

THE
Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

Reports of United Grand Lodge are published with the Special Sanction of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales,
the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

VOL. XXVI.—No. 675. SATURDAY, 17th DECEMBER 1887. [PRICE THREEPENCE.
13s 6d per annum, post free.]

THE ROYAL "SILVER WEDDING."

WE cordially endorse the admirable remarks of the Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, Prov. Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, on the occasion of his presiding at the last Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge, when moving, on behalf of Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Deputy Grand Master, who was unavoidably absent, his Lordship's proposal for the presentation of an address of congratulation to our Most Worshipful Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and his illustrious Consort on the auspicious occasion of the approaching Twenty-fifth Anniversary of their Wedding Day; and that the same should be accompanied by an especial and suitable gift to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales. The sentiments of loyalty and devotion which "animate Masons' hearts towards our sovereign and the head of our Craft" could surely find no better outcome than the tokens, trifling though they may be by some considered, of genuine sympathy with the home-life and conjugal happiness of the exalted personages who will be the recipients thereof; whilst to the outer world indisputable evidence will be given thereby that the "true and sincere" Freemason can and does recognise, when occasion may offer, the faithful discharge of all domestic duties by those who are set in high places, and can lead others by force of their example. In this instance the expectations of a quarter of a century ago, when the "brilliant Star of Denmark" passed through the Metropolis of England as the future bride of the heir to the throne (who was not then one of our Order), have been verified to the letter, and the happy auguries of that time have had fulfilment. It would ill become us to be diffuse on the subject of the virtues and high principles of our gracious Princess, but in general terms it may be said, and forcibly said, that no other personage can possibly have more merited the universal accord of praise and of heartfelt congratulation than the illustrious Consort of our Grand Master. The occasions have been sundry, and will, we hope, be many more, when our "chief head and ruler" has received, and will receive, expressions of Masonic loyalty and devotion in which Her Royal Highness cannot be joined; and it is indeed fitting that on the forthcoming anniversary "*Place aux dames*" should be observed. May the earnest wish of Bro. Tew, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire, who seconded the Earl of Lathom's proposal, "that it may please T.G.A.O.T.U. to spare our Grand Master and Her Royal Highness to witness their golden wedding-day," be granted! As to his further hope that "every one of us will be spared to rejoice on that occasion," we fear that the course of nature with many of his hearers will militate sadly against his good wishes. The enthusiasm with which the proposal was carried in the United Grand Lodge was an eloquent testimony to that feeling of devoted affection for the Royal pair which inspired every Freemason present, and was a renewal of the outburst of unanimous approval of a somewhat similar proposition of the Pro Grand Master of Mark Master Masons, Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, at the Grand Lodge of that Order held on the previous evening.

It would be ungenerous and unjust to a very worthy member of the Craft, Bro. Maurice Spiegel, P.M. of the Joppa Lodge, No. 188, London, if we concluded our comments without reference to his very graceful withdrawal

of his proposition, which did not go quite so far as that agreed to. We have been given to understand that the initiative in respect to the address of congratulation was taken by him, and that his notice of motion really had precedence, in regard to time, of that of the Deputy Grand Master. It, however, had no reference to a "suitable gift," and it was in the best of taste and with laudable Masonic spirit that Bro. Spiegel withdrew a less effective proposal in favour of that which found general acceptance.

The "suitable gift" may not be, indeed it is not, the measure in value of all the feelings entertained in favour of those who have promoted the best interests of our Order, by princely rule and exalted example; but, accepted by them in the spirit with which it is offered, it will do much to increase and consolidate that bond of affection which it has been the glory of the English Craft for many years past to find "growing with its growth and strengthening with its strength." That future years may still further add to that glory we sincerely hope and believe, and to the wishes of many thousands of our brethren in that regard we echo, in the words of one of us, "the Mason's grand Amen"—SO MOTE IT BE!

NEED FOR TIMELY PREPARATION.

WE present this week, as a Supplement to the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, a complete account of the last Festival and other matters relative to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at Wood Green, and desire that the reports shall find perusal amongst a much larger audience than it is reasonable to expect can be permanently obtained by any class journal, Masonic or otherwise. This step has been deemed advisable for several reasons, the obviousness of which we will endeavour to point out. It will be recollected that, although the Festival over which Brother Tew, Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, so ably presided, at the Crystal Palace, last June, was one of the best and most influentially attended we have ever witnessed, yet the results were somewhat disappointing, and gave rise to a variety of suggestions as to why and wherefore so comparatively small a return was made by the collective body of Stewards on that occasion. In the first place it was argued that the Festival, coming in the thick of the Jubilee Festivities, when both in London and the Provinces exceptional pressure was put upon the purses of the patriotic, the large-hearted, and the generous, it was only to be expected that the strain would be appreciably felt by the Institution to which particular reference is now made. But, to some extent at any rate, that argument would tell in regard to the other Institutions, inasmuch as for the previous twelve months the exigencies of the Jubilee, both metropolitan and local, had been foreshadowed, and the brethren interested in our Charities all round were perfectly aware of the extraordinary efforts which would have to be made on that account. So far from the Benevolent Institution suffering, however, we were rejoiced to find the total amount of the contributions far a-head of any preceding year, enabling the Executive to "take on" a large number of annuitants, who must otherwise have been left out in the cold; whereas, at the Girls' Festival a most satisfactory aggregate was announced, and the Committee were enabled proudly to celebrate the

Jubilee year by admitting the whole of the candidates upon their list, without election, to the benefits of their splendid Institution at Battersea Rise. So far, therefore, as the "accident of circumstances," so freely cited, goes, we do not pay too much regard to the intervention of the Jubilee celebrations affecting the fortunes of the Boys' School. We have always felt confident that whatever might arise, either the growth of other deserving Charities, or the shrinking of the benevolent purse in consequence of depression in trade and commerce, the great Masonic Institutions, which are the apple of the Masonic eye, will always receive the constant and steadfast support of the Craft, nor diminish one iota in their respective spheres of usefulness and beneficence.

Another suggestion as to the falling off in the total announced at the Boys' Festival was that, unfortunately, it was found impossible to secure a President for that gathering until two or three weeks prior to the date fixed for the event. Probably some amount of blame may be laid to the door of the Jubilee festivities for that *contretemps*, inasmuch as most men of distinguished public position and influence were more or less mixed up in the national agitation, and were consequently unwilling to encumber themselves with too many engagements. But when Brother Binckes, at the eleventh hour, succeeded in obtaining a Chairman, it was one of the most sterling character, and Brother Tew's acceptance of the office had unquestionably a great effect upon the attendance, and the generally satisfactory nature of the Festival. It must be further borne in mind that the assembly at the Crystal Palace—of which we give a full report in our Supplement to-day—was on the day immediately following the great representative meeting of English Freemasons at the Albert Hall, in commemoration of the fifty years of Her Majesty's glorious reign. It may be presumed that many brethren found it inconvenient to attend both these assemblies, following so close upon each other; still there was no perceptible falling-off, in comparison with preceding Festivals, in the audience over which Bro. Tew presided in so eminently able and practical a manner. The real cause, therefore, of the somewhat dwarfish total must be sought elsewhere, for of course, in spite of the drawbacks we have referred to, many of the Stewards had been steadily at work in their various districts for months previously, and their lists had been nearly, if not quite, compiled before the Jubilee celebrations assumed active practical shape. There was a flush of enthusiasm, and the spur applied to the efforts of a certain section of the Stewards, when it became known that the Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire was to be the President; but this feeling, it is reasonable to suppose, was mainly centred in the Province over which Bro. Tew rules so wisely and so well, and probably one or two of the contiguous counties. Therefore, while we cannot express too much admiration of the loyalty and pluck with which our northern brethren rallied around their chief, resulting in the substantial addition of nearly seven hundred pounds to the funds—the highest of all the lists—yet, taking the survey of the whole body of Masonry, we cannot reasonably think that an equally ardent inspiration was aroused in other parts of the country by the announcement that a distinguished brother and highly popular gentleman had consented at the last moment to "step into the breach," and to rally up his faithful followers to do a signal service to the Boys' Institution. As we have pointed out, the Stewards' lists were by this time filled as completely as the energetic representatives of Lodges could fill them; and this local impetus could not, in any material degree, have altered the grand result.

The most cogent reason assigned for an apparent lack of interest in the Boys' Festival is the time of year at which that gathering is held. We have spoken plainly on this part of the subject before, and repeat our hope that the rulers of the Institution will take it into their serious consideration. Whether or not the Jubilee festivities had any effect on this year's gathering or not is beside the question; the Boys' Festival always comes in the immediate wake of that of the Girls' School, and sufficient time is not allowed, therefore, for a thorough canvass of the Craft. The ideas we recently embodied in an article on this subject appear to have been accepted in many quarters, from which correspondence has reached us; and we shall be very pleased to receive other similar communications containing the opinions of those who are interested in the future welfare of the Institution.

Without recapitulating the facts enunciated in these columns five months since—and to which we would direct the special attention of the readers of our Supplement—it may be well to again point out that the Festivals of the three Charities are crowded into one-third of the year, instead of being held at more distant intervals, which would afford the Stewards more breathing time and elbow-room for their work. The contention that the Boys' has always been a Summer Festival does not count for much. The Benevolent has the start in this respect, that it is held early in the year, when Masonic business is in full tide of operation; the lists are being formulated during the "festive seasons" of Yuletide and the New Year, when even the closest-buttoned breeches pockets may be relaxed under the genial influences of "Christmas cheer;" and, being the first Festival, with a lapse between it and the last of something like eight months, it is invested with more than ordinary freshness and interest. But the Boys' Festival, coming at the bottom of the list, and following so closely on that of the Girls' School, derives no such advantages. Falling in the very midst of the holiday season, when people are gathering up all their resources for "the annual outing," it is less likely to attract attention than if it were held later on, when our *al fresco* pleasantries have become matters of mere happy reminiscence, and when something new is needed to break the monotony that often sets in during the autumn months. The deferring the Boys' Festival until October, or even later, could have no prejudicial effect upon the Institution so far as we are able to discover, and it might be productive of a vast amount of benefit. The Executive of the Institution are, or should be, the best judges on this question; which, however, we would once more impress upon their careful consideration, in view of next year's Festival.

Anent this, we are reminded that next year brings with it the Centenary of the Girls' Institution, and it is beyond question that extraordinary efforts will be put forth to render that occasion historical, both in the way of attendance and pecuniary support. This is as it should be; but the expansion of the coffers of that Charity must not be from any filtering away of the support accorded to the other Institutions, no leakage of the normal flow of benevolence, which must be continued to "Our Boys" and the "Old People." It is perfectly clear, however, that, in order to cope with this exceptional circumstance, no time is to be lost in considering how and by what means the next Boys' Festival may be spared from the rather galling result of the present year. We do not think it is in any way premature or hasty to call the serious attention of our readers immediately to this important matter. The Boys' School compares favourably with any other similar Institution in this or any other country; but it is, nevertheless, the most in need of funds of all our Masonic establishments. It cannot afford any detracting influences to operate upon it, even in exceptional years, such as this one has been, and the next will be; the friends of the School, who we are glad to know do not diminish in number or energy, must buckle on their armour early—as soon as the session of Masonic labour is actively resumed. We think we may leave the Benevolent Institution in the safe and sure hands of its devoted supporters; for where Bro. Terry is, there will the friends of the Old Folks be gathered together. That the funds of the Girls' School will be richly replenished by the Centenary appeals is a foregone conclusion; and it is now that the true friends of the Boys' School should band themselves together in earnest, and at once, in order to secure for their next Festival such a result as shall compensate Bro. Binckes and the Executive for the tinge of disappointment they experienced in June last. This additional effort would be strengthened, in the opinion of many, were the Festival postponed until the latter part of the year. It certainly would give the Stewards a longer time for their work, and, moreover, as the Lodges are in full work at that time, exhortations on behalf of Charity would fall with greater weight upon the brethren than can be expected in the sweltering summer, such as we have this year passed through.

A few more words. It is well known to a majority of the supporters of the Boys' School that their Institution at Wood Green has not escaped the evil effects of the epidemic that has so sorely exercised the minds and the energy of the Staffs of the leading Medical Institutions of the Metropolis. Some four months back scarlet fever developed itself amongst the pupils, and in spite of every precaution that could be adopted; notwithstanding the most persever-

ing efforts of the Medical staff of the Establishment, aided by many zealous members of the Profession who are associated with our Order, the malady increased. In all fifty-one cases have had to be treated, some of them displaying a malignant and a critical tendency; but, happily,—and here we think we hear our readers re-echo our words—not a single case has proved fatal. This fact alone should awaken the minds of those who may read these lines to a full realisation of the great care and attention that has been bestowed by one and all associated with the management and conduct of the Establishment.

Indeed, from knowledge we have practically verified, we can assure our readers that every praise may be awarded to the Executive, the Heads of the several Departments—in short to one and all connected with the Institution—for the fearless energy with which they sought, and successfully sought, to check the evil effects of the disorder. These efforts have naturally entailed an outlay that could not have been anticipated, but the supporters of the School will never begrudge any reasonable expenditure that has resulted so satisfactorily.

