

Freemason's Chronicle;

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FREEMASONRY OUTSIDE THE LODGE.

TO the uninitiated members of the general public the Order of Freemasonry has at all times presented many strange and difficult problems. A very large number of our fellow creatures cannot understand what the Masons can find in a lot of antiquated forms and ceremonies to take them from home, from business, or from what are recognised as rational amusements, to be boxed up for hours in some Masonic Hall or other home of Freemasonry. As a ready solution of what seems to them an absurd custom they put the Craft down as a body of men fond of creature comforts, and assure each other that Freemasonry is nothing more than an excuse for conviviality and feasting. How far the general public are justified in forming such an opinion it is hardly our purpose to discover on the present occasion. We cannot help recognising that secret meetings must of necessity create suspicion, and our detractors are hardly to be seriously blamed if they tell us that what we do in Lodge is unworthy or unfit for general explanation. Yet those who know what is really going on in Freemasonry can only regret that it is not always possible to convince the world at large, by popular demonstration, of the sincerity of the actions of those associated with the Order.

Time has proved a great many things in the past, and is doing so now, not only in the general pursuits of life, but also in Freemasonry; and we can trust to the future to open the eyes of the outside world, and convince the public as to the merits of the Masonic Order. But time will not alone bring about the desired change, and this fact is already recognised by a very large section of the Craft, who, year by year, learn to appreciate the advantage and the justice of working for the general public, as well as for themselves, rather than confining their operations to the Lodge or Chapter of which they are members.

Happily it has come to be recognised that Freemasonry has a mission outside its own Lodges, and a considerable number of those who take a prominent share in the work of the Craft are also to be found taking an active part in communicating happiness and comfort to their fellow creatures, even though they are not regularly constituted members of the Order. Thus we find the members of the St. Kew Lodge, at Weston-super-Mare, giving an annual tea to the aged poor of the district, at which something like 250 guests are regularly provided for, while the necessities of those too old or infirm to travel to the central meeting place are not forgotten. At Cleckheaton similar kindly consideration is shown for a hundred of the aged poor of the district, and here also those too old or infirm to travel are not neglected. These are two instances, but it is quite impossible to say in how many other towns of the kingdom the same kindly help is afforded, because in such matters, as in its general work, Freemasonry labours to a

great extent in secret. We do not advocate an extension of this outside display of sympathy from any selfish consideration, but all must recognise that it costs the members of the Craft very little to dispense a vast amount of good, while it must be apparent that the advantage is not all on one side, for while the recipients of the bounty reap tangible benefit, the Order of Freemasonry also secures reward, inasmuch as its reputation is considerably enhanced, and the old-time charge that Freemasons were only mindful of their own—were, indeed, eminently selfish—is gradually removed. This may perhaps be regarded as a small consideration by some of those among us, but no one can fail to appreciate its advantages when they take into account the undesirability of living under a charge of selfishness, whether applied to themselves individually or to the Masonic Order as a whole. Sentiment is a very small matter in the eyes of some, but we very much question if there is any member of the Masonic Order who does not more thoroughly enjoy his own refreshment after labour when he knows that he and the members of his Lodge have done something substantial to ensure a little enjoyment for one or other of his less fortunate fellow creatures. It is a mere trifle for a party of forty or fifty brethren to vote a guinea in answer to the appeal of a distressed brother just previous to sitting down to their own banquet, whereat perhaps forty or fifty guineas will soon be expended, but the amount of satisfaction derived from such an action can only be understood and appreciated by those who have experienced it. Such kindly considerations have proved most happy preludes to enjoyable meetings on many occasions in the past, and will continue to do so in the future, so long as the spirit of Freemasonry prevails among us, as we hope it always will prevail.

It is not, however, in the granting sums of money or the provision of substantial repasts alone that the members of the Masonic Order can make themselves prominent outside their Lodges. Their actions in the every-day walk of life should prove the sincerity of their boast that Freemasonry makes a man better than he otherwise would be. It is not sufficient for a man to act the Freemason when regularly attending his Lodge meeting; he should also work in accordance with his Masonic teachings on every occasion, and in every action of his life, so that those brought into close commune with him may believe from actual experience and personal observation that there is something more than mere boast or pretence in the teachings and practices of Freemasonry. We are well aware that this subject has been threshed out on many occasions in the past, both in Lodge and outside of it, but it is none the less a matter worthy of consideration at the present moment when, as we have already said, there seems to be a growing desire on the part of members of the Order to extend the sphere of their usefulness and win, by actual outside work, the sympathy and encouragement of the popular world, or at least that section of it which

takes an interest in all movements having for their object the extension of the spirit of brotherly love which has so long been recognised as a prominent feature in the working of Freemasonry, but which, in years gone by, may perhaps have been confined within somewhat narrow limits.

MASONIC TEMPLE, TRUE IDEAL OF.

