classes for which it was designed. It will thus be seen that after a life of unusual activity and usefulness, Bro. Headon, who is still a comparatively young man, has earned his title to a seat in the municipal chamber of the City of London, and we can only hope he may live long enough to ride in the Lord Mayor's carriage.

We have pleasure in tendering our congratulations to Bro. Charles Greenwood jun., on his marriage, which event took place on the 31st ult., at the Chapel Royal, Savoy. Bro. Greenwood is well known in his official capacity as a Provincial Grand Officer of Surrey, and will no doubt be heartily congratulated by his brethren in that district, as well as by others who have made his acquaintance. After the ceremony, the wedding party met at luncheon at the Charing Cross Hotel, whence the bride and bridegroom started for Dover en route for Paris and Mentone. We trust our brother and his bride will enjoy long life and happiness in their married state.

Bro. J. Stevens has undertaken to deliver his Lecture, "Knobs and Exercises," in the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, No. 199, at Dover, on Monday next, the 5th inst. The Lodge will be opened at the Royal Oak Hotel, Dover, at 7 p.m. sharp, and brethren from the neighbouring Lodges are invited. Bro. Stevens delivered this Lecture in the Royal Arthur Lodge of Instruction, at Wimbledon, on Thursday in this week.

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—:0:—

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OF THIS INSTITUTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON

WEDNESDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY 1885,

AT

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON,

UPON WHICH OCCASION

The Rt. Hon. Sir MICHAEL E. HICKS BEACH, Bart. M.P.
 R.W. PROV. GRAND MASTER FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

has been pleased to signify his intention of presiding.

Brethren are earnestly invited to accept the Office of Steward upon this occasion, and they will greatly oblige by forwarding their Names and Masonic Rank, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

It is fraternally hoped that upon this occasion, owing to the large number of applicants and the few vacancies, Brethren will use their influence to obtain donations towards the funds of the Institution, which are much needed.

JAMES TERRY, P. Prov. G.S.W. Norths and Hunts,
 Secretary.

4 Freemasons' Hall London, W.C.

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

Chief Patroness:
 HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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

Grand Patroness:
 HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Saturday, the 10th day of January 1885, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, to place Candidates on the List for the Election in April next, to declare the number of Girls then to be Elected, and to consider Notice of motion, as under:

NOTICE OF MOTION—

By Bro. Frank Richardson P.G.D. Patron.

Upon the recommendation of the House Committee, "That a gratuity of £25 be made to Miss A. Barron, an Assistant Governess, on her retirement from the Institution."

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

OFFICES—5 FREEMASONS' HALL,
 GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.
 3rd January 1885.

MASONIC LECTURES. "KNOBS AND EXCRESCENCES."

BRO. JAMES STEVENS P.M. P.Z. is open to accept invitations for the delivery of this Lecture in Metropolitan or Provincial Lodges, or Lodges of Instruction.

No Lecture fee—travelling expenses only accepted. Address—Clapham S.W.

BRO. J. A. COLLINGS, Organist 1692, would be pleased to undertake the Musical Arrangements at Consecrations, Installation Meetings, &c., &c. Terms, with Testimonials and names of Artists, furnished on application. Address J. A. COLLINGS, 111 Church Road, Islington, N.

Orchestral Bands for Masonic Balls, Soirees, &c.

THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON,

Adjoining the TERMINUS of the LONDON CHATHAM and DOVER RAILWAY, but distinct from the Viaduct Hotel.

THE BEST FURNISHED AND MOST COMFORTABLE HOTEL IN LONDON.
 HOT & COLD WATER LAID ON IN ALL BED ROOMS.

The appointments throughout so arranged as to ensure domestic comfort.

EVERY ACCOMMODATION FOR MASONIC LODGE MEETINGS,
 Public Dinners & Wedding Breakfasts.

THE CRUSADERS LODGE, No. 1677, AND PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 1743,
 HOLD THEIR MEETINGS AT THIS ESTABLISHMENT.

GOOD COOKING. FINE WINES. MODERATE CHARGES.

The Edison Electric Light.

TARIFF on APPLICATION to Bro. A. BEGBIE.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

—:0:—

APRIL ELECTION, 1885.

—:0:—

The Votes and Interests of the Governors and Subscribers are most earnestly solicited for

NEVILLE INNES CHAMBERLAIN,

Aged 10 years, 10th September 1885. Eldest son of the late Brother ROBERT CHAMBERLAIN, Locomotive Engineer of Rowari-Ferozpur State Railway, Punjab, who died suddenly, at Hissar, on the 26th July 1884, aged 42, from Heat Apoplexy, leaving a widow and two children without adequate means of support. He was initiated in Lodge Corinth, No. 1122, Nagpur, served as W.M. and Secretary over two years; W.M. of Lodge Berar, No. 1649, Budneira; three years D.G.D. of Bombay, and a member of the Grand Lodge of England. He was a subscribing member until death.

The case is strongly recommended by the Berar, Corinth, and Bombay Lodges, and the undermentioned brethren:—