With these observations, we leave the subject in the hands of our readers, and of the management of the Institution, with sincere hope and confidence that they will receive careful and dispassionate consideration; culminating, we trust, in a most gratifying result for the Ninetieth Anniversary Festival of the Boys' School, to be held 27th June 1888.

POPULARISING FREEMASONRY.

OCCASIONALLY we hear this expression used, and sometimes with a meaning expressed or implied that makes the phrase open to serious objection. It is well for an institution as for an individual to be well thought of and to enlist the public approval, so far as this can be sought for and obtained by proper endeavours. Freemasonry needs to justify itself in the minds of its members, and secure to some extent the favouring judgment of the outside world in order to maintain a strong position and render its largest and best service. There can be no question as to the desirability of enlisting a good degree of sympathy in behalf of the Masonic organisation and commending it to the favourable opinions of the world, so far as this can be done without trespassing upon its essential principles or limiting it unduly in important respects. There are some things in the system and the organic life of Freemasonry which must never be sacrificed at the shrine of popularity. Public approval may be desirable, but it should not be purchased at too costly a price.

And just here we are moved to say that Freemasonry was never designed to be a specially popular organisation. It was always intended to be somewhat restricted and exclusive. Its genius is indeed broad and tolerant; its purposes those of universal benevolence, and its spirit in harmony with the heart-throbs of humanity everywhere, but it was never proposed that the Masonic organisation should take everybody into its membership and thus lose its distinctive character. There is danger indeed that such an institution as ours may become too popular, thus weakening its safeguards and exposing it to special perils. In this view we hardly think that those Brethren who are all the time talking about popularising Freemasonry—about bringing it more prominently and more attractively to the notice of those outside its lines—take quite the right estimate of the situation. There is no occasion to “talk of harmony” with “profanes,” or to enter into much argument to remove obstructions, &c.

It is said, however, that we ought to make it more popular among its own members. To this end, that it may be regarded with an increase of favour, there is a demand that the element of amusement receive more attention; that festivities of various sorts be introduced, thus making the Lodge room more attractive to the average Brother. To popularise the Fraternity among Masons some say turn it into a social club, emphasise its social features, introduce amusements, strive to entertain and to please, without much regard to the severer and much more technical features that belong to the Masonic system. Our thought is that this is a mistaken way of procedure, and such a popularising of the organisation is to be deprecated instead of encouraged.

We believe in the social character of Freemasonry; its

work, in part, is to minister to social wants and furnish a bond of fellowship and good cheer among Brethren; but there are other ministries that are of far more importance. It will never answer to sacrifice the greater for the less, and Freemasonry can only be popular among Craftsmen as its essential character and teachings are not departed from, we had better dispense with any attempt to popularise the Institution. At all events, whatever is done or attempted on the lines indicated, let there be no abandonment of the position which Freemasonry holds as an embodiment of important truths and a representation of moral and benevolent forces. It was not established as a social club. It will never attain its best successes when thus limited.—*Freemasons' Repository.*

THE RIGHT OF VISIT.

BRO. A. S. Wait, of New Hampshire, denies the right of a member of a Lodge to exclude a visitor in good standing, and holds that the objection must be submitted to the Master, who must decide it as he may deem just. He says:

“Masonry is one great, general family. The universality of Masonry is its distinguishing feature and its grandest characteristic. It is a universal brotherhood, and its Lodges are not isolated or independent societies, each owing nothing to the others, and a Mason in regular standing and a contributor to the support of the Institution has a right to full and complete recognition, as such, from all Lodges and all Brethren, wherever met with. And this right is fundamental with the Craft and vital to its distinctive principles. We hold it to be the right of the Master of a Lodge, and his duty, to ascertain the ground of the objection, and to admit or exclude the visitor as he may deem just, having a view to the justice of the case, the best interests of the Lodge, and all other considerations which he judges ought to bear upon the question.”

To this view Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine, replies:

“As our Grand Lodge for more than thirty years has sustained the doctrine which he denies, we may be permitted to restate the basis upon which our decision was made. When a man is made a Mason he does become a member of a universal brotherhood, every one of whose members has certain duties towards him, and certain claims upon him. This grows entirely out of his initiation, and attaches before he is, or can be, a member of a Lodge. Under the ancient usages of the Craft a man has a right to be a Mason, with all his individual rights and duties, without being a member of the Lodge. But, in addition, the Masonic law allows certain Masons to associate themselves together as a Lodge and assume towards each other additional rights and duties: the organisation is also vested with power to perform certain acts, which can be done only by an organisation, and the right to participate in such acts is one of the privileges attaching to such membership. The law gives to those thus associated the absolute power to determine whom they will admit, or rather no Mason, however good his standing or high his position, can be admitted a member against the objection of a single one who is already a member. If a Lodge is such an institution as Bro. Wait claims, every Mason in good standing should have a right to become a member of it, in spite of the objection of a member, “unless such objection is, in the judgment of the Master, a just one.”

The comparison of a Lodge to a family is not just in every respect. Like any illustration, if it be extended into all possible details, the illustrations were so tested, there could be very few, as the parallelism must be so perfect that it would merge in identity.

In a word, the Lodge organisation is based upon the idea that Masons may have rights and privileges peculiar to themselves, which not only others do not have the right to participate in, but also which cannot be granted to others without the consent of every one who does have the right to participate in them; and, therefore, no other one can participate in them permanently [as a member] or temporarily [as a visitor] without unanimous consent.

In other respects, the doctrine of ‘universality’ does not apply to a Lodge; from its very nature its duties to its members take precedence of its duties to any other Masons.

OFFICIAL ZEAL WITHOUT DISCRETION.

ZEAL in the discharge of the duties of his official position in Masonry is a quality we much admire in one who holds the exalted position of G. Master of Masons. The almost unlimited power conferred upon him makes his position one of great importance, for upon a proper exercise of that power largely depends the prosperity of Masonry within the jurisdiction over which his authority extends. He can do much good, or an equal amount of harm, according to his ability to judge between right and wrong, and to what limit his authority may extend to enforce the one or suppress the other. His zeal, in either case, should be controlled by that discretion which will keep his action within the line of official duty. The Grand Master who goes outside that line, and mixes in personal difficulties between Brethren, generally has more zeal than discretion. A very forcible illustration of a case of this kind appears in the Proceedings of the last Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Washington. It appears that a member of a Lodge in that jurisdiction, in a business transaction, had been guilty of conduct which the Grand Master deemed unmasonic, and he caused charges to be preferred against him in his Lodge. Upon trial the accused brother was acquitted by the Lodge. The case was taken to the Grand Lodge and remanded for another trial, which again resulted in his acquittal, whereupon the Grand Master arrested the Charter of the Lodge, and sent the case to the nearest Lodge for another trial. Here again the accused brother was found not guilty, and the S.W. and Secretary of that Lodge were suspended from office by the Grand Master. A "High Commission of Inquiry" was then created by the Grand Master, consisting of five distinguished Masons, to investigate the action of these two Lodges in the premises. This Commission submitted a long report to the Grand Lodge. The case altogether covers twenty-two pages in the printed Proceedings, and the final result of the whole matter was a vote of censure against some half-dozen brethren. Judging by the final verdict of the Grand Lodge in the case, there does not seem to have been enough to warrant the action of the Grand Master in ordering charges to be preferred in the first place, nor his great zeal in prosecuting the case afterward. Matters of business between Masons should not be brought into the Lodge, unless there is a wilful attempt to defraud a brother. A Lodge is in no sense a collection agency.—*Masonic Advocate.*

MASONRY IS ETERNAL.

Change cometh not. The lessons taught
Each earnest searcher for Truth's light
Are those they sought who wisely wrought
To make the Temple strong and bright.

Truth aye survives. Time ne'er deprives
The burdened ages of their gain.
He wins who strives. In steadfast lives
The Temple-builder lives again.

Men go their way. 'Neath brows grown gray
Dim eyes forget to look reply;
Lips silent say to us, alway,
Those legends old which cannot die;

Yet wherefore grieve that we must leave
The labours of our ardent youth?
Our own receive what we perceive
Is part of God's eternal truth.

When with earth through, we but go to
A land of pleasure and repose—
Where those we know, the tried and true,
Have opened Lodge that ne'er shall close.

—*Voice of Masonry.*

POWER OF A KIND VOICE.—There is no power of love so hard to get and keep as a kind voice. A kind hand is deaf and dumb. It may be rough in flesh and blood, yet do the work of a soft heart and do it with a soft touch. But there is no one thing that love so much needs as a sweet voice to tell what it means and feels; and it is hard to get and keep it in the right tone. One must start in youth and be on the watch night and day, at work and play, to get and keep a voice that shall speak at all times the thoughts of a kind heart. It is often in youth that one gets a voice or a tone that is sharp, and sticks to him through life, and stirs up ill will and grief, and falls like a drop of gall on the sweet joys of home. Watch it day by day as a pearl of great price, for it will be worth more to you in days to come than the best pearl hid in the sea. A kind voice is to the heart what light is to the eye. It is a light that sings as well as shines.—*Elihu Burritt.*

THE OLD MASONIANS.

THE above Association held a most enjoyable social evening on Friday, the 2nd inst., at their headquarters—Anderton's Hotel. Mr. C. Douglas Barrett, who took the chair, had provided a capital programme. There were present nearly forty members of the Association and a fair sprinkling of visitors. Mr. W. H. Kirkham opened the proceedings with an overture on the pianoforte, and accompanied the songs throughout the evening in a highly efficient manner. Mr. F. Gore sang with great expression, "When all was young," and "Sally in our alley," as did Mr. A. S. Stevenson, "Trusty as steel." Mr. C. Howard Uwins received a well-merited encore for his rendering of "The Diver," and later in the evening sang "Will o' the Wisp." The elocutionary part of the programme was well sustained by Mr. Harold Williams, who gave with great expression "Mark Antony's Oration;" Mr. T. L. Scurr, who gave an amusing account of the "Adventures of Turpin;" and Mr. Clark, who showed great ability in his rendering of the "Quack Doctor." Mr. J. W. Hutton received an encore for his banjo solo, "Home Sweet Home." The comic element was well represented by Mr. Elgar, who was funny in his songs, "Later on" and "Oh!" Mr. A. B. Whiteley sang "Just in time," and Mr. W. Lyle Smith received well-merited applause for his Irish song, "Old Ireland so Green." After the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman, the singing of the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

THE Rev. Thomas W. Lemon, M.A., of Loyal Brunswick Encampment, Stonehouse, attended on Friday, the 9th instant, at the City Terminus Hotel, E.C., in his character of Provincial Prior of Devonshire Knight Templars, to do homage to the National Great Priory on his recent appointment. The Rev. Sir Knight, it will be remembered, was installed in his high office on 4th August last, at a Provincial Priory holden at East Stonehouse, by Colonel Adair, and as the National Great Priory had not since met homage had not heretofore been paid. The meeting was numerously attended, and the Great Priory presented a very animated appearance. Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Sub-Priory, presided, and was supported by some of the most influential Freemasons of the high degrees. The new Provincial Prior having been announced as waiting outside the priory to do his homage, he was admitted, accompanied by Sir Knight Keats his Sword Bearer, Sir Knight Coffin Banner Bearer, Sir Knight W. G. Lemon Grand Aide-de-Camp, and others. He was most cordially welcomed, and received a hearty salute by the members of the Great Priory. Homage was duly rendered. The remaining business was merely formal.

AGAINST INCORPORATION.—Masonry is a law unto itself, and abundantly competent to insure a proper "correction among ourselves," therefore let us be content and not lay ourselves open to the interference of other laws or powers. We do not approve of the tendency of modern times and still more modern Masons, who are constantly endeavouring to invoke the secular laws, or law of the land, wherewith to regulate the affairs of our G. Lodges and their subordinates. If this state of things is permitted to go on it will not be long before strenuous efforts will be made to have the laws of our commonwealth define the relations existing between the two, and to invoke that secular law to interfere in the proper exercise of the sovereign powers of the Grand Lodge over her subordinates. We for one are ready to lift both hands and exclaim, "Mr. Law of the Land, please keep your hands off. We are abundantly able and willing to take care of ourselves and our business, and those that are constantly asking your interposition know not whereof they speak and what they desire."

LIKE BALM.—It is a pleasure to see an industrious man anywhere, but to see an industrious Grand Master in a jurisdiction that stands in need of disciplinary attention seems like a balm on a painful wound.

Anything as an excuse for the non-performance of duty seems to be the law with some of the Craft, and they lie, cheat, wrong, and defraud, as if justice could never overtake them.

A Canadian Masonic excursion to Europe is proposed for next summer. How would it do for the Quebec Craftsmen to visit England? How would they feel on finding all Masonic doors closed against them by their own act?

Sordid selfishness is the motive with which some men seek membership in Freemasonry, the church, and other organisations.

Charity in its true sense is an individual matter and never works well in organised form. At least we have not as yet seen it a success. We know our brethren of Kentucky are quite sensitive on the question and are doing all in their power to make it a success. We hope they may, but we cannot help noticing that whilst the Home flourishes and thrives Lodges languish and decay. Then it follows that if organised charity must be maintained even at the risk and hazard of Lodges, we pay too great a price for its maintenance.

