

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

NOW that the "seasonable" festivities of Christmas-tide are over, and a New Year opens up fresh hopes and expectations and renewed activities to the work-a-day world, we may be allowed to pass on to our readers the compliments we have heard echoed at every street corner and in many a home within the last few days of "A Happy New Year." We are accustomed now-a-days—at any rate since we have become familiar with the stern realities of life—to hear men of almost every grade give a "parting kick" at the Old Year, as he goes out with the dirge of muffled peals, carrying with him all the joys and sorrows, the hopes and disappointments, which have marked his "tenure of office." He is not like our invariable Worshipful Master, who retires from the scene of his year of labour "with all his blushing honours thick upon him," and receives a jewel "in recognition of services well and faithfully fulfilled." True, the departure of the Old Year is heralded by the sounds of mirth and the festive clinking of glasses all round, and in every grade of society; yet everybody seems to heave a sigh of relief when the old fellow has fairly gone from us amidst the "wild bells" that are rung out "to the wild sky," and has given place to the New Year, with all its maiden and hopeful anticipations. The past year, if we may judge from the expressions we hear so universally around us, has been anything but the "prosperous" one we all of us wished for each other when we stood upon its brink, just twelve months ago. In almost every department of trade, commerce and industry there have been complainings of depression and stagnation without precedent for many years; and that there has been a vast amount of suffering and hardship, not merely amongst the chronic poor, but in the ranks of those who are conventionally designated the "well-to-do"—the tradesman, and the industrious professional classes—there can be very little question. We are perfectly aware that in every season of the year—and "out of season," too, for that matter—there are always grumblers and people to whom the cry of "hard times" is perpetual. But Eighteen Hundred and Eighty-five, which has been gone from us only a few brief hours, has undoubtedly been one in which more than ordinary justification has been furnished for "complaining in our streets." Every department of trade and finance has been subject to an abnormal strain, and though probably failures in business have been equalled, if not surpassed, in some preceding years, yet the effect of the depression has been more universal and homefelt in the past year than many of the oldest of us recollect for many a long day. It may be that political complications, both at home and abroad, have had much to do with this unpleasant state of things, of a mixing up of national interests which have proved so general a source of perplexity with regard to foreign countries, and a change of Government in our own; though, as Masons, we trouble ourselves comparatively little with politics, pure and simple. With respect to our Fraternity, there has been little to record except that it has pursued the even tenour of its way, adding to its strength and gradually gathering to its numbers; and, although probably the vicissitudes of life have thrown more than usual upon our charitable and benevolent resources, nevertheless, like the widow's cruise and barrel, the compensating results have not altogether

failed, albeit the demand may have far outstripped the charitable desires and intentions of the Craft. Many new Lodges have sprung into vigorous existence, testifying to the ever-increasing vitality of our Order, and our older ones have by no means relaxed their efforts, or diminished in their power of rendering them more extensively useful to our fellow creatures. Let us hope that this spirit will continue to become more consolidated in the year on the threshold of which we now stand, and that the era which has just been ushered in may witness the increasing solidity, usefulness, and stability of those principles which we so deeply love and practise. May the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth continue to exert themselves over the whole of the human race, and particularly over those who are ranged under the banner of Freemasonry. We feel assured that they will do so, and that even should discords and difficulties arise in other mundane institutions, harmony and progress will be the predominant characteristics of "ye mystic tie." It may be that to many of us the "Compliments of the Season" are but remote probabilities of the aspiration being fulfilled—to whom in a retrospect of the dead year there is little to gladden the heart; and though there may be faint glimpses of dawning light, a small rift in the overhanging clouds, yet these are hardly sufficient to make "the bosom's lord sit lightly on his throne." But if they cannot rejoice with a light heart, still they may have the consciousness that they have borne up manfully against an almost overwhelming tide of evil; they have striven bravely in the face of difficulties, and never given way to despair, even in the most hopeless circumstances. To them at least there is the consciousness that they have done their best, and have only been conquered by the irresistible force of events. Happily the hand of Charity is never closed in this blessed England of ours, and more particularly amongst Masons, and so let us hope that the tide may now have turned at last with the departure of the Old year and the advent of the New. We cannot leave the subject without expressing an earnest hope that the year now commenced will bring forth more prosperity for all classes than that which has just drawn its last breath, and that when another twelve months have passed away we shall be able to wish our readers a "Merry Christmas" with some likelihood of its becoming a reality.

For ourselves it is only becoming that we should recognise the many acts of kindly interest and support displayed towards us in the past year, and to assure our many readers that no effort shall be wanting on our part at least to deserve a share in the greater prosperity which we wish for all. In the past year it has been our duty and privilege to acknowledge many additions to the roll of our patrons and friends, and it is our aim ever to do so, whilst still retaining the confidence and respect of old acquaintances. We are conscious of many shortcomings in our endeavours to make the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE a faithful reflex and repertoire of all the most important events in connection with the Craft, but to these our friends have been "a little blind," whilst to what virtues we may have displayed they have been "ever kind." In the spirit of amenity which pervades all classes at this season, we reciprocate the many kindly wishes we have received for the future prosperity of our journal, and with genuine sincerity wish to each and all our readers—

A Prosperous and Happy New Year.

OUR TWENTY-THIRD VOLUME.

AT the commencement of a new year the journalist claims for himself the indulgence and privilege of saying a few words of a personal character which may be considered out of place at other seasons; and, having wished our readers all the "happiness and prosperity" they can desire for themselves, we feel at liberty to make one or two observations respecting the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, with the current issue of which is commenced our Twenty-Third Volume. It is a trite saying amongst many of the brethren that, as a rule, Masons are not particularly assiduous in their study of the literature of the Craft, but this, in our opinion, is a verdict which must be taken *cum grano salis*. Our experience, extending over the many years during which the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE has ranked amongst the leading and recognised organs of Freemasonry is, that a growing spirit of inquiry and desire for interchange of thought and information on matters of interest to Masons generally—not only in this country but on the Continent and our Colonies—pervades a very large section of the Fraternity. "Constant readers" of the pages of this journal will not have failed to observe that such is the case, and we regard it as a very healthy sign of the times. In former days the publication of any of the doings of Masonic Lodges was considered not only highly improper, but, to some minds, almost amounting to a violation of the Book of Constitutions. Now, however, a much broader and more cosmopolitan view is taken of the case; and Masons are fully alive to the fact that, so far from there being anything derogatory or injurious to the welfare of the Craft, by recording the most important events in connection with it, or the exchange of ideas and criticisms on salient points, quite the reverse is the fact. Of course, in the hands of indiscreet or injudicious writers much harm may result, and not a few instances of this might be found in the amateur reports that one comes across from time to time in the columns of non-Masonic newspapers. The case is quite different when it rests in the hands of those who have made the Craft a study during the greater portion of their lives. That useful adjunct to the editorial *sanctum sanctorum*, the waste paper basket, could "a tale unfold" were the whole of the debris that is cast into it allowed to see the light of day. But in Masonic, as in all other branches of journalism, the eye of experience and the hand of constant discrimination have to be brought into play, so that the safeguards of the Craft may not be unduly exposed to the attacks of the insidious and the profane. This is a point we have always striven to observe ourselves, and to inculcate in the minds of our numerous correspondents; and to the credit of the latter it must be said that they appear anxious to inflict as little unnecessary work on the revisers of their "copy" as possible. We observe a growing tendency on the part of those who favour us with their communications to avoid personal quibbles and that friction of opinion which formerly disfigured the pages of Masonic journals, and, whilst calmly and dispassionately discussing questions in which all Masons are in common interested, they abstain from the errors committed by many contributors to the Press in former days. Thus a happier spirit is cultivated amongst the writers themselves, whilst the reading section of the brethren have much less to complain about than hitherto of heartburnings caused by the "undue publicity" of Masonic matters.

At this period of the year, when there is by tacit consent a comparative cessation of activity in Masonic circles, forming a break in the routine of work whilst the festivities of the season are in full swing, there is little to record in the way of Lodge reports; whilst the course of Masonry runs on so smoothly and harmoniously that the difficulty we experience is to find anything worth criticising. There is always plenty of scope, however, for intercommunication of ideas and opinions respecting the general aspect and the increasingly useful operations of Freemasonry, in all parts of the world, for the subject is simply inexhaustible in its interest to those who have the cause most thoroughly at heart. In these columns we are studious to record the spread of those principles of charity and benevolence which are the boast of our Institution, and whenever they are presented to our notice; and in doing so there is no greater satisfaction to the mind of the Masonic journalist than to convey the intelligence of such

noble efforts to the ear of every member of the Order. Whilst overlooking many minor details, and eliminating from reports sent to us such extraneous matter as may be superfluous or undesirable, it has been our aim to give a reflex of the work of the Craft over as wide an area as the space at our command permits, and thus to keep the brethren in all parts within the scope of our circulation *au courant* with the most important events in Masonry as they transpire. A diary of Lodge meetings may be unattractive reading, taken as a whole, but every line in it has an interest *somewhere*, and this is a necessary and useful adjunct to a Masonic paper. We venture to hope that by a perusal of the pages of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE a very wide circle of Masonic readers have derived a certain amount of satisfaction and instruction; and we can only promise that in the future we shall endeavour to pursue the same consistent course as that which during the past eleven years has characterised the management of this journal. That course, we are gratified to say, has won for us a large, and still increasing, number of friends, to whom we can only promise a punctual and regular supply of the best budget of news possible under varying circumstances, together with kindly, yet impartial, criticism of events that are passing around us. To those who have assisted and encouraged us in the past in the uphill work which necessarily attends the establishment of a class journal we return our heartfelt thanks; and, looking hopefully on the new year just opened, we may confidently anticipate a substantial addition to the number of our subscribers, advertisers, and friends. In dedicating to them our TWENTY-THIRD VOLUME we assure them of our determination to preserve the character of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE for the completeness of its record of Masonic intelligence, and with undiminished energy to promote the best interests of the Craft to which we one and all are so deeply and sincerely attached.

UNDUE PUBLICITY.

UNDER this heading we last week published an extract from our American contemporary the *Freemasons' Repository*, in which somewhat pointed allusion is made to "foreign Masonic periodicals that make a practice of publishing the names of applicants for the degrees;" who print in full "the names of candidates initiated or advanced . . . also the names of officers, regular or otherwise, performing the work; while the manner in which the ceremonies are rendered is likewise described." These, and similar acts, our contemporary stigmatizes, "undue publicity—a practice alike unwise and un-Masonic." We should be very dull of comprehension if we did not assume that some, at least, of the remarks to which we last week gave a place in our columns were intended for us. The cap fits, and we are prepared to wear it. In doing so we think a few words may not be out of order on this subject of "Undue Publicity." In the first place we would impress on the Editor of the journal in question, and on all who would write as he has done, that there is a very wide difference between English Freemasonry and Freemasonry as practised in the United States, Canada, and other countries outside our "tight little island." What we do here we are not ashamed of publishing to the world, and we fail to see that any harm can come, either to the brethren in particular or to the Order in general, by any reference to Masonic actions in a public newspaper, while we may also say that the outside world reaps no benefit from the information thus vouchsafed. Freemasonry in this country is so essentially a society for extending the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, that we incline to the belief that the more the actions of its members are published the better it will be for mankind in general. We know nothing of politics, of differences of religion, or of the thousand and one controversial subjects on which men disagree; and the fact of our publishing to the world reports of our meetings—even "literal copies of the official records of Secretaries" though they be—is evidence of our desire to challenge contradiction on these points. If the reports were not true they would—at least once now and then—be challenged by some of those who are ever anxious to pick a hole in the Masonic organisation, but we believe they have always been allowed to pass unquestioned—perhaps unnoticed, as being too trivial to call for even passing comment. Our contemporary and our foreign brethren

generally must understand, when we say we are not ashamed of publishing our doings to the world, that we consider them equally straightforward, and if they differ from us in their ideas as to what part of our doings should be recorded in the public press we do not for one moment imagine it is from any unworthy motive, or because they are afraid of any part of their doings being known outside the precincts of their Lodges. We assume the question is simply a matter of opinion, and no doubt we each feel that our own view of the case is the correct one.