- Edward Tyrrell Leith, District Grand Master Bombay.
- Andrew Hay, P.D.D.G.M. Bombay.
- * W. Bro. J. Percy Leith P.G.D. P.D.G.M. Bombay.
- * Nathaniel G. Phillips P.G.D. P.G.S.N. England, 23 Belgrave Road, S.W.
- * G. Laurie P.D.D.M. for Turkey.
- Charles Greenwood P.G.S.B. England, 61 Nelson Square, S.E.
- Astley Cooper, M.D., Surgeon-Major, Hissar.
- F. J. Leville G. Sup. of Works Grand Lodge Bombay.
- * J. Beavan Phillips P.M. 671 P. Prov. G.W. Western Division South Wales.
- * Aaron Stone P.M. 671 P. Prov. G.W. Western Division South Wales.
- * William Bowen P.M. 671 P. Prov. G.D. Western Division South Wales.
- * James Heywood, Constantinople.
- * W. Harvey P.M. 687 P.Z. 107 Secretary and P.D.G. Secretary for Turkey.
- * G. Kenning Vice-Patron, P.M. 192 249 1657 P.G.D. Midd., Upper Sydenham.
- G. S. Graham Past Provincial Grand Organist, St. John's Villa, Fernlea Road, Balham Hill.
- William Sugg P.M. 33 P.Z. 33, Pontroy, Nightingale Lane, Clapham Common, S.W.
- * A. Withers P.M. St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211, Penshurst Lodge, Balham Hill, S.W.
- J. Nowill, Esq., Nagpur, Corinth Lodge, No. 1122 E.C.
- * W. Wilkins I.P.M. 902, 103 Cannon Street and Battersea Rise.
- Harris P.M. Old Concord Lodge, Buron's Court Hotel, W. Kensington.
- Eugene Delacoste W.M. 1627, Café Royal, 63 Regent Street, W.
- Dr. Waters, St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211, Bloomsbury Square, W.C.
- * A. J. Pritchard P.M. 162, 9 Gracechurch Street, E.C.
- * G. Pritchard, Heath Street, Hampstead.
- * G. King, Secretary Old Concord Lodge, Charterhouse, E.C.
- * Thos. Spearing W.S. 902, Garfield House, Bullen Road, Clapham Junction.
- W. W. Morgan W.M. St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211.
- Stevens P.M. Royal Kensington Lodge, No. 1627, 39 High Street, Battersea, S.W.
- W. Padeliffe P.M. and Secretary St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211, 41 Aldersgate Street, City.

Proxies will be received by those marked thus *, and by the Grandfather, Rev. J. A. Chamberlain, 1 Mallinson Road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

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

Chief Patroness:
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Grand Patroness:
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

Bankers:
LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK (Bloomsbury Branch), 214 High
Holborn.

1389 Girls have been Educated, Clothed and Maintained within its
walls.

241 Girls are now receiving its benefits.

ENTIRELY SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE NINETY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,

UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF

Sir WALTER W. BURRELL, Bart. M.P.

Prov. Grand Master Sussex,

Will take place on WEDNESDAY, 13th MAY 1885.

The names of Brethren willing to serve as Stewards are earnestly solicited.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

OFFICES—5 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

Grand Patron:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

Vice Presidents (Ex-Officio):

The Right Hon. THE EARL OF CARNARVON, M.W. PRO G.M.

The Right Hon. THE EARL OF LATHOM, R.W. Dep. G.M.

Treasurer:

GEORGE PLUCKNETT, Esq., V.P. P.G.D.

Bankers:

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK, Limited (Bloomsbury Branch),
214 High Holborn.

1630 Boys have received the benefits of the Institution since its
foundation in 1798.

215 Boys are now being Educated, Clothed and Maintained.

Preparatory School Buildings are in course of erection and it is hoped that the
First Election for admission will take place not later than October 1885.

INVESTED FUNDS, £17,000.

THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PRESIDENCY OF

R.W. Bro. the MARQUESS of HARTINGTON, M.P.

Prov. Grand Master for Derbyshire,

WILL TAKE PLACE IN JUNE 1885.

The services of Brethren willing to act as Stewards are urgently needed.

CONTRIBUTIONS EARNESTLY SOLICITED.

FREDERICK BINCKES (V. Pat. P.G. Std.), Secretary.

OFFICE—6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS, CROYDON.

Grand Patron and President:

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

Treasurer:

HORACE BROOKS MARSHALL, Esq., Grand Treasurer.

Bankers:

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK (Bloomsbury Branch), 214 High
Holborn.

Upwards of 1027 Annuitants have received the benefits of the Institution since
its foundation in 1812.
170 Men and 182 Widows are Annuitants at the present time.

AMOUNT PAID ANNUALLY IN ANNUITIES, £13,200.

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 25th FEBRUARY 1885,

UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF

The Rt. Hon. Sir MICHAEL E. HICKS-BEACH, Bart. M.P.

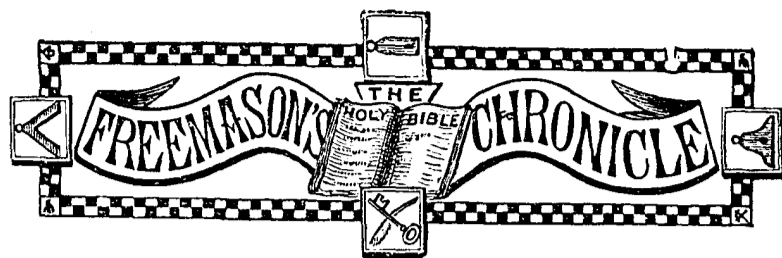
R.W. Prov. G.M. for Gloucestershire.

Funds are urgently needed for the 130 Candidates seeking Election.

Brethren are earnestly solicited to accept the Stewardship upon this occa-
sion and to forward their names to

JAMES TERRY (P. Prov. G.S.W. Norths & Hunts), Secretary.