Referring to the new cathedral uptown, one of the Scottish Rite magnates recently said to a reporter of one of our dailies:—"The dedicatory ceremonies were very elaborate. All the ceremonies of the Scottish Rite are such, and its initiatory ordeal is the most rigid in Masonry. Not long ago, a candidate who underwent a four hours' initiation was made sick from fright, and was confined to his bed for several weeks. One of the features of the installation is for the candidate, who has been conducted round the hall by four masked attendants bearing flash torches, to be placed on a raised platform, whence, as a proof of his courage and fortitude, he is commanded to jump barefooted upon a narrow board dotted with iron spikes. There is always a great deal of hesitation. When the candidate jumps, the iron spiked board is removed, and another covered with india-rubber is substituted."

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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"WORK" IN LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—“PUTNEY'S” letter in your last issue deserves more than a passing consideration. Instead of inferring, as he does, from what was told him in relation to the members of London Lodges being precluded from sharing in certain instructive Craft work, in many so-called Lodges of Instruction, that the wishes or powers of a “select few” prevent the brethren from more frequently hearing certain ceremonies, I attribute the absence of such instruction to another cause.

I shall speak plainly, and having the interests of Craft working far more at heart than the opinions of individuals who may choose to put on the cap, I do not hesitate to say that it is rather to the ignorance and prejudices of a large number of the Preceptors of our several Lodges of Instruction, than to any “select few,” that we owe the absence of valuable information and instruction in the mysteries of our Order.

What do we find as a rule? That the great majority of our Instruction Lodges are under the guidance of men, not perhaps totally, but to a great extent, devoid of that education and mental power without which I say it is impossible to understand the beautiful ritual of our Order, and the hidden meaning of its symbols; or of young men who, better educated and having good memories, have picked up, parrot-like, the wording without the sense; and who, before they have even held a ruling office in a Lodge, set themselves to teach others that which they could not by any possibility understand, much less appreciate.

I grant there are exceptions to the above rule; but the majority I allude to are the real hindrances to the promulgation of much that is of interest in Masonic work. They are so self-satisfied, so “ignorant of what they are most assured,” that they permit no disputation as to the correctness of their working, no discussion on most interesting points. No! the blind leader must be obeyed, and followed; and strange to say, the blind followers are many. Hence it is that “bad blood”—of course kept under by ordinary Masonic courtesy—rises between members of sundry Lodges who differ as to the merits of the work of certain professors of Masonic ritual who have yet to learn what Masonry really is.

It is in this direction we must look for the cause of the effect of which your correspondent “PUTNEY” complains. For the present, if you care to insert this letter, let these remarks suffice. I shall return to the subject at a future opportunity, and meanwhile remain,

Yours fraternally,

BARNES.

LODGE No. 79.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am very sorry that I can no more agree with Bro. Lane's last theory about the origin of No. 79 than I did with his former theories about the said Lodge. As, however, he at last confesses that No. 79 was an English Lodge, I shall trouble him no further about No. 79; there is, however, one question I would like to see cleared up—viz., whether the name of one of the members of No. 79, of 1731, was Pollexsen or Pollex senior? It is my impression that Bro. Sadler once informed me, either personally or by letter, that the name is written in the record Pollex Sen., and I hope Bro. Sadler will inform you whether I am correct or not; for if my recollection is at fault, I want to thank Bro. Lane for correcting me.

Fraternally yours,

JACOB NORTON.

Boston, U.S.; 6th December 1887.

A Special Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at noon on Wednesday, the 28th inst., at the Assembly Rooms, Royal Hotel, Plymouth, when, after the transaction of the ordinary business, the Brethren will march in procession in their Masonic clothing to St. Andrew's Church, where a short special service will be held. As this is the first time that a Masonic procession has taken place in Plymouth since 1874, when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales opened the Guildhall, the event will be of an especially interesting character. After Divine service the Brethren will march to the new Masonic Club, No. 1 Princess Square, where Bro. Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Prov. G.M., will lay the foundation stone of the new Masonic Hall—which will be the finest in the western counties—to be erected at the back of the existing premises, which will be utilised for the purposes of a Masonic Club. As there are seventeen Lodges in the Three Towns a very large gathering is anticipated.—*Western Daily Mercury*.

RED HOT.—The memory of the oldest member of the Fraternity runneth not back to the time when Masonry was booming in Utica as at present. At the last Communications of the three Lodges here 26 applications for membership were received, nine by one Lodge, ten by another, and seven by the third. We understand that Faxton Lodge has added fifty members to its roster thus far.—*Utica Herald*.

REVIEWS.

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

—:o:—

The *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book for 1888*. London: George Kenning, 16 Great Queen Street, W.C.

AGAIN we are called upon to say a few words in reference to this handy little work; handy in more ways than one, for not only can it be placed in the breast pocket without inconvenience, but it contains reliable information of every kind interesting to Masons. This year the Editor has put together considerable fresh information respecting different bodies; such as the dates of meetings, when consecrated, &c., &c., while the names of the Officers in all jurisdictions are carefully arranged. There is the usual space allotted for making notes for forthcoming engagements, also the names of the Brethren serving on the different Committees of the Institutions. The charges in the Craft degrees and the Entered Apprentice song are likewise given. In short, all information that a Mason is likely to want is to be found within the pages of the *Cosmopolitan Calendar*. If aught else is wanted to recommend this work, we need only say this is the eighteenth year of its publication, a fact alone that should recommend it.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their usual monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday. Bro. Edgar Bowyer, Treasurer and Trustee, occupied the chair, and there were present Bros. Cottebrune, Brett, Bulmer, Hogard, Quitmann, Maudslay, Mickley, M.A., M.B., West, Newton, Daniell, Webb, Brooks, Daniel, Roberts, Pigott, Marlis, Farnfield, Tattersall, Berry, Stewart, Forsyth, M.D., Festa, Perceval, Lacey, Driver, Durrant, Cubitt, Dr. Jabez Hogg, Hilton, Cotter, Perryman, Belchamber, Berridge, and Terry Secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, the Secretary reported the death of one male and one female annuitant. The Warden's report for the past month was read. The Committee then took into their consideration 19 petitions, from 12 male and 7 widow candidates, with the result that the names of all were ordered to be placed on the list for the Election in May 1888, thus raising the total number of candidates, so far, to 110. A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

Our contemporary the *Freemason* announces that its Christmas number will be ready on the 21st inst. It will contain tales by R. E. Francillon, George Manville Fenn, and John Pendleton; also Masonic Articles by Bros. R. F. Gould, W. J. Hughan, G. B. Abbott, and other Masonic writers; together with a full-page illustration from a print by Bartolozzi of a Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in the last century. The “special” issues of the *Freemason* invariably contain an assortment of sound Masonic information of a thoroughly reliable character; great care is exercised in their production, and we feel assured that the number promised for next week will be up to the standard we are now accustomed to. The price will be 6d, and any Bookseller or Newsagent will supply it.

Tuesday next is the day fixed for the Consecration of the Frederick West Lodge, No. 2222. The ceremony will be performed by the Right Worshipful Brother General J. Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., P.G.S.W., Provincial Grand Master Surrey, at the Castle Hotel, East Molesey, Surrey, at four p.m. General Brownrigg will be assisted by several distinguished brethren. Bros. R. T. Elsam P.M. and Secretary 201 and 889 P.B.G.D. Surrey W.M. designate; John Hughes P.M. 901 S.W. designate; John Piller P.M. 1656 and 1793 J.W. designate.

The Yarborough Lodge, No. 422, Gainsborough, has just elected Bro. F. Baines S.W. as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bro. Alfred Kirk, the P.G. Treasurer, was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Scott Tyler.

At a meeting of the members of the Three Grand Principles Lodge, No. 267, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., Brother Harry Lavin S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Thomas Gill P.M. was re-elected Treasurer.

At a meeting of Restormel Lodge, No. 556, held at the Old Duchy Palace, Lostwithiel, on Thursday, the 8th inst., Bro. W. R. Toms S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. J. Hugill P.M. P.P.G.D.C. was unanimously re-elected Treasurer.

The First Masonic Festival of the Ensuing Year

WILL BE THAT OF THE

**ROYAL
MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION**

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS,

Grand Patron and President:

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

WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON,

ON WEDNESDAY, 29TH FEBRUARY 1888,

UPON WHICH OCCASION

SIR GEORGE ELLIOT, Bart., M.P.,

R.W. PROV. G.M. SOUTH WALES (EAST DIVISION),

has been pleased to signify his intention of Presiding.

BRETHREN are earnestly invited to accept the office of Stewards 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, and supply them with the necessary circulars, &c.

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 were never more needed than at the present time. Expenditure in Annuities alone £15,000. Permanent income only £3,600.

JAMES TERRY, Vice-Patron, P.G.S.B.

Secretary.

Office:—4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

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

Chief Patroness:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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

Grand Patroness:

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

FOUNDED 1788.

CENTENARY CELEBRATION 1888

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS:

**The Right Hon. the EARL OF LATHOM DEPUTY G.M.,
Prov. G.M. Lancashire Western Division.**

—:—

Brethren willing to act as Stewards on the above important occasion will greatly oblige by sending in their names as early as convenient.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

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

APRIL ELECTION, 1888.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers of the

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls

are earnestly solicited on behalf of

PRISCILLA MINNIE SWAEBE,

(AGED 9 YEARS LAST JUNE),

Daughter of the late Bro. DAVID SWAEBE. He was initiated in the Joppa Lodge, No. 188, in January 1851, and continued a subscribing member to 1871. He joined the Euphrates, No. 212, and subscribed for 17 years, until his decease, which took place in May 1887. He has left a widow and 6 children unprovided for.

The cause is strongly recommended by the brethren of the Joppa Lodge, No. 188, and by

Bro. Rt. Hon. POLYCARPUS DE KEYSER, Lord Mayor, Mansion House, London.

Bro. Sir HENRY A. ISAACS, Alderman, 27 Belsize Park, N.W.

*Bro. T. GROVES P.M. Chendon Lodge 1769, St. Bernard's, Longley Road Lower Twickenham.

Bro. H. HARRIS P.M. Israel Lodge, 53 Newington Causeway.

*Bro. W. KLINGENBERG P.M. 73 and 1510, V.P. R.M.L.G.

W. WRAY MORGAN P.M. 213, 11 Thornhill Square, Barchinburg, N.

*C. F. HOGGARD P.M. 205 181 P.P.S.B. and P.P.G.S. of West Sussex, 69 Ealing Road, Hammersmith.

*LEWIS LIZARDS P.M. and Secretary Joppa Lodge 188, 86 Sandringham Road, Dulston.

Prizes will be thankfully received by those marked *.

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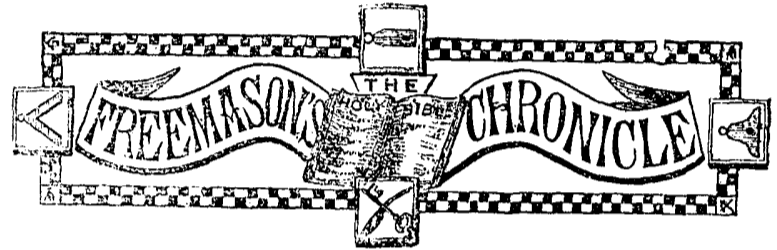
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INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

—:—

PALATINE LODGE, No. 97.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge, one of the oldest in the Province of Durham, established over 130 years ago, took place at the Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland, on Thursday, the 8th inst. The W.M., Bro. Robert Singleton, presided, and was supported by Bros. Robert Hudson P.M. P.G.S.B. Eng. P.G. Sec., T. M. Watson P.M. P.P.J.G.D., Taylorson Sharp P.M., George Carr Watson P.M. P.P.J.G.D., J. C. Moor P.M. P.P.J.G.D., J. R. Pattison P.M. P.P. Assist. G. Secretary, W. Liddell P.M. 919 P.P.S.G.D., M. Douglass P.M. 80 P.P.J.G.D., C. D. Hill Drury P.M. P.P.G.R. Norfolk, the Rev. Heart Yeld P.M. 1389 P.P.G.C., H. H. Pinkney W.M. 1389, A. T. Munro P.M. 919 P.P.G.S.B., J. Scarborough W.M. 94, J. H. Rainbow P.M. 94 P.P.G.Std., G. Wanless P.M. 94, J. J. Wilson P.M. 80 P.P.G.Std., J. D. Tadd P.M. 94 P.P.G.S.B., W. A. Priestly S.W., R. A. Brown J.W. 2039, G. W. Bain S.W. 941, James Hudson J.W. 80, &c. The W.M. elect, Bro. C. M. Wake S.W., was presented to the Installing Master by Bro. J. J. Clay. In a Board of Masters, Bro. C. M. Wake was installed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. Singleton, the Installing Master, by whom the ceremony was very ably performed. The W.M. invested Bro. Singleton as I.P.M. The newly-installed W.M. was then proclaimed and saluted according to ancient custom, and the following Brethren were then appointed and invested as Officers:—Bros. Marshall S.W.-Storey J.W., Watson P.M. P.P.J.G.D. Treasurer, Watson Secretary, Cutler S.D., Birch J.D., Clay P.M. D.C., Moses Organist Grundy I.G., Brown Tyler, Nicholls, Rehead, Reader, Lee, Napier, and Hepper Stewards. Bro. Singleton gave notice of motion to move at next meeting that the sum of twenty guineas be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The usual donations to the local charities were duly passed, and the Lodge was afterwards closed. The annual festival was held in the banqueting room, Bro. Wake W.M. presiding. There were also present most of the above-named Brethren, and Bros. W. Beattie P.M. P.G. Treasurer, Maddison P.P.S.G.D., T. Atkinson W.M. 80, R. W. Halfright P.P.G.D., &c.