There is no doubt that the publication of the doings of Freemasons in public papers could be carried too far, as by going to extremes our secrets might become intelligible to the outside world, but is there any fear of existing "Masonic periodicals," foreign or otherwise, going to that extent, or is there any risk of a respectable journal outside of Freemasonry lending itself to the publication of details which would be detrimental either to Freemasonry or Freemasons? If Freemasonry is used for its legitimate objects only; if what is done in the Lodge-room is done solely for the benefit of mankind, on the principles recognised by Freemasons, no harm can follow the publication of the names of those who were present, those who were advanced, or those who presided as Officers; it is only when Freemasonry is made the cloak for some unworthy or unholy action that any fear is justifiable that publicity is dangerous. We may, then, dismiss the charge that the publicity to which our contemporary refers is unwise, on the ground that it being so or otherwise entirely depends on individual opinion, and that we know is as variable as the wind. But our contemporary says it is un-Masonic! Here we have ample official evidence to prove the contrary, unless our contemporary desires to assert that its view is the correct one and the recognised action of almost every Grand Lodge wrong. There are very few exceptions throughout the world where the grand bodies of Freemasonry do not periodically publish reports of their Proceedings, wherein appears everything to which our contemporary takes exception, so far as is possible, in connection with a Grand Lodge as compared with a private one. These reports, or whatever they are termed, are certainly not issued to the world through the medium of the newspapers, but they are usually printed, and widely circulated, without any obligation, we believe, that the Masons into whose hands they fall are to keep them sacred from outside eyes. Our private Lodges have not the means, or the inclination, to follow the example of their rulers, and publish periodical reports of their doings, but they are often as anxious to be able to send details of their work to friends as are the Grand Lodges, and for this reason they avail themselves of the Masonic periodicals, or of such local and other papers as may be willing to afford them the opportunity of gratifying their desire. They are fully justified in doing so, and if the reports are so worded that the essential secrets of Freemasonry are not disclosed, no harm can possibly arise from the publication, and we fail to see on what ground, unless it be one of mere sentiment, the charge of un-Masonic action can be maintained. We shall be pleased to hear the views of our contemporary on the issues we have raised if it deems them fit subjects for friendly controversy.

AN INTERESTING OLD MASONIC DOCUMENT.

BRO. the Rev. Charles M. Stock, of Bedford Lodge, No. 320, Pa., in writing to the *Keystone*, says:

"Two years ago, while in the city of Brunswick, I visited its famous old Cathedral founded by Henry the Lion, in the twelfth century. My attention was attracted to the tomb of Duke Charles William Ferdinand, and his son Duke Frederick William. The latter is marked by small black flags suspended above the coffin. These were placed there, and are renewed from time to time, by the matrons and maidens of Brunswick, as memorials of his valour and patriotism. The father, Duke Ferdinand, was killed at the battle of Jena, on the 14th day of October 1806, while at the head of the Prussian army, numbering 70,000 men. The French Army was under the command of Napoleon in person, and numbered 90,000. The son, Duke Frederick William, having united with the English in common cause against the French, fell, nobly avenging his father's death, in the battle of Quatre-Bras on the 16th of June 1815, two days before the battle of Waterloo.

Yesterday I buried a man who had a remarkable history. Born in the city of Prague, in the year 1799, and spending many years as a

student and professor at its university, he remembered distinctly concerning the Napoleonic wars, and the events of those times. Among his papers is the following, which I think well worth publishing. Any scholar understands the difficulty of a proper translation of such material. With this as an explanation, I append the document in full:

The following address was delivered at Brunswick, by Duke Ferdinand, Grand Master, upon the occasion of the initiation of his son, Count Frederick:

I congratulate you on your admission into the most ancient and the most respectable society of the earth. To you the mysteries of Masonry have been, and shall further be revealed; and so bright a sun never heretofore shed lustre upon your eyes. In this awful moment, when before this holy altar, may you shudder at the thought of any crime, may you have confidence in every virtue, may your reflection inspire you with noble sentiments, may you be permeated with a religious abhorrence of every vice that degrades human nature, and may you feel the elevation of soul which shuns a dishonourable action, and ever seeks the practice of piety and virtue. These are the wishes of a father and a brother conjointly. Concerning you the greatest hopes are entertained; let not our expectations be disappointed. You are the son of a Mason who glories in the Fraternity; and for your zeal and attachment, your silence and good conduct, your father has already pledged his sacred honour. You are now a member of this illustrious Order, introduced a subject of a new Country whose extent is boundless. Pictures are now exposed to your view wherein true patriotism is exemplified in glowing colours, and a series of transactions recorded which the rude hand of time can never efface. The obligations which influenced the first Brutus and Manlius to sacrifice their children to their love of country, are not more sacred than those which bind me to support the honour and integrity of this venerable Fraternity. This moment, my son, you impart to me the joy of a second birth; and should your conduct in life correspond with the principles of Masonry, my remaining years will pass away with pleasure and satisfaction. Contemplate the great example of our ancient masters; peruse our history and Constitutions. The best, the most humane, the bravest and most civilised of men have been our patrons. The vulgar are strangers to our work, but the greatest geniuses have sprung from our Fraternity. The most illustrious characters on earth have laid the foundation of their most amiable qualities in Masonry. Solomon, the wisest of princes, framed our constitution by the raising of a Temple to the Eternal and Supreme Ruler of the Universe.

Swear, my son, that you will be a true and faithful Mason. Know that from this moment I combine the affection of a parent with the endearment of a brother. May your heart be susceptible of love and esteem, and may you burn with the same zeal your father possesses. Convince the world by your new alliance that you are deserving of our favours, and never forget the ties which bind you to honour and justice. Do not contemplate with indifference the extensive connection you have formed, but let universal benevolence regulate your conduct. Exert your abilities in the service of your country and the knowledge you have this day attained—the happiest acquisition of your life. Recall to memory the ceremony of your initiation; learn to bridle your tongue, and to govern your passions; and ere long you will have occasion to say: "In becoming a Mason, I truly became a man; and while I breathe will never disgrace a jewel that kings may prize."

If I live, my son, to reap the fruits of this day's labour, my happiness will be complete; I will then meet death without terror, close my eyes in peace, and expire without a groan in the arms of a virtuous and a worthy Freemason.

THE WHITE APRON.

OPERATIVE Masons, when at work, wear an apron to protect and preserve their garments from spot or stain. A white apron is therefore very appropriately used in Masonic ceremonies as an emblem of purity and innocence, and is intended as such to impress upon the wearer of it the duty of bearing a pure and spotless character, unstained by corruption and free from vice. When we see an operative Mason whose clothes are all spotted and stained with mortar and dirt, we knew he does not wear an apron at all, or is unconcerned about the appearance of his clothing. So it is when seeing a speculative Mason indulging in intemperance, or hearing him take the name of God in vain, or otherwise living in violation of the moral law, we think at once he has never learned the use of the Masonic apron, and that his soul is spotted and coloured with violations of his obligations as a Mason. What must be the feeling of a profane, intemperate, or immoral Mason when his mind reverts to the time when first as an Entered Apprentice he was presented with the white apron, and taught that it was an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason, and was told to wear it with pleasure to himself and honour to the Fraternity.—*D. G. M., Ark.*

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THE MASTER'S HAT.

WE have heard the question asked many times, "Why does the Master wear his hat?" and this question very likely arises in the mind of every brother who witnesses for the first time the ceremonies of Installation; especially so where this custom prevails.

Before us is a letter of inquiry concerning this, and by it we are prompted to make a brief notice of so conspicuous a covering.

Within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the Master, on being installed, is usually told by the officer officiating that it is his privilege in the Lodge to remain covered; so he wears his hat, as Master, without giving any special thought to it, or if he does, he regards it as a symbol, significant of his high office and of privileges limited to the Master, whose duty is to rule and govern his Lodge; as it is the duty of the brethren to obey.

As a symbol, the hat denotes freedom not servitude—it was worn among the Romans as a sign of freedom, and from the high antiquity of Freemasonry, it need not excite surprise, if the custom so long established in all English and American Lodges, was borrowed by the Freemasons to denote their own freedom, and later, to confine the wearing of it to the Master, as a special privilege in order that it might be better seen who was to rule and who obey.

In the Western world people uncover their head when received by, and while they remain in the presence of high rank, or as Mackay puts it, "the king remains covered, the courtiers standing around him take off their hats."

Freemasons, being also Free men, and bound together by voluntary association, select their ruler or Worshipful Master, and as a symbol of the authority vested in him, by reason of office under their gift, they crown him according to their own custom and proclaim it for their own convenience and government.—*Liberal Freemason.*

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE PRINCE LEOPOLD, DUKE OF ALBANY, K.G., &c.

IT may be remembered that at the time of his death his Royal Highness, who took his title of Earl of Clarence from Clare, in Suffolk, was Worshipful Master of the Royal Clarence Lodge of Freemasons in that town, and that the brethren assembling there proposed to erect a memorial to their lamented Royal Master in the parish church. The project was originated by the popular owner of Moyns Park, W. Bro. Major-General Cecil Ives, Prov. S. Grand Warden of Suffolk, whom the Prince had appointed Deputy Master of the Lodge, and it was cordially supported by Lord Waveney and the Provincial Grand Lodge and Chapter. A Committee was appointed, with General Ives as Chairman, the other members being the V.W. Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G. Chaplain of England, and Deputy Grand Master of the Province, W. Bro. N. Tracy Prov. G. Secretary, and W. Bro. C. H. Vincent Prov. G. Registrar, the hon. secretary of the fund. A brass tablet was ultimately determined upon, the design for which was entrusted to Bro. Vincent, who is a P.M. of the above Lodge, and has evidently fulfilled his task *con amore*. The tablet has a foliated border of acacia, intersected by quatrefoils and trefoils, containing the armorial bearings and Masonic jewels borne by the Prince. In the upper border we observe the Master's jewel, with the Royal Arms and the insignia of the Garter; and in the lower are the R.A. jewel of the Grand Third Principal of England, with the Prince's arms and those of Clare; the right and left centres showing the jewels of the Prov. Grand Master of Oxfordshire, and the Junior Grand Warden of England. Beneath the open volume of the sacred law, which bears the emblems of the Craft, is the following inscription, in Gothic characters:

"In fraternal memory of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, Earl of Clarence, K.G., Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire, Past Grand Junior Warden of England, Grand Third Principal of the Royal Arch Masons of England, fourth son of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, who was born 7th April 1853, and died 28th March 1884, H.R.H. being at the time Worshipful Master of the Royal Clarence Lodge of Freemasons in this town, No. 1,823, this tablet is erected by the officers and members of the above Lodge, and other brethren in the province of Suffolk."