OFFICE—4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

THE annual meeting was held on the 11th ult., at the
Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby. There was a large
gathering of brethren from all parts of the Province. At
half-past one o'clock Bro. Smith W.M. and the Officers of
the Lodge of Repose, No. 802, opened their Lodge, and at
two o'clock the acting Prov. Grand Master and his Officers,
Present and Past, entered and constituted the Provincial
Grand Lodge. In the absence of Bro. the Marquess of
Hartington Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master,
Bro. Houghton Charles Okeover, Right Worshipful
Deputy Provincial Grand Master, P.G.W. England, offi-
ciated as Provincial Grand Master, and there were present
the following Provincial Grand Officers:—Bros. Cox
Provincial Grand Treasurer as D.P.G.M., Smith P.G.S.W.,
Walters as P.G.J.W., Rev. C. T. Bromwich P.G. Chaplain,
Naylor P.P.G.S.W. P.G. Secretary, Day P.G.J.D., Ball
P.G.J.D., Broughton P.G. Superintendent of Works,
Wallis P.G. Director of Ceremonies, Fisher P.G. Sword
Bearer, Cupit and Jones P.G. Standard Bearers, Lytle
P.G. Pursuivant, Greenhough P.G. Assistant Pursuivant,
and Bros. Robinson, Swire, Clarke, Woodiwiss and
Walker P.G. Stewards. Amongst those present were
Bros. Frederick Binckes P.G. Steward Secretary R.M.I.B.,
W. H. Marsden, Frank Campion, G. T. Wright, Thomas
Hall, Rev. Thomas Orrell, J. H. Lawson, J. Whitehead,
S. Steele, W. L. Dodd, Edgar Horne, John Chadwick,
C. Webster, C. D. Hart, A. B. Plant, T. E. Yeomans,
Thomas Roe, W. Silver Hall, J. Bland, Vernon Green-
hough, E. Belfield, T. Horsley jun. The reports of the
various Lodges were uniformly satisfactory, indicating a
considerable increase of members, and continued activity
in the cause of charity. Bro. Smith, Chairman of the
Masonic Hall Trustees, presented a favourable report;
whilst Bro. Wright, Chairman of the Charity Committee,
gave an interesting account of the year's operations in
that important department, intimating that two local
candidates—a boy and girl—for the Charitable Institutions
of the Order had been elected. Bro. Marsden, on behalf
of the Auditors, presented a satisfactory report, and the
accounts were ordered to be printed and circulated. Bro.
Cox was, for the twentieth time, re-elected as Treasurer of
the Province, and Bro. Wright was again unanimously re-
appointed Chairman of the Charities Committee. Both
brethren suitably acknowledged the compliment. The
following were appointed Officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. W. Walters...	...	Prov. G. Senior Warden
C. Maltby ...	...	Prov. G. Junior Warden
Rev. C. T. Bromwich...	...	Prov. G. Chaplain
E. Belfield ...	...	Prov. G. Registrar
W. Naylor P.P.G.S.W.	...	Prov. G. Secretary
J. Crossley ...	...	Prov. G. Senior Deacon
J. Bland ...	...	Prov. G. Junior Deacon
W. Butterfield ...	...	Prov. G. Supt. of Works
Percy Wallis (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G. Director of Cers.
F. Bennett ...	...	Prov. G. A.D. of Ceremonies
T. Parker ...	...	Prov. G. Pursuivant
J. H. Richardson ...	...	Prov. G. Assistant Secretary
James Wright ...	...	} Prov. G. Stewards
M. Atwood ...	...
J. Monck ...	...
R. Slater ...	...

Bro. Hall made a short statement in reference to the
approaching centenary of the Tyrian Lodge, which, he
pointed out, was also the centenary of Derbyshire Free-
masonry. The Committee appointed for carrying out the
arrangements were anxious to receive as many suggestions
as they could obtain from the Officers and brethren of
other Lodges, but at present they contemplated having a
Provincial Grand Lodge banquet (at which the Marquess of
Hartington would probably be present), and in the evening
a ball. These arrangements were, however, subject to
improvement or perchance to enlargement. Bro. Smith
then presented to the Lodge a set of handsome brass

candlesticks, and also produced, encased in a suitable frame (which had been provided), a stone taken from the ruins of the Temple of King Solomon, by Bro. Charles Colville. Bro. Smith having been thanked for his gifts, the acting Prov. Grand Master delivered a short address, in which he expressed his deep gratification at the substantial progress made by the Order in the Province. After the Lodge had been closed, the brethren partook of a banquet in the Lower Hall.

TWO NEW YEARS' EVES; OR, HOW I BECAME A MASON.

BY A VETERAN BROTHER.

CHAPTER I.

"*TEMPUS Fugit!*" Of the veracity of that oft-quoted adage I am more than reminded by the preponderance of grey in my hair and beard, as I gaze into the glass on this calm and, to me, sacred New Year's Eve. Reminded, too, by pictures conjured up, as the glowing firelight glints through the diamond ring upon my finger, recalling days as marked for the happiness they brought as for the void which so suddenly and irreparably fell upon my soul. I am not, at my age, what modern fiction readers would condemn as a gushing or sensational writer; but, as the incidents I am about to relate are substantially true, I will endeavour to avoid being dull or gloomy at this season of the year, which is proverbially "merry," and deliver my round unvarnished tale in my own way, and in my old-fashioned style. So this is how it all came about.

"Terrifically hot, old boy!" exclaimed my friend, Jack Fenton, one abnormally sultry day in June; "how can you possibly stick to the desk so leech-like when the barometer is at boiling-point, and even the cab-horses on the rank outside are sleeping, like so many cats on the hearth? I am almost enervated by this stuffy atmosphere; so come along; let us take one of the cabs hinted at, and go for a drive a little way into the country. It will do us both good, and we shall have the additional credit of waking up poor cabby and his sleepy steed."

"With all my heart," I replied; "it will be a treat exactly to my taste. But where can we find cool and enjoyment on a day like this?"

"I'll tell you. Only by this morning's post I received an invitation for a Masonic summer banquet, down in one of the most sequestered and lovely glades in Bickenham; and, as the ticket says for two—"

"But hold, Jack! I am not a Mason."

"Ah! I forgot; but, without any violation of my Masonic 'secrets'—here I smiled incredulously—"I ought to explain that these summer banquets are not strictly confined to the brethren of 'ye mystic tie.' They can't be, you know, inasmuch as in all probability the majority of the company will be ladies. So you need have no scruples on that point; and if you do not fall in love with one of the fair 'sisters,' you will do so with Masonry, when you have had a glimpse of one side of the sublime Art."

So, resigning myself to the tender mercies of my old friend and schoolfellow, we were soon beyond the "human bakehouse" of the City, whose very stones seemed like the "hot bricks" of the proverb, and howling away out on the white, dusty road, with hedges and fields on either side of us, dotted here and there with pretty white cottages, literally embowered with flowers that flung a million sweet odours around them. What a contrast, even in so short a distance! How fresh and invigorating! Even the little birds that twittered amongst the hedgerows seemed to warble a song of praise to my friend Jack for literally tearing himself and me away from the din and heat and bustle of City life under such tropical conditions.

It is unnecessary to relate how, in the twelve or fourteen miles journey down, Jack revealed to me the *modus operandi* of a "summer banquet"—how it was agreed to by vote in "open Lodge"; how certain "Stewards" were appointed to carry out the arduous, but pleasing, preliminaries; how the brethren, than whom

"No mortals can more the ladies adore"

laid themselves out, on that day, more than all the rest in the year, to afford the fair ones an insight into the "mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry" by giving them a day in the country; and how the party went down by road, in coaches and wagonettes, along the very same route we were now taking, to some park-like nook beside the margin of the cool river; and where, under the shade of umbrageous trees, the pic-nic was followed by dancing and all those other agreeable pastimes in which youth delight.