An Extract from an Oration by Bro. Jonas W. Brown, Grand Orator, at the laying of the Corner Stone of the new Masonic Hall, at Caldwell, Idaho, 7th June 1890.

THAT Masonry lives as an independent Order, and that its benign principles and hallowed influences are constantly going forth into the world from an ever-living fountain, shaping and controlling the destinies of men and of nations, is a fact everywhere acknowledged. It bears upon its brow the marks of antiquity, and the language it speaks is but in accordance with its genealogical tables, which run back to a time when Israel's king, renowned the world over for his wisdom, contrived and executed that superb model of excellence, the Temple; whilst from the catalogue of its votaries, which tradition hath placed in our hands, we read the names of the great, good and wise who lived and passed away ere the day-spring from on high dawned upon the earth.

The interesting age of Masonry is not to be found alone in the dim past, amid dusty tombs—the records of years gone by, and made venerable on account of age, whose ponderous volumes are freighted with the rich treasures of countless centuries, which stand as so many towering pyramids to mark its ancient glory; nor yet is it confined alone to the present, around which the thoughts of a common brotherhood love to linger in fond delight as they view its symbols and read the impressive lessons to be drawn from each, or walk about this majestic temple whose steeple stretches its towering height up into the pure ether of heaven and there is lost to sight; but it looks forward to and lays hold upon a coming future, which promises a full realisation of all that was believed and hoped for concerning it by those in whose wisdom it was conceived, and by whose hands its majestic walls were reared, upon those living principles which form its enduring and everlasting foundations. When all this shall have been accomplished, then shall the Lion of the tribe of Judah prevail, and to Him shall the gathering of the nations be. Then shall our peace be as a river, and our righteousness as the waves of the sea. Then shall the hills clap their hands, and all the trees of the wood shall be glad.

It has been well said, "That he who lives with the past, the present, and the future all before him, who looks backward and forward and around him, who makes the past tell on the present, the present on the future, he is the live man understanding the great end of life, exhibiting the truest philosophy, the highest wisdom, and will ultimately secure the greatest good." The ceremonies of this occasion, the laying of the corner-stone of this temple which is to be "erected to God," and when completed dedicated to "Freemasonry, morality and universal benevolence," necessarily forces upon the mind thoughts of the past, and in imagination we are carried back to the threshing floor upon that sacred mountain where Israel's king laid the foundation of the first temple. And as we view the massive stones, the one fitting the other with exact nicety, which resembles the handiwork of God, binding the several parts of the building into one harmonious whole, we are forced to say of the wisdom of Him who laid them "the half had not been told us." But, vast as was this magnificent structure, and ponderous as recent discoveries show many of the materials to have been which entered into its construction, and curious and ingenious as was the workmanship, yet it is an historic fact "that there was neither hammer, nor axe, nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was in building." The wisdom of Solomon, the wealth of Hiram, king of Tyre, and the curious and ingenious workmanship of a son of a daughter of Dan, were all combined in the production of this model of excellence; beautiful for situation, it was the joy of all the earth. Alone and apart it stood a model to succeeding ages, clad in its own beauty, with its massive brazen pillars

reaching upward in height eighteen cubits apiece, and these adorned with lily and pomegranate work, fit emblems of purity and abundance, unrivalled in its splendour and unsurpassed in its glory, it stood the masterpiece of architectural skill. Taking its rise, as is maintained by some that the Order of Freemasonry did, at this period, and having for its model so magnificent a structure, and founded upon principles deduced from the sacred record, taking for its guide the Holy Bible, which is the light of the world, it is built upon an enduring foundation, having truth as the headstone of the corner. Starting with a long ancestral line whose every member was eminent for wisdom, purity and goodness, and with such a model of excellence after which to fashion the materials which shall enter into the construction of the Masonic temple, it is to be presumed that none will be received except such as have been inspected and pronounced fit for the builder's use. Truth in its entirety, truth in all its ramifications, truth, and nothing but the truth, is its foundation. Standing upon such a foundation, the principles which it seeks to inculcate must be pure, and the fruit which it yields good.

He who gave us the great light says: "I am the truth," and Freemasonry teaches among its tenets that "truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue." To be good and true is among the first lessons we are taught in Masonry. Professing then, as we do, this tenet, and claiming to build upon it as the foundation of this Institution, we must follow after truth. To know and to do the truth are duties everywhere enforced upon the mind of the Masonic student. The principles professed are sound and wholesome, but it is their practice which eventuates in good. The initiatory rite through which the candidate passes in entering our portals only puts him in possession of the implements of labour, and as he progresses each succeeding step but points out to him the avenue through which he must pass in reaching the desired end. His introduction into the mysteries of the Order only places him at the beginning of the race course, and the command there given is, "So run that ye may obtain."