AIRE AND CALDER LODGE, No. 458.

ON Friday, the 9th inst., the members of this Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John. The Brethren met in the Lodge-room at half-past four, and had the pleasure of welcoming a considerable number of Visitors from Leeds, Hull, Wakefield, Crowle, Howden, and other places. Bro. E. John Foster W.M. presided, and Bro. C. L. Mason P.M. 2039 acted as Installing Master. The W.M. elect (Bro. W. Porter S.W.) having been presented to the Installing Master, the ceremony was performed. The following Officers were created:—Bro. E. John Foster I.P.M., R. Dayson S.W., R. C. Bruce J.W., J. A. Bray Treasurer, C. Chappell Secretary, W. R. Savelley Chaplain, A. Goodridge S.D., J. Leach J.D., A. J. Peacock I.G., T. Rippen Organist, R. Earnshaw and H. B. Thorp Stewards, J. Robinson Tyler. Afterwards Bro. H. Wilson P.M. was elected Charity Steward. In the evening the Brethren held their annual banquet at the Lowther Hotel. Bro. Wm. Porter, the new W.M. presided.

DE GREY AND RIPON LODGE, No. 837.

THE installation of Bro. S. Jacob as Worshipful Master of this Lodge took place on the 2nd inst., at the Town Hall, Ripon, and was attended by a number of members of the Lodge, as well as by several brethren from the Provinces of Durham and North and East Yorkshire. The installation ceremony was conducted by Bro. A. Tupman W.M. 837.

ROYAL CLARENCE LODGE, No. 976.

THE installation of Bro. W. Palmer W.M. of this Lodge took place on Thursday, the 1st instant. The ceremony was performed by the D.P.G.M. Bro. Else. The W.M. invested the following brethren as his Officers for the ensuing year:—E. G. Austen S.W., W. P. Buckley J.W., E. K. Hayter P.M. P.P.G.O. Somerset Treasurer, W. J. Clarke Secretary, R. Moody D.C., C. Phippen S.D., J. Cruss J.D., J. J. White I.G., F. Harrold and A. Creed Stewards, and J. P. Swain Tyler.

ST. OSWALD LODGE, No. 1124.

THIS Lodge held its Installation Festival on Monday evening, the 5th instant, when Sir Watkin Williams Wynn was installed as Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year. An occasion so interesting to the Brethren could not fail to cause a large number, on the invitation of the Brethren of the Lodge, to assemble. Those present were—Bros. Henry Morris W.M., L. A. Manning I.P.M., J. Peplow Cartwright J.W., W. F. Rogers Treasurer, J. B. Joyce J.D., A. R. Lowery I.G., G. Owen P. Prov. G.W., Edward Smith P. Prov. G.W. North Wales, J. F. Edisbury P. Prov. G.W. North Wales, Col. Huddleston P. Prov. G.W. North Wales, Rev. Kemble Southwell Prov. G. Chaplain, Rev. J. B. Meredith P. Prov. G. Chaplain, Rev. Watkin H. Williams P. Prov. G. Chaplain North Wales, Jas. Salmon Prov. G. Treasurer North Wales, J. H. Cooksey Prov. G. Registrar, F. R. Spaul P. Prov. G. Registrar, W. H. Spaul Prov. G. Secretary, Charles Drew Prov. G.D., John Maclardy P. Prov. G.D., J. J. Morgau P.P.G.D., Captain W. M. Lightfoot P. Prov. G.D. Cheshire, C. K. Benson P. Prov. G.D. North Wales, T. Whitefoot jun. Prov. G.D. of C., T. Akeroyd P. Prov. G. Organist, J. H. Parsons Assist. P.G. Secretary, J. A. Harris Prov. G.S. of W. North Wales, Rev. P. W. Sparling J.W. 839, Rev. Thomas Hughes W.M. 998, J. D. Andrew 336, A. Lowcock Prov. G. Pursuivant, John Ave. S.W. 262, A. V. Townsend Prov. G. Steward, J. H. Tomb Secretary 1432, W. J. Ogg Secretary 2131, Ashton Bradley 1336, Rev. Trevor Owen 1143, John Evans I.G. 1432, and the following Brethren of the St. Oswald, No. 1124:—Bros. Major J. M. Maltby, W. F. Fearn, W. H. Bott, Rev. Henry Daukin, P. O. Gill, J. W. Edwards, W. B. Oswell, W. H. G. Weaver, H. C. Corfield P.M. After Sir Watkin had been duly installed and placed in the chair of the Lodge, he invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. Morris I.P.M., Cartwright S.W., Rev. Meredith J.W., Rogers Treasurer, Spaul Secretary, Joyce S.D., Lowery J.D., Owen D.C., Rev. Daukin I.G., Bott Steward. After the investing of the Officers, the Secretary, Bro. Spaul, referred to an interesting episode with reference to the chair which Sir Watkin now occupied. When the St. Oswald Lodge was founded in 1866, the late Sir Watkin made a present to the Lodge of some antique chairs and other furniture that formerly were used in a Lodge holden in Wynnstay, and the present banquet has now been installed in the chair that his great grandfather had formerly occupied when he presided over that Lodge at Wynnstay. The Secretary then read a number of letters from Brethren, expressing regret at their inability to be present. A handsome Past Master's jewel was then presented to the I.P.M. by Sir Watkin, on behalf of the members of the Lodge, to commemorate his year of office, which had just expired, and was acknowledged by Bro. Morris in suitable terms. The Brethren then adjourned to the banquet, which was served in the usual superior style for which Bro. Drew is noted. After the usual Patriotic and Masonic toasts, the Brethren separated at an early hour.

DEFENCE LODGE, No. 1221.

ON Monday evening, the 12th inst., this Lodge met at the Lodge-room, Carlton Hill, to install the Worshipful Master for the coming year. Bro. H. Columbine S.W. had been elected Worshipful Master. He was installed by Bro. Harris I.P.M. The ceremony was rendered still more impressive by the manner in which the V.W. Bro. Rev. Dr. Smyth, Grand Chaplain of England, performed the duties of Chaplain. After the installation Bro. Columbine invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. Lucas S.W., Tomlinson J.W., Swale Secretary, Child S.D., H. Marsh J.D., Graham I.G., Lees Treasurer, Kingston P.P.G.D. as D.C., Simpson O. and S.S., Millington J.S., and Marshall Tyler. The Festival of St. John was celebrated in the banqueting-room after the closing of the Lodge. Over sixty brethren were present, including Bros. H. Green P.G.S., Fourness P.G. Treasurer, Smithson, Townsend P.P.G.O., the Masters of all the Leeds Lodges, several Past Masters, including six belonging to the Defence Lodge, and several visiting brethren. The banquet was served by Bro. Powolny, Leeds.

FALCON LODGE, No. 1416.

THE installation of the Worshipful Master of this Lodge, took place on Thursday, the 8th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Thirsk. The ceremony was performed by Bro. the Hon. W. T. Ordo Powlett Deputy Provincial Grand Master North and East Yorkshire, assisted by Bro. William Brown P.M. Bro. Reginald Hartley was installed as W.M., and appointed his Officers, as follow:—Bros. H. Longford I.P.M., John T. Hansell S.W., F. R. Hansell J.W., T. J. Wilkinson P.M. Treasurer, Wm. Coltman P.M. Secretary, J. H. Buchanan S.D., W. W. Hall J.D., Rev. Eusebius Richardson Chaplain, A. C. Bamlett P.M. D.C., Z. Wright P.M. Organist, J. S. Coulson I.G., F. R. Hansell and H. Smith P.M. Stewards, G. Ayre P.M. Almouner and Charity

Representative, and Bro. J. S. Farmery Tyler. Several Visiting brethren were present. After the installation ceremony, the brethren dined at Bro. Long's, the Three Tuns Hotel.

CLAUSENTUM LODGE, No. 1461.

ON Wednesday, the 7th instant, at this Lodge, the Festival of St. John was celebrated, Bro. E. T. Wise being installed as Worshipful Master, in the presence of a number of brethren and visitors, including Bros. R. W. Lees W.M. 130, E. Brown W.M. 359, H. Lashmore P.M. 394, G. J. Gould and C. J. Barbage P.M.'s 319, E. Osborne S.W. 130, A. J. Blackman J.W. 389, &c. The installation ceremony was impressively performed by Bro. W. Bowyer, after which the Worshipful Master appointed his Officers, as follow:—Bros. M. F. Curtis I.P.M., W. J. Miller S.W., W. H. Mitchell J.W., Rev. G. Hughes Chaplain, J. Methven P.M. Treasurer, Walter Bowyer P.M. Secretary, H. C. Sims S.D., E. A. Edwards J.D., W. H. Chapman P.M. Dir. of Cers., W. Fowler Organist, J. Martin I.G., T. O. Spencer S. Steward, R. H. Weekes J. Steward. During the evening two candidates were initiated, and there were three passes. After Lodge had been closed, the brethren sat down to a *récherché* banquet, provided by the Tyler, Bro. Henley, in a manner which did him great credit, and for which he received many encomiums. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts followed.

THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE, No. 1563.

THE installation meeting was held at the Masonic Temple, Café Royal, Regent Street, W., on Thursday, the 24th ult. Brothers Smith W.M., Hill S.W., Cox J.W. W.M. elect, Hammond P.M. Treasurer, Shand P.M. Secretary, Brander S.D., Higgins J.D., Hoare P.M. 1765 Organist, Filhon I.G., Radclyffe D.C., Bates, Bolt, and Harrington Stewards; Potter P.M. 181 Tyler, Lee I.P.M., Cottelbrune P.G.P., Waugh P.M., Eastgate P.M., Jones P.M. Hieatt, Lefort, Phillpotts, Alexander, Piccirillo, Bertha, Amelot, Steyer, Neat, Marshall, Langmead, Worster, Marks, Dennis, Abate, Hendry, Hewett, Cheviot, Barre, Georgel, Ferris, and Clark. Visitors: Bros. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg. D.P.G.M. Essex, Zacharie 2108 P.G.M. California, Thomas P.A.G.D.C., Hudson W.M. 141, Parsons W.M. 1637, Howard W.M. 1765, Higerty I.P.M. 1044, Gardner I.P.M. 2012, Von Joel P.M. 957, Woodruff P.M. 957, Kay P.M. 742, Simner P.M. 1319, Cleghorn P.M. 1287, Cummings P.M. 1677, Brock P.M. 145, Bellerby S.W. 2021, Grove S.W. 742, Spurgin S.W. 1305, Lane J.W. 1765, Smyth J.W. 1238, Felderman J.W. 181, Pye J.D. 1238, Piper I.G. 2030, Arland I.G. 1305, Baker 1743, Williams 1692, Proissant 2060, Dodson 1681, Gammon 704, Mayne 1238, Somers 2191, Girder 195, Potter 1614, Unwin 1614, Jones 749, Kent 2030, Halliday 2168, Oliver 1987, Woolf 77, Bannell 1737, and Noakes 2148. Letters of apology were read from Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke Grand Secretary, Seager-Hunt, M.P., I.P.M. 2030, and Sugg W.M. 2030. The Lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was presented; it showed, after meeting all liabilities, a substantial balance. The Benevolent Fund was also in an equally satisfactory condition. Bros. Philpotts and Clarke were then raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. in that faultless style for which Bro. Smith is so well known. Bro. Edmund Beaumont Cox was then presented as W.M. elect, and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed, he was installed into the chair of K.S. by the I.P.M. The following Officers were appointed and invested:—Bros. F. Hill S.W., C. M. Brander J.W., J. A. Hammond P.M. Treasurer, J. E. Shand P.M. Secretary (7th year), W. G. Higgins S.D., C. Filhon J.D., C. H. Radclyffe I.G., E. J. Hoare P.M. 1765 Organist, W. H. Bolt Dir. of Cers., G. Harrington Assist. Dir. of Cers., Alexander and Piccirillo Stewards, W. Potter Tyler. The usual addresses were effectively rendered by the Installing Master, Bro. W. P. Smith I.P.M. A ballot was taken for Mr. Thomas Hubert Beach, Mr. Chas. Le Clerc, and Mr. Hyman Fonseca; this proving unanimous, they were duly initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry in a manner which shows that the Lodge will lose none of its prestige in the hands of its new W.M. A ballot was then successfully taken for Bro. L. Gruneafelder 8 (S.C.), as a joining member. Bro. Cox W.M. having announced his intention of going up as a Steward at the forthcoming Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, a sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted from the funds of the Lodge. Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, served in Bro. Nicols' best style. The menu card, which was most chaste in design, contained a medallion portrait of the W.M., and was much admired. In proposing the Queen and the Craft, the W.M. said of the loyalty of Freemasons they had ample proof during the present Jubilee year in the noble gathering at the Albert Hall which would be remembered by those present as long as they lived. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales Most Worshipful Grand Master was then given by the Worshipful Master; it was quite needless for him to say anything to enhance the toast as his Royal Highness was so affectionately regarded by all. He knew the Grand Officers would agree that Freemasonry had never made such progress as it had during the time he had been Grand Master. Bro. Philbrick, in replying for the Grand Officers, returned his sincere thanks for the very enthusiastic manner in which the toast had been received. It was always a pleasure for them to attend on these occasions, when the destinies of the Lodge were entrusted to a new Master, on whose zeal and ability depended its well-being during his year of office. That was the first time he had visited that Lodge. He would be pleased, however, to attend at any time, if the Worshipful Master gave him the invitation. He welcomed the Initiates on their becoming members of their ancient and honourable Fraternity, which was composed of men of all nationalities and creeds, banded together in one common fraternal band of brotherhood, non-political, unsectarian, and which knew no creed save that of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth." Bro. W. C. Smith I.P.M. in proposing the Health of the Worshipful Master, said that his year of office would add considerably to the welfare of the Lodge, of that there could be no doubt, as they all knew the painstaking care with which