Suffice to say, the vision conjured up by the recital of all these pleasantries gave me a better opinion of Masons than I confess I had erewhile entertained; and the summit of pleasant anticipation was reached when Jack exclaimed, "You know, on our return journey, we shall have dismissed this cab"—there were no heasoms in those days—"and shall ride back with the rest—part and parcel of the happy company."

On, by rich pasture lands, on which cattle were lazily browsing, by smiling orchards, and quaint old thatched cottages, whose inmates came to door and window to catch a glimpse of the unusual carriage coming their way. Past the osier beds, through which the shining river meandered on its serpentine course, and upon whose bosom the fleecy swans rested majestically, hardly caring to move or ruffle a feather at the approach of a boat, though its occupants

laughed never so cheerily as they paddled lover-like with the stream.

A couple of hours' easy trot brought us to the market place of Wickmond, before whose principal inn door stood two or three stage coaches and open drags, and it was in these Jack rightly conjectured the Free and Accepted Masons had travelled down.

"Jist in time, gen'lmen," quoth the ostler, as he drew the reins gently away from our driver, who patted his steed affectionately on the neck after we had paid him what he evidently considered a "tidy" fare, and dismissed him to attend to the "personal comforts" of both man and beast.

"You'll find 'em down there—on the Squire's lawn," smiled the old fellow; "sich a lot on 'em, sir; and all of the right sort, to judge of their 'ansome behaviour in the 'otel." And to "jndge" from his benign countenance, old Jim the ostler had not been forgotten either.

It needed but a few minutes for us to refresh the inner man, and remove the dust from our apparel, before we were sauntering over the fields that divided the ancient hostelry from the Park, which we were informed the "Squire" had kindly placed at the disposal of his guests.

The whispering of the leaves overhead soon mingled with the cadences of distant music, as we neared the rendezvous; and I could see by the flush upon Jack's cheek that he was evidently stirred by these, to him, familiar strains into the keenest anticipations of pleasure at the treat in store for us. We could discern, here and there between the boughs, moving groups of happy beings, the light toilettes of the ladies giving grace and beauty to the idyllic picture, whilst the air was redolent of flowers and resonant with the ripple of merry laughter and light-hearted conversation.

"Now, Harry, don't be too chivalrous, or flatter yourself you will make a 'conquest'—as the girls call it—to-day," slyly whispered Jack, who could see I was becoming as eager for the pic-nic as he was. But we were nearing the entrance gate now, and there was no time to finish the sentence he had begun.

"Happy to meet you, Brother," exclaimed the keeper of the wicket, as he held out his hand for the 'grip'—and to our Visiting Brother, too. You will find the company just about to dine, and may consider yourselves fortunate you are not late. Of course you vouch for your companion?"

Jack meekly explained to his questioner that I was not a member of the Craft; whereupon the Brother who seemed to be acting in the capacity of "outer guard" became suddenly grave and perplexed, and drawing Jack aside, put some questions to him which I could not overhear.

Presently Jack returned to me, and with a voice more akin to anger than ever I had noticed in him before, he ejaculated, "Something has gone wrong. The invitations are to Masons only, and their female friends, and so there may be a difficulty about you. I hope not, for I never heard of anything so monstrously absurd as the exclusion of non-Masons from an assembly which, though it is graced by the smiles and fascinations of the gentler sex, is absolutely neutralised by their very presence, so far as Freemasonry is concerned."

"Anyhow, the Tyler has gone to ask the Worshipful Master," continued he, though, by the biting of his lip and flushed face, I could easily see Jack was chagrined even by the challenge, and doubtful as to the result.

We had not long to wait; for presently the Tyler returned, overflowing with apologies, but the verdict was as unalterable as the laws of the Medes and Persians; and although Jack was himself profusely welcomed to the festivities, his friend must not be offended if—

"Come away, Harry!" he ejaculated, rather testily, "we will enjoy our afternoon together, at all hazards, even if we are shut out from the charmed circle;" and turning to the Tyler, who was equally as discomfited, he said, with an assumed air of jaunty indifference, "It is of no great consequence; give my compliments to Bro. Captain Mayhew, who will no doubt offer some explanation when next we meet in the Lodge-room. Good day, Brother Tyler."

And so we sauntered back again by the way we had come, though with thoughts far different to those which had been stirred within us only a few minutes previously. Indeed, the very sounds we heard grated on the ear, in the first moments of our disappointment. The birds seemed to mock at our misfortune, and the leaves to laugh at our rebuff, as we strode silently from the mirth and the music in which we had been denied a share.

"Confoundedly annoying!" cried Jack, as soon as we were conveniently out of hearing. "It is worse than annoying; and I take it as an insult to me personally. In addition, Harry, if you have been debarred from falling in love with one of those charming damsels yonder your love for Masonry, which we snake about coming down, won't be much enhanced by this episode. Eh?"

I could hardly help smiling at Jack's peevishness, though I could quite understand it was more on my account than his own; so I tried to laugh the matter off, and expressed the hope that by going further we might not fare worse.

My companion replied that he knew a very old friend who lived a mile or so further down the river, by the ferry, who would be glad to see us both, "although," he added, sarcastically, "You are not; as they say in certain circles 'one of us.'" Accordingly we decided upon setting out for Peterside instanter, as Jack remarked vigorously, "by way of revenge."

On arriving at the hotel we had quitted so buoyantly only half-an-hour before, the landlady graciously inquired whether we had lost our way across the fields? the tittering maids-in-waiting looked—though they did not say it—at us as though we "didn't belong to their set"; while poor old Jim, the ostler, scratched his head and murmured, "Blow'd if he could make it out, anyhow." Without stopping to answer any of these inquiring looks or gestures, we ordered some light refreshments, and sauntering down through the narrow street of Wickmond, passed over the bridge and selected from

among the many trim-built wherries moored alongside one which suited our mutual fancy for the trip. We were soon shoved off by a jolly old waterman, who with a grin which bespoke the honesty of him who grinned it, exclaimed "Safe sir! Safe as any three-decker, sir, I'll warrant her. Keep well mid-stream, gen'llemen, and yer'll be as right as a mail. Pleasant voyage, and safe return, gen'llemen."