The initial letters are illuminated, the arms being emblazoned, and the jewels enamelled in Masonic colours. The whole work is beautifully conceived, and is perfect in every detail, while the execution is faultless—indeed, the utmost credit is due to the engraver, as well as to the designer, who is an amateur in art, and the Committee may be heartily congratulated on the result of their labours. The Lodge and Province are specially indebted to General Ives for having not only superintended the work, but also for very kindly defraying its extra cost beyond the amount of the original estimate. The memorial has been fixed in a commanding position, and we understand that the Rev. R. Sorsbie, vicar of Clare, besides giving the Committee the choice of its site, generously declined the fee to which he was entitled for its erection. An excellent photograph of the tablet has been taken by Bro. T. Stokoe the W.M. Elect of the Lodge.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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IMPERIAL GEORGE LODGE, No. 78.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge, falling on Christmas Eve, was, by special dispensation, held on the previous evening. It was wisely decided, we think, by the Officers of the Lodge not to hold their meeting on the Christmas Eve, as in previous years, it having been found inconvenient for many of the brethren and visitors to leave their homes and families on such occasions. Lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer at three o'clock, by the W.M., Bro. Richard Burtles; the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The letter of condolence which had been sent to the family of the late Bro. Samuel Lawton, and the reply thereto, was then read, and both were listened to by the members with the greatest veneration; this was testified in a very marked degree by the Lodge being draped in black, and the brethren wearing black rosettes on their aprons. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the Installing Master, Bro. Peter Lawton P.M., took the chair; the outgoing W.M. presented the W.M. elect Bro. W. H. Withington S.W. The opening portion of the ceremony was delivered by the Installing Master in a most pathetic manner, he evidently struggling with some strong inward feeling, doubtless caused by the reading of the letter of condolence referring to his late father. However, as Bro. Lawton proceeded he nobly mastered his feelings, and completed his work in a most able manner, and to the delight of the brethren present. The Secretary having recited the usual questions put to a W.M. elect, Lodge was raised to the third degree, and the ceremony of installation proceeded, almost without a hitch, and in a manner that may fairly be described as word proof to the form and ritual of Lodges in this Province. The address to the Master was most ably delivered by Bro. Harvey Heywood, J.P., P.M., who has filled the post of Treasurer of the Lodge for many years. The address to the Wardens was impressively recited by another very old P.M. of the Lodge, Bro. Dr. Garlick, and he also acquitted himself in a manner that brought many marks of approbation from the brethren assembled. The address to the brethren was given by the Installing Master in a manner which, later in the evening, was described by Bro. Nathan, one of the oldest Past Masters in England, as truly efficient, and as far as his recollection went it had never been better done. The working tools were presented to the W.M. by the Installing Master in brief but emphatic language. The following Officers were then formally invested:—Bros. R. Burtles I.P.M., T. G. Marsh S.W., E. Dodd J.W., H. Heywood P.M. Treasurer, F. Entwistle Secretary, J. W. Lees S.D., C. L. Hartley J.D., P. Lawton P.M. D.C., W. Fielding Organist, R. Hilton I.G., J. Kent Tyler, W. Harlow Assistant Tyler. One omission was nearly being made, the investment of a Director of Ceremonies; but even if this duty had been overlooked, it would scarcely have mattered, inasmuch as this old Lodge had learned to value the important services of Bro. Peter Lawton, and in all probability no other D.C. will ever be appointed whilst he is willing to fulfil the duties of that office. The usual questions from the chair elicited hearty good wishes from twenty-four visiting brethren, and the Lodge was then closed in due form and with solemn prayer, at five p.m. Half an hour later the brethren sat down to a banquet catered for by the host of the Assheton Arms Hotel, Middleton, who supplied the tables in a sumptuous manner. Handsome decorations lent a lustre to the scene; the cookery was of the choicest, while the waiters were well up to their work, and most obliging in their manner. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., Bro. Withington, with neat introductory remarks, and if space would permit our reporting them, it would make somewhat paradoxical Brother Withington's oft-repeated assurance that he could not make speeches; however, if he cannot make speeches (which we are not prepared to admit), he can and did look well after the Visitors, and in this respect the W.M. was aided by his Wardens and Officers. Some Lodges would do well to follow in this regard the example of this old Fireside Lodge. Doubtless much of this foresight is due to Bro. Lawton, who seems never tired of working to carry out the teachings of our highly respected Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, whose innermost wish is to see uniformity of ritual in Lodge working, attention to visitors at the festive board, and the practice of every social and moral virtue. The musical programme was under the baton of Bro. J. H. Greenwood, and Worshipful Masters will do well in taking every opportunity of securing the services of this brother. He is a host in himself; he is a splendid accompanist; he sings well, gives character sketches, and never says no to an encore. Enthusiastic speeches were delivered by some of the visiting brethren, amongst whom may be mentioned Bro. William Harris, W.M. of the Wolseley Lodge, who in eloquent terms referred to the fact that Bro. Withington was a member of the Wolseley Lodge, and had always been ready to perform any ceremony when called upon; also that the Imperial George Lodge deserved, and had, his best thanks for having elected one of his members as their Master. Bro. Withington he believed was the youngest Master in the Province, and he (Bro. Harris) could fearlessly say would be considered one of the most efficient Masters, and a truly good Mason. From experience he had found that Bro. Withington practised out of the Lodge what he preached in it, and a brother who thus far practised Freemasonry was indeed a man to whom much honour was due. In conclusion, he opined a happy and prosperous year for the Imperial George Lodge, and he trusted that for many years Bro. Withington would occupy a seat by his side on the dais of the Wolseley Lodge. He had much more he could say about Bro. Withington, which would not only be a treat for him, but a pleasure to the brethren to hear; but he was being nudged on the arm by his D.C., Bro. Darbyshire, who was making suggestions to him to cut it short; so he felt he must conclude, but promised to again visit the Lodge, when he would tell them how Bro. Withington first introduced him to the Masonic world.

in the Province. Bros. Roger Walker W.M. Callender Lodge, Schofield W.M. Strangeways Lodge, Bottomley W.M. Tudor Lodge, Irving Virtue Lodge, Russell Strangeways Lodge, Nathan P.M. Zion Lodge, also made excellent speeches, all expressing their delight and gratitude at being present. The toast of the Officers was ably responded to by Bro. Marsh, the Senior Warden, who although suffering from hoarseness, was so carried away by the enthusiastic character of the meeting that he made a neat and impressive speech, pledging his own, and that of his brother Officers, intention to right loyally support their Master. The toast of the Past Masters was responded to by Bros. Harvey Heywood and Dr. Garlick, the latter of whom reminded Bro. Heywood that he was some years wrong in saying his connection with this Lodge dated twenty-one years back; in point of fact he (Bro. Garlick) had been connected with the Lodge twenty-five years, and Bro. Heywood was a member when he joined. Both these Past Masters spoke in eulogistic terms of the Installing Master, and in a most confident manner of their belief in the ability of the newly-elected Master to add to the prosperity of the Lodge under his rule. The evening's proceedings were brought to a close at ten o'clock by Bro. Greenwood singing the National Anthem.

DORIC LODGE, No. 81.

THE anniversary meeting of this Lodge was held at Woodbridge, on Tuesday, 29th December, when Bro. E. Smith was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. There was a large muster, amongst those present being Bros. Major General W. H. Hessey W.M., Past Masters Brothers Alfred Barnes, B. Gall, W. P. T. Phillips, Ernest St. George Cobbold, F. A. Kent and Thomas Grimwood; Brothers E. Smith S.W., Frederick Horsey J.W., W. H. Page Phillips S.D., J. Stidolph Organist, J. Parrett I.G. Amongst the members present were Brothers George Booth, C. D. Girling, D. Jackson, A. S. Gross, William Hawes, W. Sheppard, and William Cook. The Visitors included Bros. W. Clarke P.G.P., James Terry P.M. 228 (Secretary to the Masonic Benevolent Institution), C. G. Hayward W.M. 516, N. Tracy P.M. 376 P.G.S., F. C. Atkinson J.D. 376, &c. The installation ceremony was ably performed by Bro. Clarke, assisted by Bro. Terry, who acted as D.C., Bro. Gall taking the Senior, and Bro. Thomas Grimwood the Junior Warden's chairs respectively. The newly-installed Master invested his Officers for the year as under:—Bros. Frederick Horsey S.W., W. H. Page Phillips J.W., George Booth S.D., Joseph Parrett J.D., B. Gall Treasurer and D.C., F. Whistock Secretary, Rev. R. C. M. Rouse Chaplain, J. Stidolph Organist, A. S. Gross I.G. The installation banquet was subsequently held at the Bull Hotel, where between thirty and forty brethren sat down to an admirably-served repast. The W.M. presided, and in addition to the brethren already mentioned, there were present—Brothers E. C. Moor, J. Collins, J. Groat, J. C. Fisk, R. Allen, &c. The toasts of the Queen and the Craft, the Grand Master his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family, and the Pro Grand Master and Present and Past Grand Officers, were proposed from the chair, Bro. W. Clarke responding for the Grand Officers. The Chairman next proposed the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master Lord Waveney; the Deputy Provincial Grand Master the Rev. C. J. Martyn, and the Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers, to which Bro. N. Tracy P.G.S. responded. The I.P.M. Major General W. H. Hessey proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, and expressed his indebtedness to Bro. E. Smith for having kindly consented to forego the claims he had to his present position during the two years he (Major General Hessey) had occupied the Master's chair. That large gathering was sufficient testimony of Bro. Smith's popularity amongst the brethren, and he was sure from what they had already seen they might look to their W.M. to raise the working of the Lodge to a higher degree of excellence than it had hitherto reached. During the past year many brethren had, through the influence of Bro. Smith, been initiated or admitted as joining members of the Lodge—they had now about fifty members on the books—and he hoped the time was not far distant when the Doric would be one of the strongest Lodges in the Province. In conclusion, Major General Hessey expressed his regret that the Deputy Provincial Grand Master was unable to be with them, because he said it was his particular wish to be present to do honour to Bro. Smith. The toast was drunk with full Masonic honours. The W.M., in a few well-chosen words, responded. He thanked the brethren and the Past Masters for the great kindness they had shown to him, and expressed the hope that the Officers of the Lodge would, during the coming year, afford him every assistance in carrying on the work of the Lodge. Bro. W. P. T. Phillips proposed the Masonic Charities, and alluding to the fact that he should have the honour of representing the Province at the Girls' Festival, expressed the hope that he would be well supported. Bro. Terry, who on rising to respond was received with loud applause, said the Benevolent Institution this year required more than usual support, because it had overdrawn its banking account by some £1500 during the past year. The number of candidates was largely in excess of the vacancies, and unless great help was accorded to the Institution, it would be impossible for the Committee to find room for an additional number, or even fill up the vacancies which already existed. At the present time there were 130 candidates, while there were only fourteen vacancies. Having alluded to the fact that Bros. Tracy and Wright were going to represent the Province at the Benevolent Institution, and Bro. Phillips at the Girls' Festival, Bro. Terry referred to the success which had attended the scheme for the insurance of the life of Brother the Rev. C. J. Martyn, which would secure for the Province a large number of votes in perpetuity. The Chairman proposed The Visitors, to which Bro. C. G. Hayward and others responded. Bro. Major-General Hessey proposed the health of the Installing Master, and alluded to the fact that Bro. W. Clarke had kindly undertaken and ably discharged the duties for the

past eight years. Bro. W. Clarke responded. The Chairman then proposed The I.P.M. and the Officers of the Lodge, to which Bro. Major-General Hessey and the officers responded. The Senior Warden proposed The Treasurer and Secretary, and having expressed his regret at the absence, through illness, of Bro. Whistock, said the Lodge was especially indebted to Bro. Gall for the way in which he had undertaken the duties of his present office. Bro. Gall responded, and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close with the Tyler's toast.—*East Anglian Daily News.*

PHENIX LODGE, No. 257.

THE annual meeting of this Lodge, held at Portsmouth, on Monday, the 28th ultimo, was well attended. Brother Colonel Crease, C.B., R.M.A., having been elected as the Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year, was duly installed, the ceremony being impressively performed by Brother Ernest Hall P.M. P.G. Superintendent of Works. Colonel Crease appointed and invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. Arthur Jolliffe I.P.M., W. G. Gilbert S.W., Major Campbell, R.M.A., J.W., Rev. G. H. DeFraire, M.A., P.M. P.G. Chaplain and Rev. T. Fitzhardinge Morton, M.A., P.G. Chaplain Chaplains, J. R. O'Connor, M.D., P.M. P.P.G.W. Treasurer, H. Drummond Secretary, S. B. Darwin S.D., A. O. Bayly J.D., James Griffin, J.P., I.G., T. R. Williams P.M. Director of Ceremonies, Ernest Hall P.M. P.G. Supt. Works Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Captain Kennedy and C. W. Long Stewards, G. D. Lovegrove Organist. A vote of condolence with the family of the late Brother George Rake P.M. P.P.G.W. was unanimously agreed to. After the close of the business the brethren adjourned to the dining-room, where an excellent banquet was served. The proceedings were of an unusually interesting character, as this is the centenary year of the Lodge, which was founded in May 1786. Amongst the Visitors present were the following Prov. Grand Officers of Units and the Isle of Wight:—Bros. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Grand Master, J. E. Le Feuvre Deputy Master, Elgar Goble Secretary; also R. Barnaby Main W.M. 1593, Lord Henry Lennox, General Sir George Willis, K.C.B., P. Vanderbyl, M.P., Captain St. Clair, R.N., W.M. St. Clair Lodge, &c.