he had performed the duties of the various offices through which he had passed. He trusted that Bro. Cox would have a prosperous year of office, and so be able to look back with pleasure on the day when he was installed. The Worshipful Master returned his sincere thanks; he assured the brethren he would do all in his power to perform his duties to the satisfaction of the Lodge and credit to himself. The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Health of the Initiates," whom he welcomed; he trusted that the ceremony they had that evening taken part in had made the impression on them that it had done on him at the time of his initiation. Bros. Thomas Hulbert, Beach, Chas. Le Clerc, and Hymau Fonseca briefly responded. With "The Visitors" was coupled the names of J. Lewis Thomas P.A.G.D.C.; Dr. Zacharie, P.G.M. California; R. E. H. Goffin. Bro. J. Lewis Thomas P.A.G.D.C. thanked the brethren for their cordial reception. This was not the first time that he had had the pleasure of visiting the Lodge, and he trusted to be there on many future occasions. The greatest praise was due to their W.M. for the excellent manner in which he carried out the duties of the chair. Bro. Dr. Zacharie P.G.M. California, said he had known their W.M. for twelve years; it gave him the greatest pleasure to see him installed. He had come up expressly to give him some assistance, but by the way he did his work he found that was not necessary. Bro. Goffin said, unlike Bro. Philbrick, he had visited the City of Westminster Lodge, once as one of a corporate body. The Officers of the Abbey were invited by the Westminster, and the compliment had been returned by the Abbey. A kind of affinity existed between the two Lodges. The Westminster supported the Abbey petition for Warrant, and the Secretary of one was Secretary of both. He thoroughly endorsed the remarks of the Grand Registrar. Freemasonry as a common platform knew no sects of religion or politics, but the one G.A.O.T.U. The W.M., in proposing the health of the I.P.M., congratulated him on his successful year of office, and begged his acceptance of the P.M.'s jewel, which he had very great pleasure in pinning on his breast; he trusted he might long be spared to wear it. Bro. W. C. Smith, in reply, thanked the Brethren for the very kind way in which they had received the toast of the I.P.M.; the hearty manner in which they had responded to it gave him extreme pleasure, as he felt assured it was expressed with all sincerity. He was fully satisfied with the number of initiates he had the pleasure of receiving into the Lodge; also for the harmony that had prevailed among the Brethren; every one seemed zealous to promote the interests of the Lodge. He was also much gratified with their financial position; they had a fair balance in the Treasurer's hands. In respect of Bro. Cox, their W.M., he was pleased to see him in that office, as they had both worked to that position by graduated steps of the Masonic ladder, and he was convinced that the Lodge would be well cared for under his Mastership. For the very handsome jewel the W.M. had placed on his breast, and for the kind words he had been pleased to speak on his endeavours to carry through his duties whilst in the chair, he thanked him most heartily; he also thanked the Brethren for their handsome present, and wished the W.M. a prosperous year in Masonry. The toast of the Past Masters was responded to in suitable terms by Bro. Shand Secretary, and Bro. Hammond P.M. Treasurer responded to the toast of the Secretary and Treasurer; the Senior and Junior Wardens responded for the other Officers. The Tyler's toast brought a pleasant and successful meeting to a close.

EBORACUM LODGE, No. 1611.

THE monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, St. Saviourgate, York, the W.M., Bro. W. Dyson, presiding, supported by Bros. T. B. Whytehead P.M., J. T. Sellar P.M., J. Blenkin P.M., G. Balmford P.M. Treasurer, the Wardens, Officers, and many Brethren. There being no work in hand, Bro. T. B. Whytehead gave an address on Freemasonry, in which he endeavoured to indicate a course of reading and study for the adoption of those who desired to enlist themselves among the number of Brethren who found in Masonry a source of intellectual pleasure. He urged that those who declared Freemasonry to be merely a Charitable Society, not only degraded it to the level of Odd Fellowship or Forestry, but thereby laid its members open to the charge of being guilty of the greatest extravagance and folly. On the other hand, those who regarded the Brotherhood as an agreeable excuse for indulging in periodical festivities reduced Freemasonry to the status of a very fourth rate kind of club. In either view he saw nothing to recommend Freemasonry to a man of culture. If it was desired to secure the approval and support of Brethren of mental attainments and social culture, it was necessary to prove that there was something more in it than the maintenance of Charitable Institutions, the perpetual repetition of ritual, the principles of which were taught in every church and school in the civilized world, and the pleasantries connected with the Fourth Degree. Freemasonry had a literature, and possessed intellectual enjoyments for those who cared to avail themselves of them. The Eboracum Lodge had the nucleus of a very good Masonic library, and he wished to see the members taking advantage of their opportunities in this respect. By doing so they would not only elevate the status of the Lodge, but would find in Freemasonry itself a pleasure and a permanent delight, to which hitherto the great bulk of the Order were unfortunately total strangers. Bro. Whytehead then presented some volumes of Masonic works to the Lodge collection, and the W.M., on behalf of Bro. H. Scott, presented half-a-dozen cut glass water bottles. The Lodge was closed, and the Brethren afterwards supped together in the banquetting room.

ARNOLD LODGE, No. 1799.

A LODGE of emergency was held on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at the Clifton Hotel, Walton-on-the-Naze, to consider the following resolution which was presented to the W.M. at the last meeting:—"We, the undersigned, being seven sub-

scribing members of the Arnold Lodge, do request you to summon a special Lodge, for considering and finally deciding as to the future place of meeting of the said Lodge, and we further make this request as provided for by the 167 Section of the Book of Constitutions 1884." There were present Bros. W. Finer W.M., H. Finer I.P.M., C. Hempson P.M. P.P.G.R. Essex, E. Dorling P.M. P.P.G.S. Suffolk, A. G. Rickarby P.M. P.P.G.P. Essex, R. H. Scott P.M. P.G.A. Secretary Essex, G. Comber J.W., E. F. Comber, H. Wilkinson I.G., E. Osmond Treasurer, J. Salmon, F. W. Garnham, H. Wallis, L. Andrews, C. Randall, J. James Tyler. After reading the resolution, it was proposed by the Treasurer, seconded by Bro. F. W. Garnham, that the meetings of the Arnold Lodge for the future be held at the Clifton Hotel, Walton-on-the-Naze. Twelve voted for the Lodge remaining where it is, and three did not vote. The W.M. declared that the future meetings of the Lodge should be held at the Clifton Hotel, and he instructed the Secretary to give notice to the Grand and Provincial Grand Lodges. The Lodge was then closed.

PRESENTATION.

A BEAUTIFULLY-DESIGNED and costly Past Master's jewel, with Secretary's combined, was recently presented in open Lodge by Bro. Hodgson P.M., on behalf of the Brethren, to Brother G. H. Cooper, the Immediate Past Master of Lodge Unity, No. 71. Bro. Cooper is one of the most popular men in his Lodge, and it must be a source of very great satisfaction to him to find his services so appreciated. The pendant of the jewel represents the five points of fellowship, intersected with the pens emblematical of his office, the whole being surmounted by a blue watered-silk ribbon, on which are bars of gold and raised letters, "Lodge Unity, 71, 1887." On the jewel is the following inscription:—

"Presented to Bro. G. H. Cooper as a token of esteem for services rendered as Secretary to Lodge Unity, No. 71."

PROPOSED MASONIC BALL.

THE Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Hartmere Lodge, No. 1663, have decided to give another ball to neighbours and friends, which will take place during the first week of the new year. This ball, which has now been held annually for several years, and has achieved the distinction of being considered one of the most successful and enjoyable events of the kind in the county, will in all probability receive additional éclat upon the forthcoming occasion, from the fact of its being the intention of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lord Henniker, to attend, and bring a party, should unforeseen circumstances not prevent his doing so.

MASONIC SERMON.

ON Sunday morning, the 4th instant, the Rev. F. V. Russell, Vicar of Balderton, Newark, in whose person Grand Lodge honours have recently been awarded to the Province, preached at St. Paul's Church, Nottingham, especially to the local Masons. The service was choral, and the congregation included a large number of Masons. The preacher founded his sermon on the words "Honour all men, love the Brotherhood." He pointed out that there were certain principles or tendencies of our nature which were liable to abuse, but which nevertheless were capable of being made subservient to the best and holiest purposes. This applied to the instinct which caused men of similar habits to unite together as the Masonic Brotherhood did. He replied to the objection raised by some people with reference to the inclusion among that fraternity of unbelievers, and said that it recognised the existence of a Supreme Ruler of the Universe, and it taught morality, friendship, brotherly love, faith in God and immortality, and charity to all.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426.—Meeting held at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Coleman Street, E.C., on Thursday, 15th inst., at 6:30 p.m. Present Bros. F. Rush W.M., W. Baber S.W., J. Tattersall J.W., H. Bolchamber S.D., Gomme J.D., J. L. Barrett I.G., James Stevens P.M. Preceptor, W. Paddle P.M. Treasurer, W. J. Ball Secretary, H. Whitehouse, J. Jolliffe, D. Hills, F. May, and others. Lodge was opened by Bro. J. K. Pitt, in the unavoidable but temporary absence of the W.M., and the minutes of previous meeting having been confirmed, was passed to the F.C. degree. Bro. Whitehouse as candidate for raising proved proficiency, and the Lodge having been raised to the third degree the ceremony was rehearsed most ably by Bro. Pitt, and completed by the W.M., who then closed the Lodge to first degree. It was decided that the meeting arranged for the 20th inst., should not be held, but that next Thursday, the 22nd inst., should be utilised by the Preceptor for short ceremonial, an address, and the rehearsal of entry drill. It was also decided that the annual Smoking Concert should take place either just prior to or subsequent to the first week in February. Bro. W. Baber was elected W.M. to preside on the 22nd inst., and sundry payments having been made to The Great City Second Benefvolent Association, the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony.

"Fair Faces, or types of female beauty," is the title of a special series of full page engravings—from drawings by Miss Margaret Thomas—to be commenced in the January number of Mr. Francis George Heath's Pictorial Monthly "Illustrations."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Rheumatism and Neuralgia.—Though the former disease remorselessly attacks persons of all ages, and the latter ruthlessly selects its victims from the weak and delicate, the persevering use of these remedies will infallibly cure both complaints. After the affected parts have been diligently ointmented with hot brine, and the skin thoroughly dried, Holloway's Ointment must be rubbed in firmly and evenly for a few minutes twice a day, and his Pills taken according to the printed directions wrapped round each box of his medicine. Both Ointment and Pills are accompanied by instructions as signed for the public at large, and no invalid who attentively reads them can fail to be at any loss how to doctor himself successfully.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meetings, &c., as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

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SATURDAY, 17th DECEMBER.

- 179—Manchester, Yorkshire Grey, London St., Tottenham Court Rd., at 8. (Inst.)
 188—Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8. (Instruction)
 1275—Star, Five Bells, 155 New Cross Road, S.E., at 7. (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Mare-street, Hackney
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7. (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7. (Inst.)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1732—King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel Street, Fleet, E.O.
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammoorsmith, at 7.30. (In)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air Street, Regent Street, W., at 8
 M.M. 251—Tenterden, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
 811—Yarborough, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 2035—Beaumont, Royal Hotel, Kirkburton

MONDAY, 19th DECEMBER.