The scene was bathed in a flood of golden sunshine, and all around was gladsome, blithe and happy. Our little bark glided swiftly down with the stream, with little exertion required on our parts, and we skimmed past stately mansions whose gardens ran down to the water's edge, and farther on a towing-path where children gambolled in unrestrained freedom while their elders sought shelter from the glare and heat of the sun's rays beneath overhanging clumps of hawthorn, which hardened the air with delicious fragrance. On the lawns on either side of us little garden parties were in the full swing of gaiety here and there, and whispers of music were wafted across the river almost at every bend. All the quiet riverside seemed glad, as it should be, in keeping with such a glorious afternoon.

We had just swept by one of the eyots which intersect the stream at this point, and were in reverie almost, absorbed by that peculiar charm and calm which are always so overpowering on a hot day, upon the river, when we were startled by a piercing shriek, as if from one in distress. A splash in the water, some thirty yards or more distant, and then calm as before; but as we rowed back to the spot whence the sound proceeded, Jack almost shrieked—

"My God! Harry, it's a woman in the water!"

* * * * *

With almost supernatural agility I plunged into the swiftly-running stream, but the current hurled me aside from the white garments of which I had just caught a momentary glimpse as I flung myself over the boat's side. Obviously we were both floating in the same direction, and as a moment more brought us into deep water, the movement became more still, and by a strong stroke or two, I caught the lifeless form in my arms, and brought it to the surface.

Jack had stuck manfully to the boat, for the double reason that he was no swimmer and that he could follow and render more assistance than had we both been in the water. He grasped me with his strong arm as we came up, and in a moment we were drifting along towards the nearest indentation on the banks, which we reached in safety. The old ferryman was just about to paddle across with a party of pleasure seekers, but caught sight of us when we were within a few yards of him, and with the instinct of one who is used to such scenes, he grasped me and my lovely burden in his brawny embrace, and towed us ashore, as he afterwards explained to us, "in a jiffy."

In the few minutes during which the exciting scene had taken to enact, I had caught a brief glimpse of the beautiful features of the maiden whom I thanked God from the bottom of my heart I had been able, with Jack's help, to rescue. She was apparently about nineteen or twenty years of age, with hair flowing in light golden tresses over finely chiselled features; but in the moment of deathly alarm, and to all appearance dead, the countenance was of marble whiteness—as one sees in the gallery of the sculptor, amidst the divinities of the artist's conception.

When we laid her tenderly upon the turf by the old boat-house, there was no evidence whatever of animation, and with the shock and immersion in the water, I too felt sick and giddy, and should have swooned also, but for the joy of having plucked one so young and beautiful from the very jaws of death.

"Why! bless my soul, if it ain't our young Miss Adeline up at the 'All!" I heard the old ferryman ejaculate, in accents of agonised alarm. "Look sharp, lads! for God's sake! Help!"

I was powerless from exhaustion, and it was through a dim vista that I saw them carry the motionless body away, through the little gate, and into the avenue, where I could no longer follow them; and then with a buzzing in my ears, and a sudden rushing as of mighty waters through my brain, I reeled back unconscious into the arms of the bystanders, who had just before been waiting in the ferry boat to cross over.

(To be continued.)

PHENIX LODGE, No. 257.

THERE was an influential meeting at this Lodge on Saturday, 27th ult., on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Arther Jolliffe as the W.M. for the year ensuing. The duties of Installing Master were performed in an admirable manner by Bro. Ernest Hall P.M. P.G. Superintendent of Works. After the ceremony the newly installed W.M. appointed his Officers for the year, as follow:—Bros. Gordon Miller I.P.M., Col. J. F. Crease, C.B., S.W., W. G. P. Gilbert J.W., Dr. J. R. O'Connor P.M. P.P.G.S.W. Treasurer, H. Drummond Secretary, Rev. G. H. De Frains P.M. P.G. Chap. Chaplain, Major Campbell S.D., S. B. Darwin J.D., Captain Kennedy I.G., George Rake P.M. P.P.G.W. D.C., A. O. Bayly A.D.C., C. W. Long and A. W. C. Peskett Stewards, G. D. Lovegrove Organist. Amongst those present were Bros. M. E. Frost P.M. P.P.G.S.W., G. B. Irons W.M. 903, Rev. A. C. Hervey W.M. 309, Westaway W.M. Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1834, J. E. Buch W.M. Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 342, T. Batchlor W.M. 1705, H. Cook W.M. 1069, J. Collings W.M. 804, W. E. Atkins P.M., H. J. Guy P.M., J. S. Bechervaise, R. G. Hellyer, G. E. Kent jun., C. J. E. Mumby P.M., R. W. Beale P.M., H. Cawte P.M. P.P.G.W., S. R. Ellis P.M. P.P.G.D.C., J. W. Giove W.M. elect 309, J. Read sen., C. J. E. Erskine, J. Brickwood P.M., T. R. Williams P.M., E. W. Jolliffe.

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

THE THEATRES.

ROYALTY.

THOSE amongst us who can remember Charles Mathews in the days of his glory, and those who have listened with more or less incredulity to what the fogies say of that delight of their youth, should assuredly not fail to visit the Royalty whilst Colombey is rattling through the wild fun and nonsense of "Le Reveillon" (Ringing in the New Year). The same brilliancy seems to pervade him. Never since our Charles has left us have we seen the like. "Le Reveillon" is to be given until 7th January, and though as a drama it is certainly inferior to most of the plays which the French company have offered us, yet the character so well suits the idiosyncrasies of the actors that it will assuredly be one of the most popular. The story is slight enough. M. Gaillardin, a highly respectable country gentleman (Colombey), is found, when the curtain rises, in great tribulation, having just been condemned to "eight days" as a first-class misdemeanant. An old servant of his has been raised to the dignity of a garde champetre, and M. Gaillardin, forgetting the change, calls him an "imbecile." Summoned for this offence before his old friend the local justice, when called on to declare his name he has laughed at the absurdity of the question, and laughed the more when the assessor and the clerk reiterate the demand, till finally he is condemned to eight days for contumely.