LODGE OF UNION, No. 414.

THE December meeting of this Lodge was held on the 15th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Bro. M. J. Withers W.M. presided, and there were also present Bros. Witherington S.W., Blackwell J.W., Mount P.M. Treasurer, Parry Secretary, Martin S.D., Hawkes J.D., Sherwood I.G., Walters D.C., Hayward Organist, Tirbutt Steward, S. Wheeler I.P.M., Robert Bradley P.M. P.G. Sec., F. J. Ferguson P.M., Chas. Oades P.M., Samuel Bradley P.M., Bracher, Albury, Galt, Kuill, Millar, and others. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Alexander Livings, and Mr. William Bonny, who were duly elected and initiated into Freemasonry. The brethren then proceeded to elect a W.M. and Treasurer for the ensuing year. Bro. Frederick Blackwell Junior Warden was elected Worshipful Master, and Bro. R. C. Mount P.M. was re-elected to the office of Treasurer. The Tyler, Bro. Hemmings, was also re-elected. The W.M., S.W., J.W., and Bro. R. Bradley P.M., were appointed as an Audit Committee. On the motion of the W.M. a sum was voted from the Lodge Funds to provide a portrait of the late Bro. W. W. Moxhay P.M. P.P.S.G.W., to be placed in the reception room of the Lodge. A Past Master's jewel was voted to the retiring W.M. The W.M. expressed his thanks to the Officers for the courtesy they had extended to him during his occupancy of the chair, and asked the Lodge to accept a new set of tracing boards which he had placed in position. On the proposition of Bro. R. C. Mount P.M. thanks for these gifts were voted. Business ended, the Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned to the third Tuesday in January.

YARBOROUGH LODGE, No. 551.

ON the 15th ult., at the Masonic Hall, High-street, Ventnor, Bro. F. Topham Jones was installed as the W.M. for the ensuing year, in the presence of a large number of the Craft from various Lodges in the island, including Bros. M. Linfield, T. H. I. Patherick, A. Houston, A. Greenham, A. H. Brown, T. Saunders, Wheeler, Brannon, Wavell, J. Conner, A. J. Firth, G. Pack, E. Groves, Brockington, Tolman, F. P. Ansle, J. Webber, H. B. Ribbards, &c. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Alfred Scott P.M. P.P.G.S. Bro. the Rev. J. Alloway was appointed to the office of S.W. At the close of the proceedings the brethren adjourned to the Crab and Lobster Hotel, where a banquet was served in capital style by the proprietress, Miss Cass.

WHITTINGTON LODGE, No. 862.

THE members of this Lodge met at Freemasons' Hall on Monday, 21st December. The brethren present were the W.M. Bro. John Collinson in the chair, Bros. D. J. Ross S.W., W. Hill J.W., K. Kingston P.M. Treasurer, I. Irvine S.D., H. Brocklehurst J.D., A. T. H. Pauncefort I.G., V. Day Steward, Past Masters B. own, Packer, Bolton, Richardson I.P.M.; also Bros. Sharp, Bentley, Guanzorilli, and Thrower. The following Visitors were present: Bros. Higgins P.M., Colls, Baildon. After the minutes of the November meeting had been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Jasper James Nannetti; it being unanimous, that gentleman was duly initiated by the W.M. Bro. Sharp, who had been initiated at the previous meeting, was then passed to the second degree, Bro. Pauncefort officiating

as Organist, Bro. Anderson, who was also a candidate for passing, was unavoidably absent. Bro. Packer P.M., acting as Secretary pro tem, in the absence of Bro. J. Weaver P.M., brought several matters before the Lodge, which were formally dealt with. Bro. Brown P.M. then gave notice that at the next meeting he would ask the members to discuss the propriety of altering one of the bye-laws of the Lodge. After the termination of the business the brethren and visitors retired to the Holborn Restaurant, dinner being prepared for them there. During the evening the usual Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. A very pleasant evening was the result, there being no scarcity of the Masonic talent provocative of harmony. The members and their Visitors dispersed at 10 p.m.

YORK LODGE, No. 236.

A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, York, on Monday, the 21st ult. There were present Bros. Dr. Draper W.M., Dr. Henry Foster S.W., T. G. Hodgson J.W., the Very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, Dean of York, P.G. Chap. Chaplain, J. Todd P.P.G.T. Treasurer, Wm. Smith Secretary, P. Border S.D., C. Anderson D.C., C. Forbes I.G., S. Crumack Steward, W. G. Calvert Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. G. Garbutt, A. H. M. Gachen, J. Sykes Rymer, Mark Rooke, A. Buckle, G. W. C. Lee, R. W. Hollon, G. Kirby and J. E. Macnay; Bros. Dr. J. Ramsay, Tom Archey, J. Toes, E. Houlden, Lambert Hick, Rev. C. Linley, J. Biscoombe, E. Carter, Dr. Mungo Bryson, W. G. Thomas, and E. W. Purnell. Visitors—Bros. J. M. Blenkin P.M. 1611, F. Smith P.M. 837, W. B. Smith 837, G. W. Hudson 566, R. Hodgson 566, W. H. Beverley 200, W. H. Cowper 1848, W. G. Watson 602, R. C. Faulkner 1555, J. W. Woodall G.T. 200, J. Brookes Parkin 837, L. A. W. R. Barnes 113, H. Allison 1001, F. Bateman 837, and others. The Lodge was opened by Bro. W. Draper W.M., and after the reading of the minutes, Bro. J. Todd P.M. P.P.G.T. took the chair, and proceeded to instal Bro. H. Foster W.M. elect, the Wardens' chairs being occupied by Bros. A. Buckle P.M. P.P.G.D. and J. Sykes Rymer P.M. P.G. Registrar. The W.M. appointed and invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. W. Draper I.P.M., T. G. Hodgson S.W., W. Smith J.W., the Dean of York P.G.C. Chaplain, J. Todd P.M. Treasurer, E. W. Purnell Secretary, S. Border S.D., C. M. Forbes J.D., H. S. Hopton D.C., A. Sample Org., J. B. Sampson I.G., S. G. Crumack and T. Watkinson Stewards, and W. G. Calvert Tyler. The Secretary read letters of apology and regret from Bros. Dr. Bell D.P.G.M., Peck P.G.T., Tew P.G.M. West Yorks, Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett P.P.G.S.W., Sir F. Milner P.G.S.W., T. B. Whytehead P.P.G.W., and several others. The Lodge being closed in peace and harmony, subsequently a banquet, to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, was held in the Lodge-room, and presided over by the W.M., supported by a great number of brethren, the room being quite full. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the rest of the evening spent in characteristic harmony and brotherly love.

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

The closing meeting of the year in connection with this Lodge of Instruction will be recollected as one of the happiest and most harmonious in the "annual round." In spite of the dreary weather there was a capital muster of the brethren at Bro. Pusey's, Lugard Tavern, Peckham, and most appropriately on the last gathering for the year Bro. Walter Martin, the esteemed and able Preceptor of the Lodge, was unanimously asked to preside. He was supported by Bros. W. Wimble as S.W., W. Dutton J.W., S. J. Lampen Treasurer, C. L. Tokely Secretary, Garland S.D., Morgan J.D., D. Thomas I.G., Axford, Nightingale, Amphlett, Eadle, Wilkinson, A. Pusey, Briley, and others. Having opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the last meeting been read and confirmed, Lodge was advanced to the second and third degrees, when the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Eadle personating the candidate. The working of Bro. Martin, especially in the traditional history, was much admired, and elicited frequent expressions of approbation. The brethren, after having been called from labour to refreshment, and *vice versa*, saluted the W.M. in the three degrees, after which Lodge was closed in form and amidst the heartiest good wishes for a prosperous New Year. Bro. Martin, in reviewing the work of the Lodge during the past twelve months, congratulated the brethren upon the many successful and happy meetings they had enjoyed; and though he could not expect them to be more so in the year which was so nearly approaching he trusted that the attendances might be even more numerous in the future than they had been in the past. In accordance with annual custom the remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony, to which every brother present contributed his quota. Interspersing the excellent songs some complimentary toasts were proposed, and honoured with "good old United Mariners' fire." Especially well received was the health of the Preceptor; Bro. Wimble, in proposing it, alluding to the able and intelligent manner in which Bro. Martin had discharged his duties in that capacity ever since the Lodge of Instruction had been established. Bro. Martin responded in a few happily chosen sentences, thanking the brethren for the kindness and consideration they had ever extended towards him, and for the assistance they had rendered in promoting the interests and welfare of this Lodge of Instruction. It would be his duty and pleasure in the ensuing year, as it had been hitherto, to welcome any brethren who might consider it to their advantage to attend their meetings; he would endeavour to aid them to the utmost of his ability in their Masonic researches. The health of the Treasurer and Secretary followed, reference being made to Bro. Lampen's recovery from a recent illness, and a hope being expressed that he might long be spared to discharge his duties to the Lodge, of which he was one of the founders, and a most active and consistent supporter. The services of the Secretary were also duly acknowledged, and suitable replies to the compliments paid to them were made by Bros. Lampen

and Tokely. The health of the worthy host, in recognition of his admirable arrangements for the comfort and enjoyment of the brethren, was also proposed and cordially received, and Bro. Pusey in response said, it would be his continued study to merit the approbation of the brethren. One or two other toasts were honoured, interspersed with singing and recitations, a ventriloquial sketch by Bro. Wilkinson being much applauded. At a seasonable hour, after singing "Auld Lang Syne" in true Masonic fashion, the brethren separated, amidst the heartiest wishes for a "Happy and Prosperous New Year."

Justice Lodge of Instruction, No 147.—On Thursday, 31st inst., at the Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford. Present—Bros. Hunt jun. W.M., Pitt S.W., Thomas J.W., Speight P.M. Sec., Stringer S.D., Penrose J.D., Ingram I.G.; P.M.'s Bros. Hutchings Preceptor, Bolton; also Bros. Prior, Greener, Dandridge and Emblin. After preliminaries, the usual questions were answered by Bro. Prior, and Lodge was advanced to the third degree, when the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, including the traditional history. Lodge was resumed in the first degree, and Bros. P.M.'s Hutchings, Banks and Speight were respectively re-elected Preceptor, Treasurer and Secretary for the ensuing year. The report of the Audit Committee was read, and Lodge of Instruction was then closed in due form.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—On Wednesday, 23rd ult., at Bro. Lashbrook's, Hercules Tavern, 119 Leadenhall-street, E.C., Brothers Campbell W.M., L. De Costa S.W., D. Moss J.W., Fernley J.D., Belchamber Preceptor, B. De Costa I.G., J. K. Pitt Secretary, J. Lashbrook, &c. Lodge opened in due form, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Pitt acting as candidate. The first and second sections were worked by Brother Moss, assisted by the brethren. Brother L. De Costa was elected W.M. for ensuing week. It was arranged that Bro. Moss should work the ceremony of installation on Wednesday, the 6th of January 1886. Members of the Craft are invited to assist.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—On Friday, 18th ult., at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8 p.m. Bros. C. E. Botley W.M., Bailey S.W., Norton J.W., Cammell S.D., Monson J.D., Pearce I.G.; P.M.'s Andrews Preceptor, Rev. P. G. Pickering; Bros. Bruell D.C. 1818; also Bros. F. Botley, Earl, Francis, Coningham, Turner, Sugg, Maton. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Francis candidate. Bro. Francis answered the questions leading to the second degree. The W.M. worked the first section, Bro. Botley the second, and Bro. Andrews the third sections of the 1st lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Bruell was elected a member. The Lodge meetings were adjourned till Friday, 8th January 1886, when Bro. Bailey will occupy the chair. Lodge was closed, and adjourned till Friday, 8th January 1886, at 8 p.m.