- 1—Grand Masters', Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 8—British, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 21—Emulation, Albion, Aldersgate-street
 22—Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 45—Strong Man, Bell and Bush, Ropemaker St., Finsbury, E.C., at 7 (In)
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Railway Place, Fenchurch Street at 7. (In)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 185—Tranquillity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
 862—Whittington, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 975—Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham Road Station, at 7.30. (Inst)
 1227—Upton, Three Nuns, Aldgate, E., at 8. (Instruction)
 1425—Hyde Park, Forchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Gardens, at 8. (In)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7. (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hotel, Victoria Park, at 7.30 (In)
 1507—Metropolitan, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1537—St. Peter Westminster, Criterion, W.
 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, New Market Hotel, King Street, Smithfield, at 7 (In)
 1693—Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30 (Instruction)
 1707—Eleonor, Seven Sisters Hotel, Page Green, Tottenham, S. (Inst)
 1891—St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington. (Instruction)
 1901—Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. (Instruction)
 2021—Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, Criterion, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 M.M. 173—Temple, Green Dragon Tavern, Stepney
 M.M. 224—Menatschin, Criterion, Piccadilly

- 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
 331—Phoenix Public Room, Truro
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton
 382—Royal Union, Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge. (Instruction)
 424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead
 466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Road, Northampton
 622—St. Cuthberga, Masonic Hall, Wimborne
 725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham
 934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield
 985—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport
 1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
 1141—Mid Sussex, King's Arms Hotel, Horsham
 1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1909—Carnarvon, Masonic Hall, Nottingham
 R.A. 32—Jerusalem, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 R.A. 40—Emulation, Castle Hotel, Hastings
 R.A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield
 R.A. 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn
 R.A. 482—St. James, New Inn, Handsworth
 R.A. 779—St. Augustine, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
 M.M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne

TUESDAY, 20th DECEMBER.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4
 30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark
 95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 141—Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria Street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 162—Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 188—Joppa, Champion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 212—Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High Street, Camden Town, at 8. (Inst.)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton Road, Maida Hill, at 8 (Instruction)
 920—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 860—Dalhousie, 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)
 1321—Emblematic, Red Lion, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W., at 8 (In)
 1339—Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Rock Tavern, Battersea Park Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge
 1446—Mount Edgecumbe, Three Stags, Lambeth Road, S.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 1471—Islington, Champion, Aldersgate Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich. (Instruction)
 1540—Chancer, Old White Hart, Borough High Street, at 8. (Instruction)
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury
 1695—New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, at 8. (Inst)
 1839—Duke of Cornwall, Bibra Restaurant, Cannon Street, E.C., at 7. (In.)
 1949—Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich Road, East Brixton, at 8 (Instruction)
 2021—Queen's Westminster, 8, Red Lion Square, W.C.
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, Cannon Street, at 6.30
 R.A. 7—Royal York of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

- R.A. 11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 R.A. 19—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street
 R.A. 205—Israel, Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.
 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. 1642—Earl of Carnarvon, Ludbrooke Hall, Notting Hill, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 M.M. 238—Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.

- 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
 402—Royal Sussex, George the Fourth, Nottingham
 414—Union, Masonic Hall, Reading
 418—Menturia, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley
 463—East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, at 7.45. (Inst.)
 468—Light, Great Western Hotel, Birmingham
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 960—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff.
 1006—Tregulow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scourier, Cornwall
 1052—Callender, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1039—De Shurland, Fountain Hotel, Shoeburys.
 1113—Anglesea, Bull Hotel, Llangefni
 1276—Warren, Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead, Cheshire
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable
 1473—Bootle, 146 Berry Street, Bootle, at 6. (Instruction)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool
 1726—Jordan, Assembly Room, Bognor
 1764—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton
 1941—St. Augustine's, Shrewsbury Arms Hotel, Rugeley
 2022—Haven, Lyric Hall, Ealing
 2146—Surbiton, Maple Hall, Maple Road, Surbiton.
 R.A. 41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard Street, Bath
 R.A. 80—St. John's, Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland
 R.A. 315—Royal Pavilion, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
 R.A. 419—St. Peter, Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton
 R.A. 792—Oliver, Masonic Hall, Osborne Street, Great Getisbury
 R.A. 1151—Unity, Town Hall, Tywardreath, Cornwall
 M.M.—Lebanon, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 M.M. 266—Amherst, Masonic Hall, Sandgate
 M.M. 380—Temple, Masonic Hall, Folkestone

WEDNESDAY, 21st DECEMBER.

- Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C., at 6
 3—Fidelity, Alfred, Roma Road, Barnsbury, at 8. (Instruction)
 30—United Mariners', The Lugard, Peckham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 72—Royal Jubilee, Mire, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, George Inn, High Street, Borough, at 8. (Inst)
 174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 193—Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall Street, at 7. (Instruction)
 228—United Strength, The Hope, Stanhope Street, Regent's Park, at 8 (In)
 538—La Tolerance, Portland Hotel, Great Portland Street, at 8. (Inst)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7. (Instruction)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Instruction)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's Court, Fleet Street, at 8. (Inst.)
 902—Burgoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
 969—Maybury, Inns of Court Hotel, W.C.
 1349—Friars, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
 1382—Corinthian, George Inn, Glegall Road, Cabbitt Town
 1475—Peckham, Lord Wellington Hotel, 516 Old Kent Road, at 8. (Instr.)
 1507—Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, W.
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward, Mare Street, Hackney, at 8. (Inst.)
 1631—Ravensbourne, George Inn, Lewisham, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1604—Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st., S.W., at 7.30 (In)
 1624—Eccleston, Criterion, Piccadilly
 1662—Beaconsfield, Chequers, Marsh Street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1673—Langton, Viaduct Hotel, Holborn
 1681—Londeshorough, Berkeley Arms, John Street, May Fair, at 8. (Inst)
 1803—Cornhill, King's Head, Fenchurch-street
 1922—Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Chamberwell New Road, S.E., at 8. (In)
 R.A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air Street, Regent Street, at 8. (Inst.)
 R.A. 720—Panmure, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7. (Inst.)
 R.A. 933—Doric, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 M.M.—Grand Masters, 8, Red Lion Square, W.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 M.M.—Fistole, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., at 8. (Instruction)
 M.M. 144—Grosvenor, Masonic Hall, Air Street, Regent Street
 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Ponzano
 175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W
 178—Antiquity Royal Hotel, Wigan
 200—Old Globe, Masonic Hall, Scarborough
 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton
 246—Royal Union, Freemasons Hall, Cheltenham.
 311—South Saxon, Freemasons' Hall, Lows
 325—St. John's Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 342—Royal Sussex, Freemasons' Hall, 79 Commercial Road, Finsbury
 428—Sincerity, Angel Inn, Northwich, Cheshire
 451—Sutherland, Town Hall, Burslem
 537—Zetland, 9 Hamilton-street, Birkenhead.
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw
 592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction)
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 683—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire
 758—Ellesmere, Freemasons' Hall, Ruacorn, Cheshire
 816—Royd, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 874—Holmesdale, Royal Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells
 938—Grosvenor, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 962—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Worthington
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
 1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Driffield, Yorks
 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkcaldy, Liverpool
 1129—St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale
 1161—De Grey and Ripon, Masonic Rooms, King Street, Manchester
 1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
 1246—Holte, Aquarium Assembly Rooms, Aston
 1255—Dundas, Haysie Masonic Temple, Plymouth
 1391—Brighouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse
 1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Horsea, Hull.
 1536—United Military, Masonic Hall, Plumstead
 1634—Starkie, Railway Hotel, Ramsbottom
 1662—Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent, at 8.30. (Instruction)
 1971—Aldershot Army and Navy, Imperial Hotel, Aldershot
 1988—Mawddack, St. Ann's Buildings, Barmouth, N. Wales
 R.A. 258—Amalibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 R.A. 361—Industry, Norfolk Arms, Hyde

R.A. 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury
 R.A. 847—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, High Street, Honiton
 R.A. 1387—Chorlton, Masonic Hall, High Lane, Chorlton-cum-Hardy

THURSDAY, 22nd DECEMBER.

House Committee, Girls' School, Battersea Rise, at 4
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 144—St. Luke, White Hart, King's-road, Chelsea, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 147—Justice, Brown Bear, High Street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 704—Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305 High Holborn, at 7 (Instruction)
 749—Belgrave, The Clarence, Aldersgate Street, E.C. (Instruction)
 751—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 879—Southwark, Sir Gaius Wolsley, Warndon St., Rotherhithe New Rd. (In)
 1158—Southern Star, Pheasant, Stangate, Westminster-bridge, at 8 (Inst.)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Swan Tavern, Bethnal Green Road, E., at 9. (Instruct)
 1306—St. John, Three Crowns Tavern, Mile End Road, E. (Instruction)
 1339—Stockwell, Masons' Tavern, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1421—Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons' Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst)
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Grosvenor, at 8 (In)
 1671—Leopold, Austin's Hotel, 7 London Street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse Tavern, Liverpool Road (corner of Theberton Street) N., at 8. (Instruction)
 1612—West Middlesex, Bell Hotel, Ealing, at 8. (Instruction)
 1614—Covent Garden, Criterion, W., at 8. (Instruction)
 1622—Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church Street, Camberwell. (Instruction)
 1625—Tredegar, Wellington Arms, Wellington Road, Bow, E., at 7.30. (In.)
 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)
 1741—Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1791—Creaton, Wheatshaf Tavern, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush. (Inst)
 1960—Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. 763—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (In.)
 R.A. 1471—North London, Northampton House, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8: (Instruction)
 M.M. 118—Northumberland, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street
 51—Angel, Three Cups, Colchester
 78—Imperial George, Assheton Arms Hotel, Midleton, Lancashire
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool (Instruction)
 249—Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 348—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 784—Wellington, Masonic Rooms, Park Street, Deal
 935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington Square, Salford
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer Street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction)
 1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, nr Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1580—Cranbourne, Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, Herts, at 8. (Instruction)
 1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 1892—Wallington, King's Arms Hotel, Carshalton. (Instruction)
 2131—Brownlow, Town Hall, Ellesmere, Shropshire
 R.A. 113—Unanimity, Bull Hotel, Church Street, Preston
 R.A. 216—Sacred Delta, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 279—Fortitude, Freemasons' Hall, Halford Street, Leicester
 R.A. 314—Royal Architect, Bull Hotel, Church Street, Preston
 R.A. 394—Concord, Freemasons' Hall, Albion Terrace, Southampton
 R.A. 431—Ogle, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields
 R.A. 442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough
 R.A. 1037—Portland, Masonic Hall, Portland, Dorset

FRIDAY, 23rd DECEMBER.

House Committee Boys' School, Wood Green, at 4
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall at 7
 25—Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hotel, Great Portland Street, W., at 8. (In)
 167—St. John's, York and Albany Hotel, Regent's Park, N.W., at 8. (Inst.)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, E.C.
 765—St. James, Princess Victoria Tavern, Rotherhithe, at 8. (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, St. Andrew's Tavern, George St., Baker St., at 8. (In)
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8. (Instruction)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith. (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, at 8. (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction)
 1185—Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1228—Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone. (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyno Castle, St. Paul's Road, Canonbury, at 8.
 1365—Clupton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1381—Kennington, The Horns, Kennington. (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, at 8. (Instruction)
 1789—Ubique, 79 Ebury Street, Pimlico, S.W., at 7.30. (Instruction)
 R.A. —Panmure C. of Improvement, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell
 R.A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London Street, Greenwich. (Inst.)
 R.A. 95—Eastern Star C. of Improvement, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall Street
 R.A. 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8. (Improvement)
 R.A. 890—Hornsey, Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Square, Paddington, W. (Improvement)
 M.M.—Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, E.C. (Instruction)
 M.M. 355—Royal Savoy, The Moorgate, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30. (In)
 453—Chigwell, Public Hall, Station Road, Loughton, at 7.30. (Instruction)
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1621—Castle, Crown Hotel, Bridgnorth
 1712—St. John, Freemasons Hall, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne
 2039—Londonderry, Y.M.C.A., John Street, Sunderland
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham, at 8
 R.A. 680—Sefton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R.A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool

SATURDAY, 24th DECEMBER.

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)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 1361—Earl of Zeland, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79 Ebury Street, S.W., at 7 (Instruction)
 1871—Gostling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow
 2012—Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King Street, Hammersmith, at 7.30. (In.)
 Sinai Chapter of Improvement, Union, Air-street, Regent-st., W., at 8
 303—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood

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THE THEATRES, &c.

—O:—

Opera Comique.—After a most successful tour, Mrs. Bernard Beere has returned to this theatre, with that popular play "As in a Looking Glass. As we dwell fully on this piece when it was first produced, we need only say that the work has been touched up here and there, with advantage; it now goes more smoothly and without leaving such an unpleasant feeling as it was wont to do. Mrs. Beere has benefited by the experiences gained on tour, and her Lena Despard is now a most finished performance. Realistic in every point; earnest when wanted, while at other times jovial and affable, the part as now realized is perfect. If we desire to carp, we may add that if Mrs. Beere will pay more attention to the earlier scenes, and not treat them too lightly, it might be better. Mr. G. Grahame now sustains the part of Captain Jack Fortinbras; he shows plenty of spirit, and "rascality." The other parts are filled by those who were in the piece when it was first produced, and all have improved by experience.