He has to deliver himself up that evening, and begs his wife to look out his old garden coat and worst pair of boots. She departs for the purpose, when to him enters his lawyer (Ricquier), who invites him to "see the old year out" at a jovial party to be given by a certain Russian Prince, staying in the neighbourhood. Gaillardin hesitates, but on hearing there are to be some charming Parisian actresses there, the chance is too tempting. He has never spoken to an actress before! But the old garden coat! He must explain to his wife that, like the aristocrats of old who went to the scaffold in powder and family jewels, he too would adorn for the sacrifice and put on his best dress suit. It was a perfect essay on martyrdom to watch Colombey's face as he declared his intention. He bids his wife farewell for eight days—for of course he intends to surrender next morning in the small hours. The door scarcely closes on him when she is startled, very unpleasantly, by the appearance of a long-haired musical genius, her very lyrical adorer, the leader of the Russian Prince's band. Whilst he is alternately helping himself to the soup prepared for her departed lord, and declaring his devotion, footsteps are heard, and the Director of the Prison (Dalbert) enters, and with the greatest politeness states M. Gaillardin is wanted. Madam, in terror of being compromised, has turned the lamp down, and the irrepressible lyrist has wrapped himself in the dressing gown of the absent master of the house. The Director of course concludes he sees his prisoner before him. The musician would explain, but in vain; the lady faints, and the curtain falls on the first act. With the second we find Gaillardin, having a good time with the young prince and his very sprightly convives, among them the Prison Governor, who assumes the style of Count Indquechose for the occasion. Gaillardin, too, is introduced as Marquis de Val Gongat. The supper party, gathered round the table, is of the liveliest, and the jokes and laughter flying about have an admirable foil in the solemn statuesque dignity of the six servants, who stand behind the chairs as motionless as heraldic supporters, except when they, as it were automatically, fill the guests' glasses. Rose Léon, as the principal lady, catches the tone of mischievous raillery exactly suited to the Parisienne student of rural simplicity. Between her fascinations and the champagne, Gaillardin soon shows the results of so seeing the Old Year out. A quadrille follows the supper, and Gaillardin and the governor distinguish themselves by a brilliant "pastourelle." Then midnight sounds, and both must away, the former to surrender himself to durance, the latter to resume his duties. The governor first reaches his destination, and Dalbert gave a most comic picture of the great official's attempt to maintain his dignity and his equilibrium, whilst conscious of the difficulty, during an interview with the gaoler, who is suffering from that satanic cogniac. Gaillardin appears, and is bewildered to find his Marquis (the governor) here; the latter no less at the appearance of the Count; but when Gaillardin confesses his real name, he is laughed at by both governor and turnkey, for is not the real delinquent already safe in cell No. 11? When at last the two Gaillardins are confronted, we have a magnificent bit of comedy. Colombey, determined to learn the worst, has borrowed the gown and cap of his advocate, who comes to the prison, and offers to take up the case of the sham Gaillardin. He glories in the martyrdom, and it is not till Colombey has been driven wild by his suspicious and rhapsodical nonsense of the mysterious "other," that the embroglio is cleared up. We may hope he will better appreciate the society of a charming wife, and avoid for the future ringing in the new year in doubtful company. With so excellent a caste we might well praise each exponent; especially good was the turnkey of M. Schey; but why will he so greatly abuse the rouge pat? M. Ricquier gave a finished portrait of the country lawyer. Middle. Robert too was an admirable country cuisinière.

At the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614, held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, on Thursday, 8th January, the ceremony of installation will be rehearsed. A ballot will also be taken for a subscribership to one of the Royal Masonic Institutions. Lodge will be opened at 8 p.m.

£20.—TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—A Pamphlet, 80 pages. How to Open respectably from £20 to £500. 3 Stamps. H. MERRIS & Co., Cigar and Tobacco Merchants, 109 Euston Road, London. Wholesale only.

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, 3rd JANUARY.

General Committee Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
1572—Carnarvon, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
1622—Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
2012—Chiswick, Hampshire Hog, King Street, Hammersmith, W. (Instr.)
Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
*149—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
453—Chigwell, Forest Hotel, Chingford
1362—Royal Albert Edward, Market Hall, Redhill
1453—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester
1466—Hova Ecclesia, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton
M.M. 14—Prince Edward's, Station Hotel, Stansfield, Todmorden

MONDAY, 5th JANUARY.

22—Loughborough, Cambria Tavern, Cambria Road, near Loughborough Junction, at 7.30. (Instruction)
25—Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
45—Strong Man, Excise Tavern, Old Broad Street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
72—Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
144—St. Luke, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
171—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
183—Joppa, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
212—Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High Street, Camden Town, at 8. (Inst.)
548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1425—Hyde Park, Fountain Abbey Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington, at 8 (In).
1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In)
1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
1585—Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, High Street, Putney, at 8. (In.)
1608—Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, Oxford Street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
1623—West Smithfield, Clarence Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C. at 7 (Inst.)
1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel Mile End Road, corner of Burdett Road. (Inst.)
1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
1921—Wickham, St. Peter's Hall, Wickham Park, Brockley
R.A. 29—Old King's Arms, Freemasons Tavern, W.C.
M.M. 139—Panmure, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C.