At the December meeting of the Board of Benevolence, Bro. J. Brett P.G.P., Senior Vice President, occupied the chair, supported by a large attendance of brethren. Several letters of thanks were announced as having been received from recipients of relief at the November meeting, and recommendations made on that occasion, amounting in the aggregate to £440, were confirmed. The new list contained the names of fifty-three petitioners, resident in various parts of the country; but of these five were deferred, being incomplete, and one petitioner had died since the name was placed upon the list. The remaining forty-seven cases were relieved, in amounts ranging from £100 to £2 each, the total relief granted being £1,512. The sum voted in benevolence by the Board during the past year was £10,153.

A Convocation of the North London Chapter of Improvement was held at the Alwyne Castle Tavern, Canonbury, on Thursday, 31st ultimo. Comps. W. H. Dean M.E.Z., W. Radcliffe H., T. C. Edmunds J., J. E. Sheffield S.E., H. Jenkins S.N. The Companions mustered well for the last Convocation of the Year. We trust the New Year may prove as successful as the declining one.

The Freemasons of Sussex are about to present Lady Burrell with a portrait of Sir W. W. Burrell, as a token of the esteem in which Sir Walter, who is the Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, is regarded by the brethren of the Province.

The following Festivals were held at the Freemasons' Tavern during the week ending Saturday, 2nd January 1886:—

Tuesday—Grand Master's Lodge. Friday—Fidelity Chapter.

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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TOUTING FOR OFFICE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The remarks contained in your issue of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE on 12th December embody a principle which is often disowned by the members of Lodges, and which cannot be too widely canvassed. I refer to the practice of asking for "votes and interest" in view of elections in connection with the Craft. If the transference of the office of Grand Treasurer from a permanent to an annual one was a step in the right direction—which most of us venture to opine it was—the effect of that reform will be grievously stultified should it be the means at the same time of inaugurating a system of toutting for votes, or as you rightly point out, of "overstepping the bounds of prudence in connection with the annual fight" for the only elective collar at the disposal of Grand Lodge. There can be no question that there is a growing tendency in that direction, which the brethren will do well to discountenance and check by every means in their power; otherwise it will develop into an annual splitting up of Freemasons into sections and cliques, which cannot but be injurious to the Craft in more senses than one. The canvassing which recently took place on behalf of the various candidates for the office of Grand Treasurer has been properly stigmatised as unseemly, and gave rise to many arguments and discussions happily of rare occurrence amongst Masons.

It has always, so far as my experience of Freemasonry is concerned, been considered *infra dig*, and utterly opposed to the rules of etiquette, to make a personal canvass on behalf of or even to insinuate the claims, supposed or real, of any brother who might be desirous of filling the chair, or any other office in the Lodge. Moreover, when such has been found to be the case the "knaveish tricks" of coteries have invariably been frustrated by the action of other brethren whose aim it is to maintain an *esprit de corps* amongst the general body of the members. Not long since I heard of an instance in which a Past Master, anxious for a second taste of the sweets of office, passed the word round amongst a select circle of his friends to that effect, and a vigorous effort was made by the few voluntary canvassers in his behalf, no doubt anticipating their reward for services rendered in the shape of a more speedy advancement to position in the Lodge. But the stratagem was discovered in time, and, much to the chagrin of the too zealous Past Master and his hirelings, it was met with a sufficient amount of opposition to prevent its being carried into effect.

There are many brethren who will think with me that the re-election of a Past Master to the chair of his Lodge is undesirable, except under very exceptional circumstances, for it not only retards the whole of the oncoming Officers for a year, but frequently begets a spirit of disappointment and discontentment amongst the whole of the following members, who might have been looking forward, as all should do, to appointment to office. If therefore, as you observe, all canvassing, either personal on the part of the candidate for the office of Grand Treasurer, or by his intimate friends, should be forbidden by the Grand Master, the same wholesome and salutary rule should be applied to the ordinary Lodge elections, and no toutting for support permitted either for Worshipful Master or any of the other offices. A serious contemplation is raised by the very idea you foreshadow of candidates for admission to the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry being "interviewed," and their promise of support ascertained for either one faction or the other. Such a process would revolutionize the whole principles of the Craft, and make the ballot only a mockery and a delusion. Many a Mason—indeed all who are solicitous for the well-being of the Craft—will re-echo your sentiments when you say that when once the system of canvassing becomes recognised in connection with other offices than that of Grand Treasurer, Freemasonry will be split up into factions, and harmony will be banished from our midst.

I remain, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

P.Z.

REVIEWS.

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

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Painless and Perfect Dentistry. By Dr. G. H. Jones, F.R.S.L. London: 57 Great Russell-street, W.C.

LIKE many other branches of study bearing upon the health and comfort of humanity, the dental art has undergone prodigious manipulations and improvements within comparatively recent years, and in this popular treatise on the teeth, Bro. Jones shows that instead of its being delusive to speak of "painless dentistry," it is as much an accomplished fact as the swift locomotive engine, the electric light, or the telephone. That the author does not "speak without the book" may be gathered from the fact of his being the inventor and patentee of dental improvements in our own country, as well as in America, France, and Belgium, having taken gold medals at the various great international exhibitions. These successes have been

recognised by his appointment as honorary surgeon-dentist to the Reedham Asylum for Fatherless Children, the British Asylum for Deaf and Dumb Females, the Licensed Victuallers' School, and other institutions, whose authorities are evidently alive to Bro. Dr. Jones's eminent status in his profession. It is not our province to enter copiously into the great variety of subjects which concern the physical and mental condition of future generations, and the real danger to which lies in neglecting necessary precautions, and in disregarding the means at our disposal for the preservation of sound health. The various matters connected with the beneficial inventions of science to promote and preserve good health are happily treated by the author, whose homely little *brochure* should be perused by all who are in any way afflicted or distressed, in consequence of the defective condition of the teeth.

Little Folks. London: C.Jassell's, La Belle Sauvage Yard, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

It will hardly be necessary to remind heads of respectable families of the attractions of this admirable work for children, which has run through we scarcely know how many years, and is to be found on many a nursery bookshelf, well thumbed by the hands of tiny readers. Every new issue of this publication is as fresh and even more replete with interest to our "little folks" than its predecessor, and the series which makes its appearance with the new year is in every respect superior to anything we have yet seen emanate from this old and respected firm. Mrs. Molesworth, the well-known writer for children, leads off with a new serial story, called "The Palace in the Garden;" the second story is entitled "The Bravest of the Brave," by the author of "Doddlekins," and a novel series of anecdotal papers, with striking full-page illustrations, is commenced, under the title of "Baby Birds and their Ways." Mr. Henry Frith contributes the first of his "Little Stories of Earth and Sky," which seek to explain many curious facts and legends possessing peculiar interest for young people. An important new departure is made in this number, and will be continued, by the introduction of several novel features which are specially designed for the benefit of very small children, amongst which may be mentioned four pages of pictures, with stories printed in large type, in addition to simple tales, a story of words in one syllable, and numerous jingles and amusing rhymes. The miscellaneous papers are of great variety and of uniform excellence, and the editor announces a large number of special competitions for the year 1886. These are prepared for children of varying tastes, and are so arranged that by means of three divisions for competitors of different ages all—even the little ones in the nursery—who compete have an equal opportunity of winning prizes. Among the competitions is one for the best coloured copies of a painting book, called "A Book of Fruits and Blossoms;" and a special feature in them all is that the whole of the coloured books, articles of work, toys, scrap albums, dressed dolls, &c., &c., sent to the Editor are afterwards distributed among the inmates of our Children's hospitals. The January number of "Little Folks," contains about fifty pictures, by Gordon Browne, Lizzie Lawson, E. J. Walker, E. Scannell, C. T. Garland, Ernest Griset, H. G. Rhodes, W. S. Stacey, A. Barrault, and other well-known artists; and it is adorned with a Picture in Colours, called "The New Pet," by M. E. Edwards.

The Housewife: a Practical Magazine, concerning everything in and about the Home. London: 5 Ludgate Circus Buildings, E.C.

HERE we have a new venture, by another eminent firm of publishers; and the title above will be sufficient to convey to the minds of thousands of heads of families how valuable an addition this will be to our stock of useful standard literature. In his—or her—preface, the editor expresses an intention of gathering a large family around her, every member of which will be expected to assist in the entertainment and instruction of every other member. Whatever comes within the scope of the word "home," from the cellar to the garret, between the front gate and the extreme end of the kitchen garden at the back, will be open for discussion and elucidation. Certainly in the opening part now before us there is ample promise of this prolific programme being well sustained, for we have the opening chapters of a treatise on "Our Country Home, with its trials and triumphs of housekeeping," by E. Harcourt Barrage; chatty hints and information on "Cookery for the People," by Mary Jewry; on "Modern Embroidery," by B. C. Saward; and a host of others on knitting, dress of fashion, family medicine, music, dress making, food, and household management, all of which must be of paramount interest to the thrifty housewife. It needs no very great stretch of imagination to predict that a work of such universal and practical importance will find ready acceptance at the hands of the vast audience to whom it is addressed; indeed it is difficult to limit the scope of such a publication, which lays its useful treasures at the feet of every section of the community.

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

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—During every break of wintry weather exertions should be made by the afflicted to recover health before unremitting cold and trying storms set in. Throat ailments, coughs, wheezings, asthmatical affections, shortness of breath, morning nausea, and accumulations of phlegm can readily be removed by rubbing this fine derivative Ointment twice a day upon the chest and neck. Holloway's treatment is strongly recommended with the view of giving immediate ease, preventing prospective danger, and effecting permanent relief. These all-important ends his Ointment and Pills can accomplish, and will surely prevent insidious diseases from fastening on the constitution to display themselves afterwards in those distressing forms that will probably embitter life till death itself is almost prayed for.

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, on Saturday, the 9th day of January 1886, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, to place Candidates on the list for the Election in April next, to declare the number of Girls then to be elected and to consider Notices of Motion, as under:

NOTICES OF MOTION:—

Upon recommendation of the House Committee, by Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS, P.G. Std. B., Vice-Patron:—

"That the House Committee be authorised to expend a sum not exceeding thirteen hundred pounds (£1,300) in the erection of an Entrance Lodge, a Carpenter's Cottage and the extension of the front fencing along that part of the frontage of the newly-acquired land facing the Common."

To add to Law LX. following Clause II.:—

"In case a vacancy occurs from any cause before the newly-elected children are received into the School, the next highest unsuccessful Candidate on the List may be admitted at the next Quarterly Court."

"That one additional Girl be elected at the Quarterly General Court in April, thereby raising the number of elected Girls in the Institution to 237."

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

OFFICE—5 FREEMASONS' HALL,
GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C.
2nd January 1886.

THE NINETY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL, UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF

General J. S. BROWNRIGG, C.B., P.G.W.

Provincial Grand Master Surrey,

Will take place on WEDNESDAY, 19th MAY 1886.

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

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS, CROYDON.

—:O:—

Grand Patron and President:

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

—:O:—

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

OF THIS INSTITUTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON

WEDNESDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY 1886,

AT

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON,

UPON WHICH OCCASION

The Most Honourable the MARQUIS OF HERTFORD,

R.W. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN,

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.

BRO. J. A. COLLINGS, Organist 1693, Chapter 1056, would be pleased to undertake the Musical Arrangements at Consecrations, Installation Meetings, &c., &c.

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

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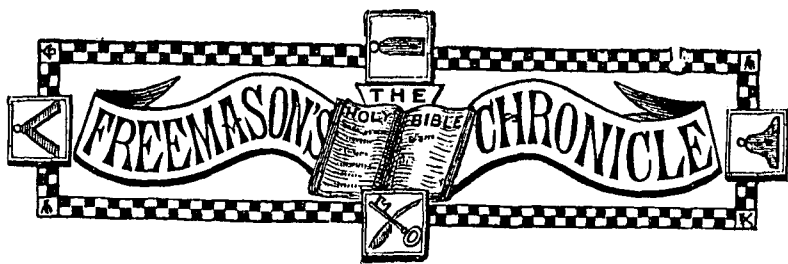
EVERY ACCOMMODATION FOR MASONIC LODGE MEETINGS,
Public Dinners & Wedding Breakfasts.