Toole's.—Once more Mr. J. L. Toole is back again in his old quarters, and judging from the laughter that greeted his efforts to please his audience, is sure to be as much sought after as heretofore. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merivale's "The Butler" was the piece chosen by Mr. Toole in which to make his reappearance, and as David Trot is sure to do well. Suited in every respect to the peculiarities of the actor, the character is most amusing, causing roar after roar of laughter to ring through the house whenever he is on the stage. Mr. Toole is well backed up by an efficient company, and by Miss Kate Phillips in particular. This lady's Lavinia Muddle is a capital performance, and is just in touch with Mr. Toole's David Trot. Mr. C. Wilson is a new comer, and as Laurence Tracy acquitted himself satisfactorily. Mr. John Billington as Sir John Tracey, Mr. G. Skelton as Lord Babiscombe, Mr. C. Lowne as Frank St. John, Mr. W. Branton as a deaf flyman, Miss Emily Thorne as Lady Tracey, Miss Marie Linden as Alice Marshall, and Miss Violet Vanbrugh as Lady Anne Babiscombe all rendered good service to their leader. At the conclusion Mr. Toole delivered one of his humorous speeches, which caused a great deal of laughter.

Grand.—"The Game of Life" is the title of a new and original drama by Mr. W. Howell Poole. As regards the originality of the plot, it is about on the average; old scenes crop up, with here and there an incident that might be described as new. The plot is easy to see through; it is as follows:—Real Grit and George Malcolm are partners, in the gold fields of Mexico. They have been successful, and when the curtain rises Real Grit is about to return to England, with his wife and child. During his sojourn in the gold fields, however, he has thrashed a Spaniard named Gorman, whom he caught stealing nuggets. The latter has vowed vengeance. On the day of separation between the partners George has been drinking hard, and during the settling up he quarrels with Real Grit, with result that George tries to shoot his partner. Gorman appears at the window, and seeing the state of affairs, thinks this the time to take his revenge; and at once shoots Real Grit. Gorman next persuades George that it was he who killed Real Grit, and urges him to take refuge. George, in his drunken condition, readily believes what is told him; and, allowing the Spaniard to take the money on the injured man, sets fire to the hut. However, George returns, just in time to take Real Grit from the hut, which is by this time in full blaze. After ten years we find the principals about to leave for England, with the exception of George Malcolm, who has gone no one knows where. Needless to say, after many villainous efforts, and an attempt to win Malcolm's daughter, who is already married to Real Grit's son, the Spaniard is driven into a corner, and finally shoots himself. Of course Real Grit was not killed; he was taken to England by George Malcolm, where he was detained as a lunatic. He manages to secure his release in the last act, when he meets his wife and now grown-up son. Some of the situations leading up to the climax are spoiled by unnecessary twaddle, which makes the action drag. Mr. J. H. Clynds acts with spirit as the hero, but the part is not a taking one. The author has allotted to himself the part of the villain, but he goes about his task in anything but workmanlike style. Miss Alice Raynor is most sympathetic as Malcolm's daughter, while Miss Blanche Garnier makes an affectionate and devoted wife to Real Grit. Mr. Henry Moxon is uneasy as Malcolm, while the son is fairly well impersonated by Mr. Arthur Raynor, Mr. Frank Smithson and Miss Hampton score in the comic parts. We are glad to hear that Mr. Charles Wilmot's fifth pantomime promises to surpass his previous efforts, both in splendour and stage effects. "Whittington and his cat" is the subject, and Mr. Geoffrey Thorn is responsible for the writing. We wish Mr. Wilmot every success.

There will be plenty of "work" at the Gaiety next Saturday (Christmas Eve); in the morning the second edition of "Miss Esmeralda" will be presented, while in the evening Mr. George Edwardes' second Christmas burlesque will see the light. As we have already announced, "Frankenstein" is by Richard Henry, and is to be produced by Mr. Charles Harris. Miss Nellie Farren and Mr. Fred Leslie will sustain the respective leads, and will be supported by one of the best burlesque companies that can be brought together.

The proprietors of *Bow Bells* announce important changes in their old-established periodical. A New Series, under the title of *Bow Bells Weekly*, will commence with the opening year. In the first number of the new series, Mr. Wilkie Collins contributes a tale, entitled "The First Officer's Confession." The romantic school is represented by "Psyche: a Lakeland Mystery," from the pen of Miss Florence Warden, the authoress of "The House on the Marsh." Society and Fashion will be portrayed in its pages, and several interesting new features—Notes and Queries, Graphology, and Household Hints will be introduced.

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CRITERION.—Every evening at 8, THE CUCKOO. At 8:30, THE TWO ROSES.

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PRINCESS'S.—This evening at 8, SIBERIA.

SAVOY.—Every evening at 8:30, H.M.S. PINAFORE; or, THE LASS THAT LOVED A SAILOR. Followed by, HOMBURG.

TERRY'S.—Every evening at 8, OFF DUTY. At 8:45, THE WOMAN HATER.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Every evening at 8:30, DOROTHY. At 7:45, JUBILATION.

ST. JAMES'S.—Every evening at 8, LADY CLANCARTY.

VAUDEVILLE.—Every evening at 8:45, HEART OF HEARTS. Preceded by a Farce.

OPERA COMIQUE.—Every evening at 8, MY LITTLE GIRL. At 8:45, AS IN A LOOKING GLASS.

GLOBE.—On Thursday, THE GOLDEN LADDER.

COMEDY.—Every evening at 9, THE ARABIAN NIGHTS. At 8, LADY FORTUNE.

STRAND.—Every evening at 8:15, SULTAN OF MOCHA. At 7:30, A MERRY MEETING.

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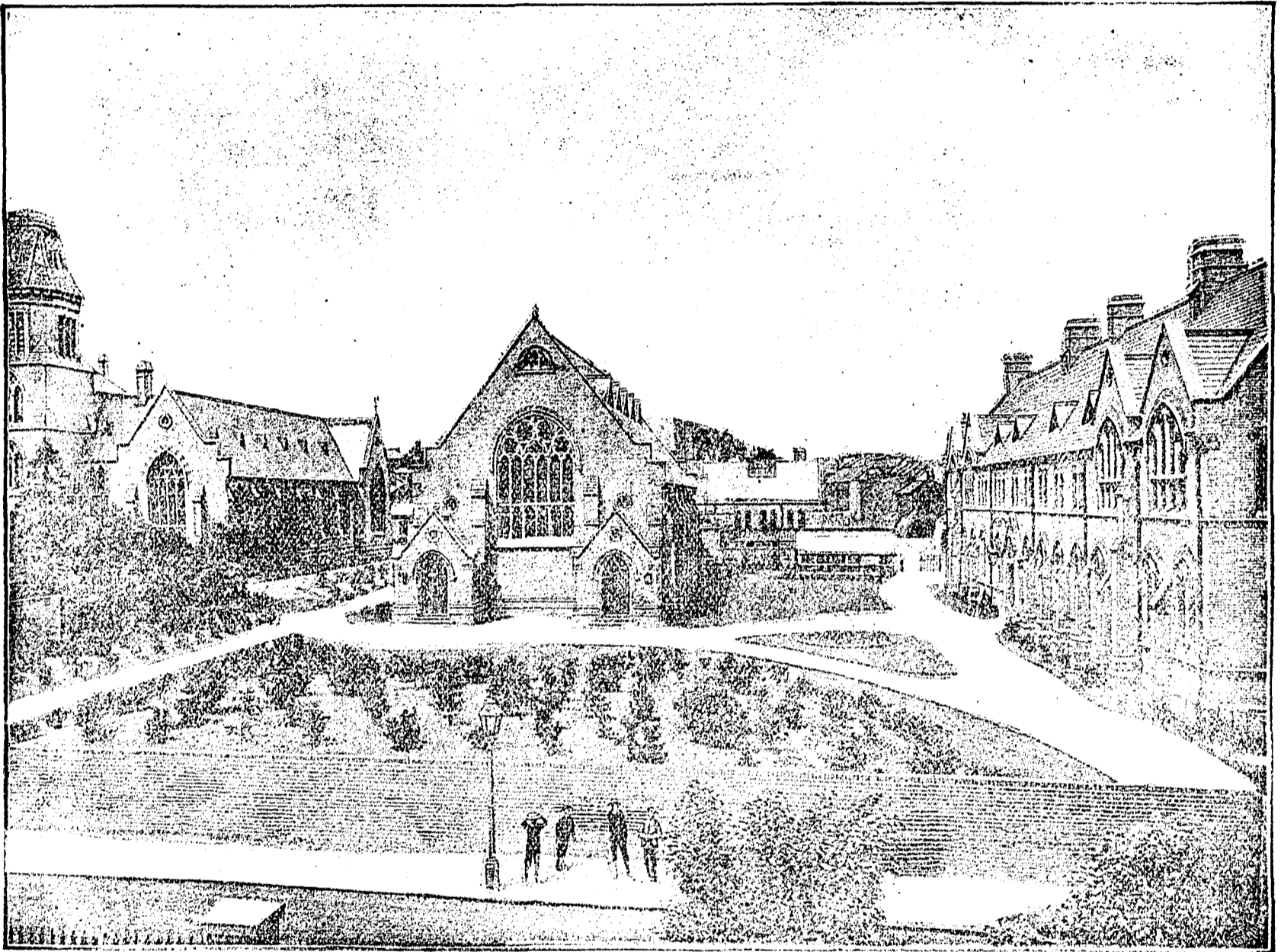
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SUPPLEMENT
TO THE
FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

17TH DECEMBER 1887.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.



The above illustration, taken from a Photograph, shows the New Hall and the Preparatory School.

IT may be interesting to readers of this Supplement if we give, in concise, summarised form, a sketch of the origin and progress of the Boys' Institution, with a view of showing the great results which spring from "small beginnings," when carried on with discernment, energy, and zeal. We are apt to talk of our Festival results nowadays as disappointing if they do not reach a certain standard, and surpass previous records; but as we speak glibly of the thousands and tens of thousands of pounds that are cast year by year into the laps of our Masonic Charities, it should be borne in mind that these vast sums were never contemplated by the pioneers of our Institutions, and that so large an amount of good has been, and is being, accomplished speaks volumes as to the benevolence of Freemasons, and the herculean efforts they have made to carry out those laudable principles to which they have "set their hand and seal." Ample and exhaustive "Histories" have been published, setting forth in elaborate detail the progress of our Institutions, but, inasmuch as these may not have been too extensively circulated, and seeing that many persons have neither the time nor the inclination to wade through hundreds of pages of closely-printed matter—statistical and otherwise, necessarily "dry"—it will be our endeavour here to present, in succinct form, a glossary of the chief events which have marked the career of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The Charity was founded in July 1798, by the Lodge of United Mariners, No. 23 on the roll of Grand Lodge "Ancients," and in a very short time was so fortunate as to secure for its patron the Duke of Atholl, who was Grand Master of that body. At the outset, the scheme was limited to the clothing and education of the sons of indigent Freemasons, of whom six only were provided for in the earliest years of the Institution. The funds were administered by a Committee, and as the efforts of the promoters were successful in augmenting the Annual Subscriptions, more boys were assisted, until we find that in 1810, the Jubilee year of his late Majesty George III., the number had been increased to fifty. These lads, scattered as they were all over the country, being educated in private schools—for there was no permanent Institution then—were seldom seen by the Stewards and others who took an active interest in their welfare, albeit we are assured that when the latter held "high festival" at the "Crown and Anchor" in the Strand, or Freemasons' Tavern, with the object of raising a fresh supply of funds, "the boys, clad in their newest attire of corduroy trousers, jacket, and flat cap—the usual garb of charity—were gathered together and marched into the banquet hall. They moved round the room in slow procession, to the strains of solemn music, and amid the hearty applause of the admiring guests. And when they had sung a hymn, and two or three of them had received the rewards of

merit to which they were entitled, they withdrew and dispersed to their several homes, until next year's Festival brought them once again under the personal notice of their patrons and benefactors." This is a practice still continued by many charitable societies whose anniversaries are celebrated in the City of London; and we can now compare with infinite satisfaction the proceedings which characterise such gatherings, and those which grace the annual assemblies at our magnificent Schools at Wood Green when prizes are distributed amongst "Our Boys" amidst such a warmth of enthusiasm and *éclat*.

For upwards of half-a-century, however, the primary idea of the promoters was carried out, and the Festivals were conducted upon the same lines, though with gradually increasing results, the brethren receiving constantly recurring proofs of the incalculable amount of good that was being done for those children of deceased or indigent Masons whom the Governors and Subscribers had taken under their care. In the minutes of the March Communication of United Grand Lodge, 1814, it is recorded that the Board of Schools reported that the Boys' Institution had been "supported by private subscriptions, and by grants from Grand Lodge at various times, amounting together to upwards of £800, and by a recent regulation of the Fraternity, to which the said Institution is attached, the Lodges in the London district paid upon the initiation of every Mason five shillings towards its maintenance, and the Governors possess the sum of £500 Navy Five Per Cents., standing in the names of Robert Leslie, Robert Gill, and Thomas Scott, as Trustees; the number of boys at present on the establishment is fifty-five, and the annual expenditure is about £410, or £7 10s for each child clothed and educated.