37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors
53—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath
113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Preston.
119—Sun, Square, and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, College-st., Whitehaven
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Paversham
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover
236—York, Masonic Hall, York
251—Loyal, Masonic Hall, Castle-street, Barnstaple
338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire
381—Harmony and Industry, Smalley's Hotel, Market street, Over Darwen
395—Guy, Crown Hotel, Leamington Priors
431—St. George, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, N. Shields
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge
482—St. James's, Masonic Rooms, Wretham Road, Handsworth, Staffordshire
529—Scmper Fidelis, Crown Hotel, Worcester
597—St. Cybil, Town Hall, Holyhead
622—St. Cuthberga, Masonic Hall, Wimborno
691—Oakley, Masonic Hall, Church Street, Basingstoke
823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dowsbury
850—St. Oswald, Town Hall, Ashbourne, Derbyshire
928—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Petersfield

1009—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Cooner-street, Manchester
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire
1050—Gundulph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester
1051—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster
1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire
1108—Royal Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Otley, Yorks
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Oswestry
1180—Forward, Masonic Rooms, New Hall-street, Birmingham
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
1302—De Warren, Masonic Hall, White Swan Hotel, Halifax
1380—Skelmersdale, Queen's Hotel, Waterloo, Liverpool
1434—Nottinghamshire, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
1477—Sir Watkin, Masonic Hall, Mold
1519—Albert Edward, Albion Hotel, Clayton-le-Moors, near Accrington
1573—Caradoc, Masonic Hall, Caer-street, Swansea
1578—Merlin, New Inn Hotel, Pontypridd, South Wales
1676—St. Nicholas, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
1798—Zion, Hulme Town Hall, Manchester

R.A. 262—Salopian, The Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury
R.A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Morley
M.M. 37—Wyndham, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.

TUESDAY, 6th JANUARY.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
9—Albion, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
141—Faith, Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's Gate, St. James's Park, Station, at 8. (Instruction)
166—Union, Criterion, W.
172—Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
189—Jeppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
765—St. James, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
839—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
1044—Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Alma Road, Wandsworth (Instruction)
1298—Royal Standard, Club, Upper-street, Islington
1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (In.)
1749—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 3. (Instruction)
1381—Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington
1445—Mount Edgcumbe, Three Stag, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 8 (Inst)

1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7, (Instruction)
1472—Henley, Three Crowns, Woolwich
1540—Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
1601—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (Instruction)
1692—Sir Hugh Myddelton, King Edward VI., King Edward Street, Liverpool Road, N., at 8. (Instruction)
1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8 (Inst)
1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street. 6.30 (Inst)
1949—Brixton, Prince Regent Dalwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, Cannon Street, 8.30.
R.A.—Camden, The Boston, Junction Road, Holloway, at 8 (Instruction)
R.A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction)
R.A. 1338—St. Martins-le-Grand, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street
M.M. 1—St. Mark's, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.

70—St. John, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
120—Palladian, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham
158—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness
209—Etonian, Masonic Hall, Windsor
226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
244—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley
361—Cambrian, Masonic Hall, Neath.
393—St. David, Masons' Hall, The Parade, Berwick
448—St. James, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax
493—Royal Lebanon, Spread Eagle, Gloucester
510—St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard.
558—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.
673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
734—Londesborough, Masonic Hall, Bridlington Quay.
794—Warden, Royal Hotel, Sutton Coldfield
804—Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Havant.
847—Fortescue, Manor House, Houlton, Devon.
913—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard
960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
974—Pentalpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
995—Furness, Masonic Hall, Ulverston.

1002—Skiddaw, Lodge Room, Market-place, Cockermouth.
1134—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Salford.
1244—Marwood, Freemasons' Hall, Redcar.
1322—Waverley, Caledonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1336—Square and Compass, Corn Exchange, Wrexham.
1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6. (Instruction.)
1489—St. Eleth, Castle Hotel, Amlwch, Anglesea
1619—Sackville, Crown Hotel, East Grinstead
1674—Caradoc, Masonic Hall, Bank Buildings, Sussex Street, Rhyl
1750—Coleridge, Sandringham House, Clevedon.
1823—Royal Clarence, Masonic Hall, Clare, Suffolk
1970—Hadrian, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields
2032—Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, Surrey
R.A. 203—St. John of Jerusalem, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
M.M. 69—United Service, Assembly Rooms, Brompton, Chatham.

WEDNESDAY, 7th JANUARY.

3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8 (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, The Hope, Stanhope Street, Regents Park, 8 (Inst.)
539—In Tolerance, Morland's Hotel, Dean Street, Oxford St. at 8 (Inst)
720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7 (Instruction)
731—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
861—Finsbury, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
902—Burgoyne, Victoria Hotel, Farringdon Road, at 7. (Instruction)

1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
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. (Instr.)
1687—The Rothesay, Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields
1707—Eleanor, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
1791—Creton, Prince Albert Tavern, Portobello-ter., Notting-hill-gate (Inst.)
1827—Alliance, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street
1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In)

R.A. 55—Constitutional, Private Rooms, Leytonstone
R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction.)
R.A. 933—Doric, 202 Whitechapel-road, at 7.30. (Instruction)
R.A. 1328—Granite, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
M.M. 1—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)

74—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham
210—Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton
274—Tranquillity, Boat's Head Inn, Newchurch, near Manchester
299—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
298—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, Rochdale
326—Moirs, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol
327—Wigton St. John, Lion and Lamb, Wigton
363—Keystone, New Inn, Whitworth.
406—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne
417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester.
429—Royal Navy, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate
471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport Monmouthshire
504—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
611—Marches, Masonic Hall, Ludlow
625—Devonshire, Norfolk Hotel, Glossop
645—Humphrey Chetham, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
678—Earl Ellesmere, Church Hotel, Kersley, Farnworth, near Bolton.
750—Friendship, Freemason' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton
838—Franklin, Peacock and Royal Hotel, Boston
972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction)
992—St. Thomas, Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton

1010—Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship-street, Hull
1013—Royal Victoria, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland. (Instruction.)
1055—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Flower-street, Derby
1091—Erme, Erme House, Ivybridge, Devon
1167—Alnwick, Masonic Hall, Clayport-street, Alnwick
1266—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-Street
1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea
1325—Lindsay, 20 King-street, Wigton
1351—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Toigh, Lancashire
1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Inst.)
1363—Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Gloucester
1403—West Lancashire, Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk
1431—St. Alphege, George Hotel, Solihull
1441—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
1420—Marlborough, Derby Hall, Five Brook, Liverpool
1731—Trinity, Golden Lion Hotel, Rayleigh
1736—St. John's, St. John's Rooms, King X Street, Halifax
1812—St. Leonard, Concert Rooms, St. Leonard's-on-Sea
1993—Prince Edward of Saxo Weimar, Masonic Hall, Fort-mouth
R.A. 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham Street, Rochdale
R.A. 86—Lebanon, Masonic Hall, Prescott