THE ALEXANDRA PALACE LODGE, No. 1541, THE MORNINGTON LODGE, No. 1672,
THE CRUSADERS LODGE, No. 1677, AND PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 1743,
HOLD THEIR MEETINGS AT THIS ESTABLISHMENT.

GOOD COOKING. FINE WINES. MODERATE CHARGES.

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TARIFF on APPLICATION to Bro. A. BEGBIE.



A SPLENDID BALANCE SHEET.

THE closing of the year is a time when business men apply themselves to the balancing up of their accounts and taking stock, so as to ascertain correctly the result of their past twelve months labour. In this respect the body of Masons are most heartily to be congratulated upon the amount of benevolence they have been enabled collectively to bestow, the figures showing a vast and gratifying excess over that of the preceding year. It may be urged that this is in a measure to be accounted for by the steady increase in the number of Masonic Lodges; yet, taking into consideration the wide-spread depression of trade, and the exceptional calls upon the purses of the large-hearted during the past year, there remains ground for sincere and solid gratification in the tables which have just been made at the end of the financial period. A perusal of these tables, which we subjoin, will show that whereas in the year 1884 the total amount subscribed to the three Institutions was £48,823 17s 7d, last year it was swelled to £54,416 2s 7d; giving an increase of £5,592 5s. The Benevolent Institution continues to head the list, with £21,374 7s 1d in 1885, as against £19,901 7s 8d in the preceding year: being an increase of £1,472 19s 5d. Probably this may be attributed to the exertions of the collector appointed by the Benevolent Institution, and may suggest to the executive of the other Charities the desirability of a similar agency for the gathering in of contributions, of which they have not lately availed themselves. It is a matter of experience amongst charitable societies of every class that the results are invariably more substantial when entrusted to the care of a duly accredited and paid official than when the duty of collection is relegated to the hands of honorary and comparatively inexperienced members of the staff. It may, therefore, be not inopportune to point out to the heads of the Boys' and Girls' Schools that it would probably be useful to consider whether, by the zealous and pertinacious applications of a collector, such as he by whom the "Old People" are represented, a still greater amount of grist might not be brought to the mills of those Institutions than is at present the case. With respect to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls a still greater advance is to be recorded, the increase in last year over that of 1884 being no less than £1,840 0s 6d. The receipts for the year just ended were £16,768 19s 6d, as against £14,928 19s in 1884. More satisfactory than all is the increase to the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the totals of 1884 and 1885 being respectively £13,993 10s 11d and £16,272 16s, or an advance upon the preceding year of £2,279 5s 1d. Statistics are proverbially "dry reading," but in these figures we opine that the brethren generally will take a vivid and satisfied interest, showing as they do "how the barometer" stands with respect to the robust activity that continues to be displayed in all the ranks of Masonic life. The vast

increase received by the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution last year must be in a great measure attributed to the almost superhuman efforts put forth by its zealous Secretary Brother James Terry, in arranging for the Festival in February last, when, under the presidency of Brother Sir Michael E. Hicks Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Gloucestershire, the splendid total of £17,636 6s 8d was announced as the united exertions of the three hundred and fifty Stewards who undertook to represent the various Lodges in London and the Provinces. In like manner, probably, must the increase of the Boys' total be set down to the indomitable exertions of Brother Frederick Binckes, through whose persistent and well-directed appeals in behalf of the Preparatory School Buildings a very substantial amount was raised. The past year's receipts by this Institution include, of course, the special grant from Grand Lodge of £1,000, voted at the June Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, on the motion of Brother Raynham W. Stewart P.G.D. Brother Binckes, it must be remembered, still requires a little more help to enable him to place the Preparatory School on the basis which its advocates and well-wishers would be gratified to see it; and seeing that the next Festival in aid of the Boys' School will complete a quarter of a century of his exertions in that direction, it is to be hoped that it will resolve itself into a kind of "silver wedding," at which the silver—and gold too—will roll in plenteously in order that Brother Binckes may see the desire of his heart fulfilled, and the top-stone placed on the splendid super-structure he has so ably designed and assisted to a successful issue. The occasion of this Twentieth-Fifth Anniversary in Brother Binckes's Festival career should be an incentive to all the brethren to aid him in the accomplishment of his laudable scheme, and we have no doubt such will be the case. In the Girls' School list it must be specially noted there is a munificent gift of a thousand guineas, presented by the Province of West Yorkshire, through its late Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart.; and there are good things in store for Bro. Hedges, as Secretary of that Institution, as we are reminded that at last month's Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge a grant of £1,000 was made towards the purchase of the additional land at Battersea Rise, though the committee have acted wisely in keeping that sum as a nest-egg for next year, instead of including it in the current balance-sheet. Respecting the prospects of the coming year, it is gratifying to note signs already of increasing activity in the cause of charity. The Province of Cambridgeshire has made a noble start, by voting out of its Benevolent Fund one hundred guineas to each of the three Institutions,—a graceful act, which will be duly appreciated by the Craft at large.

Subjoined are the returns furnished to us officially from headquarters, in the order of the respective totals:—

Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

	£	s	d
Donations and Subscriptions	17,570	11	4
Dividends	1,899	1	6
Grand Lodge	1,600	0	0
Grand Chapter	150	0	0
Legacy	105	0	0
Rent of Meadow	18	0	0
Interest on Cash at Call	31	14	3
	21,374	7	1

Royal Mason Institution for Girls.

	£	s	d
Donations and Subscriptions (including £1050—Sir Henry Edwards Presentation, West Yorkshire)	14,203	15	8
Dividends—"General Fund"—5 qrs.	1,575	0	0
" "Sustentation Fund" 6 qrs.	474	3	0
Grand Lodge	150	0	0
Grand Chapter	10	10	0
Admissions under Law LXIII.	100	0	0
Music Fees	193	14	6
Miscellaneous	61	16	4
	16,768	19	6

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

	£	s	d
Donations and Subscriptions	14,423	1	10
Music Fees	80	17	0
United Grand Lodge—Annual	150	0	0
Ditto Special	1,000	0	0
Supreme Grand Chapter	10	10	0
Sale of Lists of Subscribers	2	12	0
Dividends on £17,000	553	5	2
Legacy	52	10	0
	16,272	16	0

Lodge of Benevolence.

Month.	Cases relieved.	Amount.
		£ s d
January	36	750 0 0
February	30	710 0 0
March	34	755 0 0
April	43	983 0 0
May	28	620 0 0
June	27	703 0 0
July	25	770 0 0
August	17	415 0 0
September	27	675 0 0
October	35	1,185 0 0
November	38	1,075 0 0
December	47	1,512 0 0
	387	10,153 0 0

Taking a prospective glance at the prospects of the Festivals for the current year, we have first to consider that of the Benevolent Institution. Bro. Terry has secured the services of the Marquis of Hertford, Senior Grand Warden, as Chairman for his Festival, and although the noble Marquis will not be backed up by a Province, the Institution is so high in the esteem of the Craft that we may anticipate a brilliant result from the gathering next month in aid of its funds. For the Girls' Festival Bro. Hedges has enlisted the sympathy of the popular Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, Bro. General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., and we are assured that his Province will use even greater exertions than were shown on the occasion this respected chief presided at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution in 1883. The Chairman for the third Festival of the year has not yet been announced, but we have heard a whisper; he is likely to be one of the most popular heads of the Craft. Moreover, the Festival of the Boys' School will, so to speak, mark the silver wedding of Bro. Binckes in his association with the Institution, this year's Festival being the Twenty-Fifth held since he has filled the office of Secretary. Doubtless his many friends and supporters will seize the opportunity to do him special honour on the occasion. It is to be hoped that other Provinces will emulate the magnificent example set by Cambridgeshire, and that by this time next year we may be able to announce an equally satisfactory advance as is our pleasure to record at the opening of 1886.

Bro. Frank Richardson P.G.D. presided over a regular meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday last, when, amongst other business transacted, the sum of ten guineas was voted towards a "Twelfth Night" entertainment to the pupils at Battersea Rise, and a further sum of £50 was granted for the purpose of providing a paling for the boundary of the grounds of the Institution. Ten petitions were placed on the list for the April election. It was resolved to recommend to the Quarterly Court, on Saturday, that the list of candidates should include thirty-seven applicants, and that the number of vacancies to be filled shall be twenty-two. Three notices of motion, the terms of which will be found in our advertising columns, were given by Bro. J. H. Matthews, Vice-Patron, P. Grand Std. B., and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to Bro. Richardson for presiding.

CRYPTIC MASONRY.

A Historic Address given by Brother Henry W. Rugg, at Freemasons' Hall, Providence, on 30th Oct. 1885, on the occasion of the Observance of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Rhode Island.

TO trace the rise and progress of the Cryptic Rite is no easy task. The search has to be made along an often obscure way. There are no reliable sign-posts to point out the exact time and place when and where this part of the Masonic system originated; at the best its early history appears fragmentary and uncertain. The scanty records available are often most disappointing in what they lack to make some of their statements clear and conclusive.

It is an additional cause of perplexity that such various and conflicting theories are put forward by earnest advocates, whose inferences sometimes seem to be exceedingly far-fetched and illogical. Of course there would be no difficulty if only ancient legend were accepted as authoritative, and mere tradition received as true history. Everything might at once be settled by affirming that the degrees of Royal and Select Masters were instituted at Jerusalem, as the present rituals of these degrees would suggest. But no intelligent Craftsman entertains this thought. He knows very well that Freemasonry in all of its departments has been subject to long-continued processes of evolution, and that what we have to-day in the Masonic system and organisation is of comparatively modern presentation. Hence, he is quite prepared to believe—according to what is a plain inference in the nature of things—that the Cryptic degrees were produced at a period far more recent than that from which we date the establishment of Freemasonry in its present form.

It does not come within the scope of this address that I should make any extended reference to the questions relating to the origin and first manifestations of Cryptic Masonry. I may only attempt, in as brief a manner as possible, to summarise certain opinions and conclusions which seem to me worthy of acceptance.

I find no trace of the existence of either of the two leading degrees in the Cryptic Rite until the latter part of the eighteenth century. Possibly they were associated with the Rite of Perfection, introduced into this country in the year 1766, by Henry A. Francken, a Deputy Inspector General, commissioned as such by Stephen Morin, who is often spoken of as the founder of the Scottish Rite in America. Morin, who derived his authority to establish and propagate the higher degrees from the "Grand Council of Emperors of the East and West," at Paris, made Francken his representative and agent in the doing of such work. Francken conferred similar powers on Moses M. Hayes, of Massachusetts, who in turn gave like authority to Moses Cohen, who went to Jamaica, established a Consistory there, and conferred various degrees on that body and elsewhere. A certificate from Cohen, dated 9th November 1790, represents that Abraham Jacobs had been initiated into the degree of "Select Masters of Twenty Seven." It is claimed there is no earlier written record of the Select Master's degree than this, though there are numerous incidental references supposed to point to its having been known both at Paris and Berlin. Whether the degree originated with Cohen or Jacobs; or was manufactured at Charleston, S.C., or brought there from Berlin, in the manner described by Holbrook, who says a certified copy of the original ritual of the "Royal Select Degree" was deposited, in 1788, in the archives of the Grand Council of the Princes of Jerusalem, at Charleston; or yet was produced from some other source, does not appear altogether clear. There is no doubt, however, that Jacobs conferred the degree of Select Master in various parts of the country, about the year 1790. It is also a well established fact that a year or two previously, Joseph M. Meyers, Deputy Inspector for Maryland, had begun to confer, and authorise the conferring of, the Select Master's degree in connection with the Rite of Perfection. There is likewise evidence to show that Henry Williams, of Baltimore (who lived in that city as early as 1790), a prominent Craftsman, referred to in several well authenticated documents as "Grand Inspector General," and having exalted rights and powers supposed to have been derived from the Grand Lodge of Berlin and Bremen, authorised the working of the degree of Select

Masons, and also the establishment of a Grand Council, representing the same, in the city of Baltimore. This was in 1792.

The degree of Royal Master was hardly known at that date, if it were in existence. It made its appearance in New York in the first decade of the present century, and not unlikely may claim that city as its birthplace. However this may be, the two degrees became closely associated, and were conferred together, under various authorisations, more or less regular, in separate Councils and in Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, from about the date of 1804-6.