Although the chief portion of the honour connected with the establishment of this Institution belongs unquestionably to Lodge 23 of the Ancients, the Moderns have the satisfaction of knowing they had a fair share in setting it on foot. From an historical sketch issued some time ago by the Secretary, Bro. F. Binckes, we glean that Sir F. C. Daniel, a conspicuous and enthusiastic Modern Mason, member, and for seventeen consecutive years, Worshipful Master of the Royal Naval Lodge, laid the foundation-stone of a "Masonic Charity for Clothing and Educating the Sons of Indigent Freemasons, assisted by many distinguished contemporaries of that date. Few details are to hand of the early progress of that scheme, but at a meeting of the Royal Naval Lodge, held in Burr Street, near the Tower, an account was presented, showing that in the fifteen months from March 1808 to June 1809, the subscriptions received amounted to £345 17s 3¼d, while the disbursements were £151 1s, leaving a balance in favour of the Charity of £194 16s 3¼d. A memorandum attached to that report set forth that "£100 in the Five Per Cents., which cost £99 10s 6d, had been purchased in trust for the Charity." From this it is clear that the Boys' School was the outcome of two Institutions, one originated by the members of the "Ancient" Lodge No. 23, and the other by Bro. Sir F. C. Daniel, of the Royal Naval Lodge, "Modern." After the Union, however, the two Boys' Charities were happily amalgamated, that auspicious event taking place in May 1817. By this arrangement, the fifteen boys provided for by the Modern Institution were added to the fifty of the Ancient, and for a further forty years the number was only increased to seventy.

If it is unnecessary to dwell upon the events which marked the career of the Charity during this period; indeed it is a relief to escape the dry record of names and figures which were rendered necessary in the compilation of the "History" of the Boys' School. Coming therefore to the time when active exertions were put forward to establish permanent school buildings, into which recipients of the bounty of the Craft could be admitted, we observe that in the year 1856 "a convenient mansion and ten acres of freehold land, at Wood Green, were purchased for the sum of £3,500." In the following year, after the necessary alterations had been made, twenty-five boys were received into the School, and maintained, as well as clothed and educated, while the remaining forty-five continued to be provided for as heretofore. The experiment proved in every way successful, and as the contributions of the Craft continued to be paid in liberally, in 1859 sixty-eight out of the seventy boys accepted the offer of maintenance in the School, the other two preferring to remain under the old constitution. Thus within eight years from

the adoption of the proposal to establish a School of our own, and in three years after the premises at Wood Green had been purchased and suitably fitted, hardly a trace of the original system remained. Towards the close of the year 1861 some land opposite the School, about one and a-half acres in extent, was agreed to be purchased, for £550; and subsequently an adjoining plot of about three quarters of an acre was bought for £315. The school buildings were thoroughly overhauled, and the estimated expense of rendering them suitable for the purposes to which they were devoted was £1,657. The idea of pulling down the old building and erecting a new one had, however, already found favour with the Executive, and it was agreed that only such repairs as were absolutely necessary should be effected; this was done at a cost not exceeding £600. Shortly after a Head Master's residence was decided upon, and the foundation stone was laid by Walter Rumbow, aged eight years, the smallest boy in the School.

Simultaneously with this event, the proposal for erecting new premises was adopted, and in May 1863 the House Committee decided to invite designs for the intended structure. A great number was sent in, in response to the advertisement, but in each case the estimated cost of carrying it out very far exceeded the amount suggested to be spent, viz.: £8,000. After some delay, plainer and less ambitious designs were obtained, and ultimately that of Mr. Edwin Pearce, of Clapham, was agreed to, the cost not to exceed £15,000. The first stone was formally laid on 8th August 1863, by Bro. Algernon Perkins, Past Grand Junior Warden, the M.W. Grand Master (the late Earl of Zetland) having previously given his sanction to the holding of a Special Grand Lodge on the occasion. The event was accompanied by a series of festivities, including athletic sports among the boys, who competed for a number of valuable prizes; selections by three military bands, including that of the 1st Life Guards; followed by an elegant banquet, and an entertainment by Bros. Toole and Bedford; concluding with a display of fireworks by Chevalier Mortram. On that occasion the sum of £1,500 was handed in by the ladies and brethren who had volunteered their assistance as collectors. The inauguration of the new School took place on 8th July 1865, when the ceremony was performed by the Right Hon. the Earl De Grey and Ripon, Deputy Grand Master, in the unavoidable absence, through a domestic bereavement, of the Grand Master. The dedication was followed by a breakfast, under the presidency of the Deputy Grand Master, when the Secretary announced that the approximate result of the Festival must be set down as being about £5,000, a most welcome announcement with which to conclude the auspicious gathering. The expenditure in connection with the enlarged School was great, and necessarily trenched on the invested funds of the Institution. In 1864, the whole of the funded property (£13,000 Government Stock) was sold, and the proceeds (£11,500) went towards paying for the structure; while, a few years later, a sum of £10,000, to be devoted to the same purpose, was borrowed on mortgage of the property, the rest of the expense being defrayed out of the current receipts of the Institution. By the beginning of 1871, however, the mortgage had been paid off, and the Institution if not entirely freed from debt, was in a fair way of becoming so. "Hereby hangs a tale."

In 1861, the office of Secretary for the Institution became vacant, by the resignation of Bro. Thiselton, who had filled that post 35 years, and the Committee adopted perhaps the wisest course they ever could have done, by accepting the services of Bro. Frederick Binckes, who had for many years evinced an active personal interest in the School. From this time it may be almost said that the success of the Institution increased, if not "by leaps and bounds," at any rate with such rapid strides as had never been contemplated by the Executive. It would appear by the History of the School that up to the year of Brother Binckes's appointment, the Institution had received comparatively little aid from the Provinces, and here it was that the new Secretary found scope for his extraordinary powers of activity and earnest perseverance. From the very outset of his appearance on the scene, the Boys' Festivals assumed greater importance, and were productive of much more fruit. During the first year of his Secretaryship, at the Festival, where Lord Holmesdale—in the unavoidable absence of Lord Leigh—presided, he contrived to enlist 109 brethren as Scholars, and the sum

QUALIFICATIONS,

INDIVIDUAL DONORS.

A Donation of One Guinea constitutes a Subscriber, with privilege of one Vote at all Elections of Boys during the year for which the subscription is paid.

All Annual Subscribers, of not less than One Guinea for ten consecutive years, shall thereafter be entitled to two Votes instead of one Vote, for each annual subscription or donation of One Guinea.

Annual Subscribers may forego the privilege of voting at each of the Elections - in April and October - claiming in lieu thereof two Votes at either Election.

A Donation of Five Guineas constitutes a Life Subscriber, with privilege of one vote at all Elections of Boys. Each additional Five Guineas secures a similar additional privilege.

Of Ten Guineas in one payment, or in two payments of Five Guineas each, a Life Governor, with the privilege of two Votes at all Elections of Boys; if presented in one payment when serving the office of Steward at the Anniversary Festival, to three Votes; a similar sum presented when serving a second Stewardship entitles the donor to four Votes.

Of Fifty Guineas, in one sum or by payments of not less

*** Ladies, and "Lewises" being minors, receive Two Votes for Life instead of One, for every Five Guineas contributed in their names.*

than Five Guineas each, constitutes the donor a Vice-President of the Institution for Life, with the privilege of ten Votes at all Elections of Boys; if presented when serving the office of Steward at the Anniversary Festival, to eleven Votes.

Vice-presidents receive two Votes instead of one Vote for every Five Guineas thereafter subscribed, and on completing the sum of One Hundred Guineas become Vice-Patrons, and on completing the sum of Two Hundred Guineas in like manner, shall become Patrons, and have eighty Votes at all Elections of Boys.

Ladies contributing Twenty-five Guineas, in one or more payments of not less than Five Guineas each, shall be Vice-Presidents, with *Ten* Votes at each Election of Boys, and on completing, by similar payments, the sum of Fifty Guineas, shall become Vice-Patrons, with *Thirty* Votes for Life, and on completing the sum of One Hundred Guineas, in like manner, shall become Patrons with *Eighty* Votes at all Elections of Boys.

Life Subscribers and Annual Subscribers are eligible for Election on the General Committee. Life Governors are Members thereof in virtue of their Qualifications.

FESTIVAL STEWARDSHIP.

Every Steward making a donation at an Anniversary Festival, if not less than Ten Guineas, shall be entitled to additional Votes at each Election of Boys, as follows: for the first Stewardship, one additional Vote; for each subsequent Stewardship, with a similar donation, two additional Votes. And every Steward at the Anniversary Festival, who shall secure subscriptions or donations to the extent of not less than Twenty-five Guineas, in addition to his personal donation, shall receive one additional Vote at each Election of Boys, and a further extra Vote for every additional sum of not less than Twenty-five Guineas.

Brethren serving the Stewardship at two consecutive Annual Festivals, and contributing Five Guineas in addition to the Steward's Fee, on each occasion, become entitled, on serving the second Stewardship, to the same number of Votes—three—as those who contribute Ten Guineas at one Stewardship.

Every Brother who shall serve the office of Steward at any Anniversary Festival of any one of the Masonic Charities as the Representative of some Provincial or Country Lodge, who shall personally attend such Festival, and shall bring up thereto contributions amounting to no less than One Hundred Guineas, shall have the same rights and privileges, as to wearing the Charity jewel or clasps, as if he had himself contributed the sum of Ten Guineas whilst serving such Stewardship.

The fee to the Stewards' Fund (not likely to exceed £2 2s), payable by every Brother serving the office of Steward at the Anniversary Festival, gives an additional Vote when Ten Guineas or upwards is contributed by the Brother serving such Stewardship, and the like fee payable on serving a second or any Subsequent Stewardship, with the like payment of Ten Guineas, entitles the Donor to Two additional Votes for every subsequent Stewardship.

Law 20.—Any Brother not serving the office of Steward, who may collect for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys the sum of Twenty-five Guineas shall, when that sum is completed, be made a Life Subscriber and have One Vote for Life; and should he collect a further sum of Twenty-five Guineas, shall, on completion thereof, receive an Additional Vote, and so on for every Twenty-five Guineas he may collect.

LODGES, CHAPTERS, & C.

A Donation of One Guinea secures one Vote at all Elections of Boys during the year for which the Subscription is paid.

All Annual Subscribers of not less than One Guinea for ten consecutive years shall *thereafter* be entitled to Two Votes, instead of One Vote, for each Annual Subscription of One Guinea.

All Annual Subscribers may forego the privilege of voting at each of the Elections, in April and October, claiming in lieu thereof Two Votes at either Election.

A Donation of Ten Guineas in one payment, or in Two payments of Five Guineas each (at any interval), constitutes the Master *pro tem*, or officer nominated by the Lodge, a Life Subscriber so long as the Lodge exists, with

one Vote; with similar privileges for every subsequent similar payment.

Of Twenty Guineas in one payment, or in separate payments of not less than Five Guineas each, a Life Governor with Two Votes;

Of One Hundred Guineas, in like manner, a Vice-President with Ten Votes;

Of Two Hundred Guineas, in like manner, a Vice Patron with Thirty Votes, one Vote being allowed for every *Five* Guineas *after* completion of the Vice-President's qualification of One Hundred Guineas.

A Lodge, Chapter, or Society contributing Four Hundred Guineas, in one or more payments of not less than Ten Guineas each, shall be a Patron with *Eighty* Votes at all Elections of Boys.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS, WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

Grand Patron:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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

VISCOUNT EBRINGTON, M. P.
RIGHT WOR. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF DEVON,

HAS KINDLY CONSENTED TO PRESIDE AT

THE NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,

TO BE HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, 27TH JUNE 1888.

FURTHER PARTICULARS WILL BE DULY ANNOUNCED.

The Services of Brethren as Stewards are earnestly solicited.

SPECIAL REASONS

in justification of a renewed Special Appeal for Support.

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|---|---|
| 1.—The FUNDED PROPERTY is only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £17,000 | 0 | 0 |
| while that of the | | | | | | | | |
| R. M. I. for Girls is | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £63,500 | 0 | 0 |
| R. M. Benevolent Institution—Male Fund | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £39,450 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. —Widows' Fund | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26,075 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | £65,525 | 0 | 0 |
| 2.—The SECURED ANNUAL INCOME is | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £755 | 0 | 0 |
| while that of the | | | | | | | | |
| R. M. I. for Girls is | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £2,211 | 0 | 0 |
| R. M. Benevolent Institution—Male Fund | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £1,986 | 0 | 0 |
| Do. —Widows' Fund | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,548 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | £3,534 | 0 | 0 |

3.—The Annual Festival is held subsequent to the Festivals of the two other Masonic Institutions, and consequently, unless its claims are considered simultaneously with theirs, the interests of the Institution must suffer; this has been conclusively proved during the past Two years.

4.—The efforts made to meet the increasing demands, by the extension of the number of Boys maintained and educated—from 72 in 1861 to 258 in 1887.

5.—At the last election (October 1887) Twelve Candidates only out of Fifty-four could be elected.

6.—In the Preparatory School a further number of 20 Boys could be accommodated, did the condition of the Funds warrant such increase.

7.—The universally recognised importance of a sound system of discipline and education in formulating the habits and characters of the Citizens of the Future, especially in the cases of those under the care of this Institution, many of whom, in due course, will probably undertake the obligations of Freemasonry.

These constitute a strong plea. Several considerations in addition will suggest themselves to those who attentively watch the operations in the various organisations associated with the Order.

Communications are earnestly invited, addressed to

FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G. Steward), Secretary.

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