R.A. 200—Old Globe, Londesborough Rooms, Scarborough
 R.A. 300—Perseverance, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne
 R.A. 301—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George Street, Leeds
 R.A. 312—Royal Sussex, Masonic, 79 Commercial Road, Portsea
 R.A. 1125—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Fore Street, Tiverton
 M.M. 36—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Duke-street, Burrow-in-Furness

THURSDAY, 8th JANUARY.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Lendenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Vitravian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 9 (Instruction)
 91—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Lendenhall-street, E.C.
 239—Pilgrim, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 657—Canonbury, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 749—Belgrave, The Clarence, Aldersgate Street, E.C. (Instruction)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 860—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 879—Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)
 1076—Capper, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1185—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Courts, Swan Tavern, Bedford Green Road, E. S. (Instruction)
 1306—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-road, Paddington
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1471—Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
 1598—Ley Spring, Red Lion, Leytonstone
 1599—Skelmersdale, Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street, E.C.
 1614—Covent Garden, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1642—Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbrooke Hall, Notting Hill
 1673—Langton, Mansion House Station Restaurant, E.C. at 6. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1708—Plucknett, Bald Faced Stag, East Finchley
 1744—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, Now Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1987—Strand, The Criterion, Piccadilly
 R.A. 73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge
 R.A. 140—St. George's, Green Man Hotel, Blackheath
 R.A. 538—Vane, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney
 R.A. 619—Beadon, Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street
 R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 813—New Concord, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 R.A. 1471—North London, Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)

R.C. 42—St. George, 33 Golden Square, W

35—Medina, 85 High-street, Cowes
 97—Palatine, Masonic Hall, Toward-road, Sunderland.
 112—St. George, Masonic Hall, Fore-street Hill, Exeter
 139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool. (Instruction)
 216—Harmony, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 333—Royal Preston, Castle Hotel, Preston
 339—Unanimity, Crown Hotel, Penwith, Cumberland.
 469—Hundred of Elloe, Masonic Rooms, London Road, Spalding.
 477—Mersey, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
 546—Etruscan, Masonic Hall, Caroline-street, Longton, Stafford.
 732—Royal Brunswick, Royal Pavilion, Brighton.
 739—Temperance, Masonic Room, New-street, Birmingham.
 784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal
 786—Croxteth United Service, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 945—Abbey, Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, Berks
 971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial Street, Batley
 991—Tyne, Masonic Hall, Wellington Quay, Northumberland
 1035—Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
 1055—Derby, Knowsley's Hotel, Cheetham, Lancashire
 1098—St. George, Private Room, Temperance Hotel, Trolegar, Mon.
 1144—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne
 1145—Equality, Red Lion Hotel, Accrington.
 1147—St. David, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1204—Roid, Imperial Hotel, Malvern, Worcestershire.
 1273—St. Michael, Free Church School-rooms, Sittingbourne
 1369—Bala, Plasgoch Hotel, Bala
 1416—Falcon, Masonic Hall, Castle Yard, Thirsk
 1429—Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Newport, Mon
 1530—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1583—Corbet, Corbet Arms, Towyn
 1697—Hospitality, Royal Hotel, Waterfoot, near Manchester
 1782—Machen, Swan Hotel, Colehill
 1911—De La Pré, Masonic Hall, Northampton
 1915—Graystone, Forester's Hall, Whitstable
 R.A. 116—Cana, Swan Hotel, Colne, Lancashire
 R.A. 220—Harmony, Wellington Hotel, Garston, Lancashire
 R.A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 R.A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge
 R.A. 509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees
 R.A. 613—Bridson, Masonic Hall, Southport
 R.A. 807—Cabbell, 23 St. Giles Street, Norwich
 R.A. 818—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Lion Street, Abergavenny
 R.A. 889—Dobie, Griffin Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames
 M.M.—St. John's, Commercial Hotel, Bolton.
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 M.M. 145—Constantine, George Hotel, Colchester

FRIDAY, 9th JANUARY.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, The North Pole, 115 Oxford-street, W., at 8 (Instruc.)
 157—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 177—Domestic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruc.)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In)
 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 Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction)
 1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1201—Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbrooke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, 79 Ebury Street, Pimlico, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 R.A.—Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 33—Britannic, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 95—Eastern Star Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Lendenhall St.
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 K.T. D.—Mount Calvary, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C.

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.
 453—Chigwell, Loughton Tavern, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30 (Inst)
 458—Aire and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-street, Goole.
 526—Honour, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton
 662—Dartmouth, Dartmouth Hotel, West Bromwich
 815—Blair, Town Hall, Stretford-road, Hulme
 916—Hartington, Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne

1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street, Harrogate
 1087—Beaudesert, Assembly Rooms, Corn Exchange, Leighton Buzzard
 1121—Wear Valley, Masonic Hall, Bishop Auckland
 1289—Rock, Royal Rock Hotel, Rock Ferry
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, at 7

R.A. 119—Sun, Square and Compass, Masonic Hall, Whitehaven
 R.A. 137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Poole
 R.A. 601—Eyton St. John, Wreken Hotel, Wellington, Salop
 R.A. 993—Alexandra, Medway Hotel, Levenshulmo
 K.T.—Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield
 K.T. 126—Do Wrenne, Royal Pavilion, Brighton

SATURDAY, 10th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12
 176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1328—Granite, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1426—The Great City, Cannon Street Hotel
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1686—Paxton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1743—Perseverance, Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct
 1839—Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 2012—Chiswick, Hampshire Hog, King Street, Hammersmith, W. (Instruc.)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 M.M. 211—Hammersmith, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street W, Hammersmith
 2069—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Leeds
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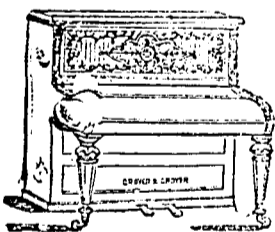
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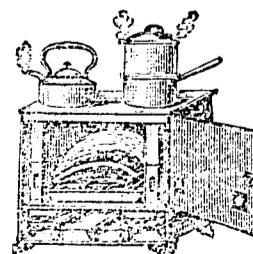
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