Thus early in the century the Cryptic Rite had gained some sort of recognition in Baltimore, Charleston, New York city, and several other places. It was not, however, very widely known, or generally regarded as of much importance. It had but a feeble organic life, and occupied at the best only a sort of semi-detached position to the Masonic system and organization.

In 1816, Jeremy L. Cross became interested in the Cryptic Rite, receiving the degree of Select Master from Phillip P. Eckel, of Baltimore, and also (probably) a commission to confer the degree upon Royal Arch Masons wherever he might meet them. Cross soon ascertained that a "Grand Council of Select Masters," in New York city, was granting charters to subordinate bodies. He asked authority to established Councils and grant warrants, and was empowered to do this by a commission issued by Eckel and Niles in 1817. Two years later, having in the interim received the degree of Royal Master, Cross was given augmented powers; for on the 29th September 1819 acting in the name and under the authority of the "Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters," of the State of Maryland, he gave a charter, "without expence," to Providence Council of Royal and Select Masters, the first organisation of Cryptic Masons in Rhode Island.

* * * * *

Coming now, after so extended a preface, to the establishment of the Cryptic Rite in Rhode Island, I call attention to a meeting held at Masons Hall, Providence, 28th March 1818. This was a gathering of "Royal Arch Masons, who have from time to time received the degree of Royal Master." Samuel Jackson, Caleb Earle, William Wilkinson, Asa Bosworth, and other prominent brethren of that olden time, were among the earnest Cryptic Masons who took counsel together for the establishment of a new organisation. At an adjourned meeting, held 19th May 1818, it was decided that "the degree of Select Master be attached to this Council." The first gatherings only recognised "Royal Masters." The organisation was perfected, and under date of 27th September 1819, it is recorded that "Companion Jeremy L. Cross presented this Council with a Charter free of all expence." The charter begins as follows: "By the high powers in me vested by the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, of the city of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, North America,"—and the document is signed by Jeremy L. Cross D.G.P.

Providence Council flourished greatly for a time and gained large additions to its membership. It suffered almost total annihilation from the Anti-Masonic storm; and for a time, while it had a name to live, delegated its powers to Providence Royal Arch Chapter, which conferred the degrees according to its convenience and the desires of Companions to receive them. In 1841, Providence Council was revived, and has maintained its existence, under conditions of increasing prosperity, until now.

In 1847, Pawtucket Council of Royal and Select Masters was organised in Pawtucket. This body received its charter from the Grand Council of Massachusetts. In 1859-60, Webb Council, of Warren, was instituted, having been granted a charter by the Grand Council of Connecticut. At a much earlier date a body of Royal and Select Masters had been organised at Newport, under a charter obtained from the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction.

In 1860, therefore, at the time of the creation of the Grand Council governing the Cryptic Rite in Rhode Island, there were four bodies in the State, each deriving its authority from a separate source. The membership of the four Councils aggregated about two hundred and fifty. But little interest was taken in the Cryptic degrees or organisations. The experiment had been tried of giving them to the control of Royal Arch Chapters, but the experiment had not met the views of brethren who were most devoted to the Rite. At this juncture it was determined

to take an advanced step, looking toward the maintenance of the degrees in a distinctive organisation, and the imparting of more interest and importance to the Rite. A Convention, called at the instance of Providence Council, met in Masons' Hall, Providence, 9th March 1860,—three Councils, viz., Providence, Pawtucket and Webb (Warren) being represented. At this meeting an invitation was sent to De Blois Council, of Newport, to participate, but the invitation was courteously declined. Several adjourned sessions of the Convention were held, and after much careful consideration, a decision was reached to form a Grand Council. Tuesday, 30th October 1860, was the date fixed upon for public recognition of the new Body and the installation of its Officers, and prominent Craftsmen from Massachusetts and Connecticut were asked to attend and conduct the services. In accordance with such arrangement, on the date named, 30th October 1860, the Grand Council of Rhode Island was instituted, Bros. E. P. Moore, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Massachusetts, and H. B. Ensign, Grand Master of the Grand Council of Connecticut, taking the leading parts in the constituting and installing ceremonies. Rev. Bro. Sydney Dean officiated as Grand Chaplain.

James Salisbury was installed as first Grand Master. This brother was, in some respects, a remarkable man. He had peculiarities of speech and action, so that he was noticeable in any gathering. He was a man of opinions; of strong prejudices; of great conservatism; but he was a true and faithful Craftsman, and especially devoted to the interests of the Cryptic Rite. He well deserved to be placed at the head of the new Grand Council, a position which he held for five years. Bro. James H. Armington, a royal soul, greatly esteemed and beloved by the Craft, was the second Grand Master. He held office for four years. The succession to the first office in the Grand Council has been as follows: Charles R. Cutler, Stillman White, Albert H. Cushman, John F. Adams, Amos A. Peavey, Edwin Baker, Rev. Wm. N. Ackley, and Osmond H. Briggs, who is now at the head of the Body. Evidently the administration of the affairs of the Cryptic Rite in Rhode Island has been in good hands during the last quarter of a century.

Woonsocket Council, of Woonsocket, was organised 8th April 1868, and received its charter the year following, taking rank as No. 4 in the jurisdiction. De Blois Council, of Newport, was admitted to fellowship, becoming allegiant to the Grand Council in 1870, and was designated as No. 5.

The several subordinate Councils have been favoured with a fair measure of prosperity since the establishment of this Grand Council; and now there are about 800 members of the Cryptic Rite in this State, more than three times the number reported in 1860.

It is no part of my present purpose to discuss the character and worth of the degrees that belong to the Cryptic system. That they inculcate valuable lessons may not be questioned, and that the truth they seek to convey is set in the form of a beautiful and attractive ceremony is generally conceded. The enthusiastic supporters of Cryptic Masonry maintain that it deserves to be regarded as the "summit and perfection of the York Rite,"—essential to the full understanding of what is represented in the degree of Master Mason and that of the Royal Arch. Whatever our differing estimate may be, I am sure we shall all agree that the Cryptic degrees have a Masonic and a moral value, and that it becomes all Royal and Select Masters to be familiar with their teachings and pronounced in their support, ever striving to maintain the Rite in a position of influence and efficiency, and to increase its ministry of practical usefulness. In this branch of Masonry, as in other departments, it depends upon the character and efforts of those included as members what the progress shall be and what the accomplishments. Brotherly love counts for as much here as elsewhere. Faith in God is as essential a feature. Fidelity to duty is as imperatively demanded, while zealous endeavour will just as surely contribute to desired success. If the next quarter of a century in the history of the Grand Council of Rhode Island is to bear a richer fruitage of honour and blessing than the epoch just ending, there must be a corresponding increase of devotion and service on the part of those identified with its interests and work.—*Freemasons' Repository.*

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MASONIC LIBRARIES.

THE question of accumulating relics is being earnestly considered by our brethren in the United States. We have pleasure in reproducing the following, which has recently been issued:—

Masonic Library Building, Cedar Rapids,
1st December 1885.

To the Brethren of Iowa, and Friends of the Library Enterprise:—Many of you are doubtless aware that prior to the last meeting of the Grand Lodge the Grand Secretary inaugurated, in connection with the Library Hall, an Archaeological Department, which has been steadily growing by donations from month to month, till it has become one of the most interesting in connection with the Library, and to make it more worthy the Fraternity and the State, your Grand Secretary desires that the brethren will take an interest and pride in the same, and donate anything they may have to spare in the line of old diplomas, coins, medals, certificates, old rare books, pamphlets, engravings, photos, &c., anything having the mark of the Craft upon it, also Indian relics, and fine specimens of minerals or anything that may prove of interest or value to the large number of visitors that now weekly visit the Library Building.

The Library Hall is built fire-proof, and commodious enough to display all such articles as may be sent in, and it well known that many such articles are now in the hands of the brethren, where they are seldom seen and attract little or no attention, while if collected together would make a very interesting collection. Due credit will be given each donor, and their name attached to their donations.

Any one knowing of a copy of the original edition of the Mormon Bible is requested to correspond with the Grand Secretary, who also desires an autograph of Abraham Lincoln, for the autograph collection now being prepared for our Library.

Photos or drawings of buildings erected for Lodge purposes, photos of presentation jewels, as also drawings of the arrangement of Lodge, Chapter, and Commandery rooms are desired.

Notices of dedication of Masonic Halls and the like are especially requested.

In behalf of the Masons of Iowa I beg to sincerely thank the brethren who have already contributed to this department, and trust they will continue their interest in the same until the Grand Lodge of Iowa shall have such a collection that every Iowa Mason will take an interest in and feel proud of it.

Contributions can be sent direct to Masonic Library Building, Cedar Rapids.

T. S. PARVIN, Grand Secretary.

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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.

—:0:—

SATURDAY, 2nd JANUARY.

- 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8 (In)
 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross-road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1361—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 Elbury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 2012—Chiswick, Ye Old Tabard Inn, Bedford Park, Turnham Green, at 7.30. (In)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Instruction)
 1362—Royal Albert Edward, Market Hall, Redhill
 1458—Truth, Private Rooms, Conservative Club, Newton Heath, Manchester
 1466—Hoya Ecclesia, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton

MONDAY, 4th 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
 111—St. Luke, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street, at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 188—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)
 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1425—Hyde Park, Porchester Hotel, Leicester Place, Cleveland Gardens, at 3 (In)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7 (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Queens Hotel, Victoria Park, 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 Bartlett Rd. (Inst.)
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 9.30 (Instruction)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 1924—Wickham, St. Peter's Hall, Wickham Park, Brockley
 R.A. 28—Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 M.M. 139—Panmure, St. 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
 151—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 156—Harmony, Hayshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
 199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 251—Loyal, Masonic Hall, Castle-street, Barnstable
 338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire
 381—Harmony and Industry, Smalley's Hotel, Market street, Over Darwen
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 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, Wrexham Road, Handsworth, Staffordshire
 529—Semper Fidelis, Crown Hotel, Worcester
 597—St. Cybi, Town Hall, Holyhead
 622—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Wimborne
 691—Oakley, Masonic Hall, Church Street, Basingstoke
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 850—St. Oswald, Town Hall, Ashbourne, Derbyshire
 928—Friendship, Masonic Hall, Petersfield

- 1015—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham, Cheshire
 1050—Gundulph, King's Head Hotel, Rochester
 1051—Rowley, Athenaeum, Lancaster
 1077—Wilton, Red Lion Inn, Blackley, Lancashire
 1108—Royal Wharfedale, Private Rooms, 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.
 1261—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)
 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, Masonic Rooms, King Street, 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, 5th JANUARY.

- Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 1
 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.
 111—Finn, Victoria Chambers Restaurant, Victoria Street, S.W., at 8. (Inst)
 166—Union, Criterion, W.
 172—Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 177—Gouache, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 183—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maria Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
 765—St. James, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 890—Dallousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 861—Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle Street, E.C., at 7. (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.)
 1449—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Cannoning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8 (Instruction)
 1381—Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington
 1445—Mount Edgecombe, Three Stags, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 3 (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)
 1691—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30 (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, Dulwich-road, East Brixton, at 8. (Instruction)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, Cannon Street, 6.30.
 R.A. 704—Camden, The Moorgate, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 8 (Inst)
 R.A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction)
 R.A. 1538—St. Martins-le-Grand, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street
 M.M. 1—St. Mark's, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.

- 70—St. John, Hayshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth
 103—Beaufort, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol.
 120—Palladian, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.
 124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham
 153—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness
 209—Etonian, Masonic Hall, Windsor
 226—Benevolence, Red Lion Hotel, Littleborough.
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon
 265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Club, Hanover-street, Keighley
 364—Cambrion, Masonic Hall, Neath.
 393—St. David, Masons' Hall, The Parade, Berwick
 463—East Surrey of Concord, King's Arms Hotel, Croydon, at 7.45. (Inst.)
 493—Royal Lebanon, Spread Eagle, Gloucester
 558—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 734—Londesborough, Masonic Hall, Brixington Quay.
 794—Warden, Royal Hotel, Sutton Coldfield
 804—Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Havant.
 847—Fortescue, Manor House, Honiton, Devon.
 918—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.)
 1488—St. Elth, Castle Hotel, Amlwch, Anglesea
 1619—Sackville, Crown Hotel, East Grinstead
 1674—Caradoc, Masonic Hall, Bank Buildings, Sussex Street, Rhyl
 1750—Coleridge, Sandringham House, Clevedon.
 1970—Hadrian, Freemasons' Hall, South Shields
 1993—Wolsley, Masonic Hall, Town Hall Buildings, King Street, Manchester
 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, 6th JANUARY.

- 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 72—Royal Jubilee, Unity Tavern, Strand, W.C. at 8. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Windsor Castle, Southwark Bridge Road, at 8. (Inst)
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, at 7. (Instruction)
 223—United Strength, The Hope, Strand, Regent's Park, 9 (Inst.)
 533—La Tolerance, Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, at 8 (Inst)
 729—Panmure, Batham Hotel, Batham, at 7 (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Bartlett-road, E. (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Portland-street, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Victoria Hotel, Farringdon Road, at 7. (Instruction)
 1283—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 54 Old Kent-road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8 (Inst)
 1691—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. (Instruction)
 1687—The Rothesay, Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields
 1707—Eleanor, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
 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. 1325—Granite, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 M.M. 1—Grand Masters, St. Red Lion Square, W.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 M.M. 69—Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)

- 71—Athol, Masonic Hall, Severn-street, Birmingham
 298—Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, Rochdale
 326—Moira, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol
 327—Wigton St. John, Lion and Lamb, Wigton
 408—Northern Counties, Freemasons' Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Ty
 417—Faith and Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Dorchester
 429—Royal Navy, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate
 471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport Monmouthshire
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 611—Marches, Masonic Hall, Ludlow
 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.
 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.)
 1085—Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby
 1091—Erme, Erme House, Ivybridge, Devon
 1167—Alwrick, Masonic Hall, Clayport-street, Alwrick
 1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
 1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-Street
 1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea
 1335—Lindsay, 20 King-street, Wigan
 1354—Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh, Lancashire
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 149 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1363—Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Gloucester
 1434—St. Alphege, George Hotel, Solihull
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull (Instruction)
 1640—Marlborough, Derby Hall, The Brook, Liverpool
 1692—Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent, at 8.30. (Instruction)
 1736—St. John's, St. John's Rooms, King's Street, Halifax
 1842—St. Leonard, Concert Rooms, St. Leonard's-on-Sea
 1993—Prince Edward of Wales, Weimar, Masonic Hall, Portsmouth

- R.A. 54—Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Cheetham Street, Rochdale
 R.A. 240—Old Globe, Londesborough Rooms, Scarborough
 R.A. 300—Perseverance, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne
 R.A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George Street, Leeds
 R.A. 342—Royal Sussex, Masonic, 79 Commercial Road, Portsea
 R.A. 1125—St. Peters, Masonic Hall, Fore Street, Tiverton
 M.M. 36—Furness, Hartington Hotel, Duke-street, Burrow-in-Furness

THURSDAY, 7th JANUARY.

- 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, Basinghall-street.

87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 192—Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street
 231—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 335—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 538—La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 551—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney
 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)
 879—Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd. (In.)
 901—City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, at 6.30. (Instruction)

1153—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1195—Lewis, Kings Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Courts, Swan Tavern, Bethnal Green Road, E., S. (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury
 1306—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Cock Tavern, Kennington-road, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Village Club Lecture Hall, Wimbledon
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Three Nuns Hotel, Aldgate, E.
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
 1802—Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse Tavern, Liverpool Road (corner of Theberton Street) N., at 8. (Instruction)
 1614—Covent Garden, Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden Lane, W.C., at 8. (Inst.)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1672—Mornington, London Tavern, Fenchurch-street
 1673—Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, E.C., at 5.30. (Instruction)
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9 (Inst.)
 1744—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1790—Old England, Masonic Hall, New Thornton Heath
 1791—Creton, Wheatshaf Tavern, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush. (Inst.)
 1950—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate

R.A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Alwyne Castle Tavern, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8. (Instruction)

R.A. 1507—Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 M.M. 199—Duke of Connaught, Haverlock, Albion-rd., Dalston, at 8. (Inst.)
 M.M. 244—Trinity College, 13 Mandeville-place, W.

24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-st., Newcastle.
 31—United Industrious, Masonic Room, Canterbury
 38—Union, Council Chamber, Chichester
 41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath
 50—Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hincley, Leicestershire
 123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 254—Trinity, Craven Arms Hotel, Coventry
 266—Nanthali, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Heywood
 269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn
 289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds
 294—Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley, Yorks
 295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield
 300—Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne
 309—Harmony, Red Lion, Fareham
 317—Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
 360—Pomfret, Abington Street, Northampton
 419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel Wolverhampton.
 425—Cestrian, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester
 442—St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Peterborough
 446—Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire.
 463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.
 509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham.
 539—St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall.
 637—Portland, Masonic Rooms, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent.
 792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Great Grimsby
 913—Pattison, Lord Raglan Tavern, Plumstead
 976—Royal Clarence, Blue Ball, Bruton, Somerset

1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire
 1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirkby Lonsdale
 1088—Royal Edward, Commercial Inn, Stalybridge
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Elland
 1282—Anchorage, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire
 1284—Brent, Globe Hotel, Tonslum, Devonshire
 1304—Olive Union, Masonic Hall, Horncastle, Lincolnshire
 1379—Marquess of Ripon, Masonic Hall, Darlington
 1384—Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes
 1473—Booth, Town Hall, Booth, Lancashire
 1500—Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich
 1504—Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkie's Arms Hotel, Padiham, near Barnley
 1513—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1594—Cedewain, Public Rooms, Newtown, Montgomeryshire
 1639—Watling-street, Cock Hotel, Stoney Stratford, Bucks
 1770—Vale of White Horse, Savings Bank, Farington
 1807—Loyal Wye, Builth, Breconshire
 1829—Burrell, George Hotel, Shoreham
 2050—St. Trinians, Masonic Hall, Loch Parade, Douglas, Isle of Man

R.A. 187—Charity, Freemasons' Hall, Park Street, Bristol
 R.A. 302—Charity, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford
 R.A. 325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 R.A. 758—Bridgewater, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn, Cheshire
 R.A. 1016—Elkington, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 R.A. 1074—Bective, Masonic Rooms, Kirkby, Lonsdale
 R.A. 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M. 53—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield

FRIDAY, 8th JANUARY.

Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hotel, Great Portland Street, W., at 8 (In.)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 157—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 177—Domestic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In.)
 730—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge. (Instruction)
 831—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)
 1153—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, Lambrooke Hall, Nottin'g Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, 79 Ebury Street, Pimlico, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)

R.A. —Pannure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 33—Britannia, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 95—Eastern Star Chapter of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leavenhall St.
 M.M. —Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 M.M. 355—Royal Savoy, Moorgate Tavern, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7. (In.)
 K.T. D.—Mount Calvary, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C.

36—Glamorgan, Freemasons' Hall, Arcade, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.
 453—Chigwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30 (Inst)
 458—Aire and Calder, Private Rooms, Ouse-street, Goolc.
 526—Honour, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton
 662—Dartmouth, Dartmouth Hotel, West Bromwich

815—Blair, Town Hall, Stratford-road, Huhao
 916—Harrington, Burlington Hotel, Eastbourne
 1001—Harrigate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Parliament-street Harrigate
 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, Whitshaven
 R.A. 137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Poole
 R.A. 601—Eyton St. John, Wreken Hotel, Wellington, Salop
 R.A. 993—Alexandra, Medway Hotel, Levenshulme
 K.T. 4—Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield
 K.T. 126—De Warene, Royal Pavilion, Brighton

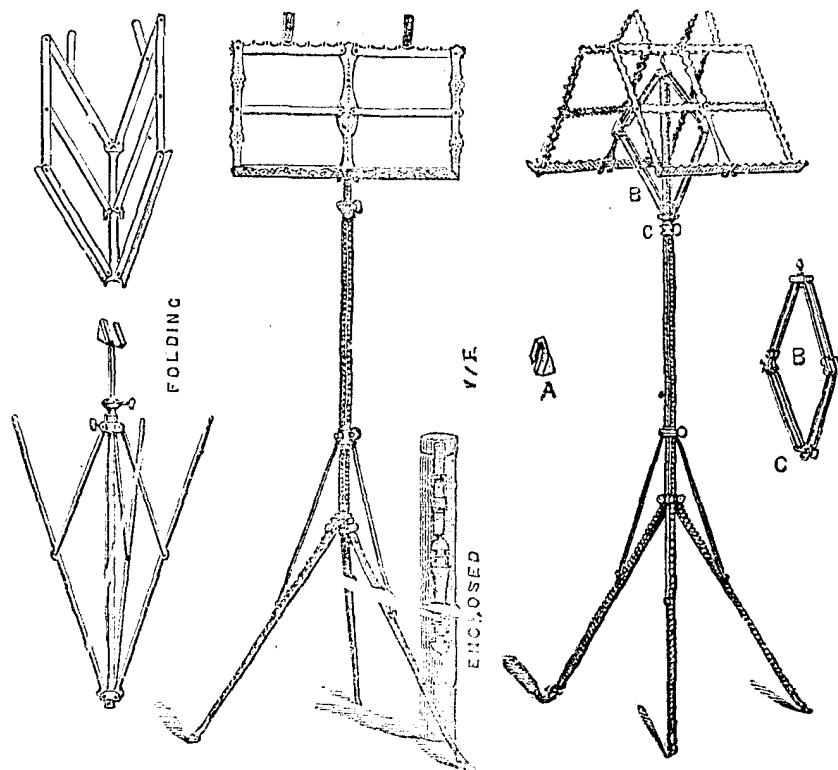
SATURDAY, 9th JANUARY.

Quarterly General Court Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12
 176—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8 (In.)
 193—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., S. (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, Ye Old Tabard Inn, Balford Park, Turnham Green, at 7.30 (In.)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 211—Hammersmith, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, W. Hammersmith
 2069—Prudence, Masonic Hall, Leeds
 R.A. 1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court

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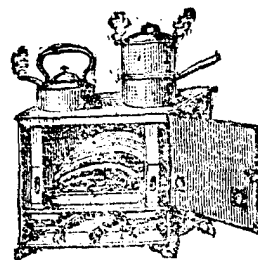
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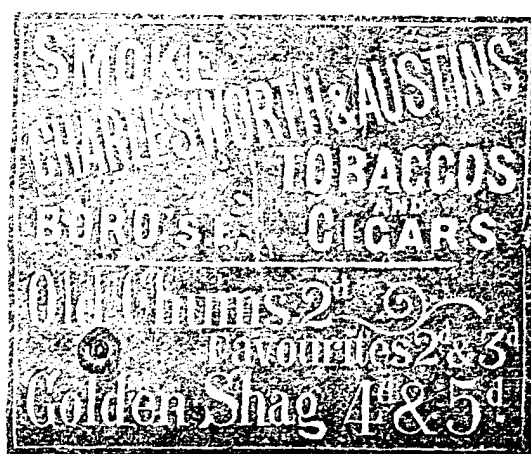


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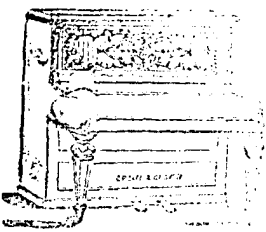
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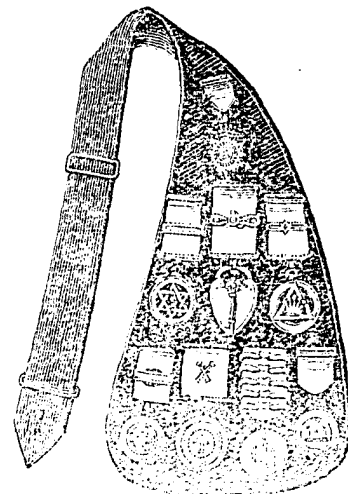
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