These rites but uncover to the initiate the mine of truth, and he must enter there and work if he would become the possessor of the rich treasures deposited in this inexhaustible storehouse. The diligent alone are rewarded, and truth to be valued must be loved and sought after for its own sake. The foundation which we have this day laid—the corner-stone placed and declared well formed, true and trusty, and correctly laid according to the rules of our "ancient Craft"—is not the building complete. This is but the foundation. It is but the beginning. The walls have yet to be reared, the superstructure erected thereon step by step, and not until the capstone is laid, and the entire building garnished, will it have reached completion. And just so it is in Freemasonry, with its teeming millions of votaries and initiates who enter the Masonic temple, which for ages past has been in progress of building. In a way that they know not of they were led to the great corner-stone and instructed, as it were, how, when, and with what they should build. Truth lies at the foundation, truth is the material, and truth must crown it all.

The ceremonies of the Order, the initiatory rites thereof, are simply the key to its mysteries, and these, to be appreciated, must be studied and pondered in all their bearings upon the man's present and future destiny. The vision of the Patriarch as he lay with his head pillowed upon the stones, with the green earth for his bed and the clouded canopy for his covering, was truth veiled in an allegory. The distance between heaven and earth was there spanned, and the way by which we may reach these joys above marked out. The one end of the ladder stands upon the earth, whilst the other pierces the blue expanse above, with its top against the walls of the everlasting temple. The rounds of this ladder are faith, hope, and charity. To-day we stand, as it were, upon the first round, but above and beyond us are the other two, and these we must reach if we attain unto perfection. To fall short of this would be to fail. Let us, then, with a firm hold grasp the round of hope, and press forward after truth, until we have reached the last round, which is charity, and when gained we shall not only look in upon the unseen glories, but enter in and enjoy them for ever. And just here it may not be amiss to inquire what is the character of that temple which we as Masons are building? What is the character of the materials which enter into its construction? Have they been inspected, and will each

stone be pronounced "true and trusty" by the great Master Builder when he shall have applied the square, level, and plumb of truth?

Freemasonry is not a mere name by which men are known, nor are they Masons who are only such in name. Freemasonry is an institution founded upon principles, and without these it would be as "sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal"; and that man only is a Mason who is one in heart and life, and whose life and conduct are exponents of the principles of the Order. It is but little to our present purpose to know the origin of the Order, or the good it has accomplished in ages past, unless what we have learned has wrought in us its legitimate fruits. The magnificent and stately edifices reared by the hands of man, with vast corridors, supported on Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, Corinthian, or Composite pillars; nor yet the imposing pageant of Masonic processions, however well marshalled or elegantly equipped, do not make Masonry what it is—a power in the earth. These, one and all, are but the scaffoldings, and are no part of its life and power. The power is in the man and Mason, and not in the edifice or regalia, however imposing the one or elegant the other.

The better part of man—that which thinks, and acts, and lives—is but meanly housed, being shut in on all sides by walls of clay; and these, instead of aiding, only retard his progress and serve as so many clogs to prevent his onward and upward march. It is the soul, and not the clay walls, which makes the man. The rarest jewels when set in baser metals reflect their greatest power and disclose their richest lustre. It is the jewel within, and not the casket which is without, that is of value. Rare and costly external adornments only serve to conceal the corruption which is within. The marble monuments reared by the hand of affection to mark the last resting place of loved ones, and perpetuate their names and memories in the earth, are beautiful to behold. All without is pleasing and attractive, but within all is repulsive. These monuments tell of what once was, but not of what now is. They unfold the story of the past, but their rock-bound walls conceal the present reality. What mean these gorgeous palaces—these temples of art? Do they speak to us only of the past, or are they durable monuments of a living present? Are they exponents of the pure principles and ennobling tenets of the Order? Are they schools of virtue and institutions of justice, where temperance, fortitude, and prudence are inculcated and enforced by symbolisms so impressive and instructive as to preclude the possibility of a failure in profit to those who are brought under the hallowed influences thereof? If so, then the present standard of the Order betokens a bright and prosperous future.

Brethren of the mystic tie, have we taken truth as the foundation of our Masonic spiritual temple? A self-examination to-day will be profitable to each of us. Are we worthily wearing the lambskin, the emblem of innocence? Are we judiciously and conscientiously using the working tools of an Entered Apprentice Mason by giving eight hours of each day to the service of God and our distressed brethren, eight hours to our vocations, and eight hours to refreshment and sleep? Are we daily divesting our minds and consciences of all the vices and superfluities of life, that our minds may be fitted as living stones for that spiritual building "not made with hands, eternal in the heavens?"

Do we accept the Holy Bible as *the*, not a, great light in Masonry, and do we take it as the rule and guide of our faith and practice? Do we never mention the name of God except with that reverence due from a creature to the Creator? Do we practice the great tenets of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and are we governed by the cardinal virtues, temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice? Are we ready to exemplify the five points of fellowship, and do we seek occasions so to do? Are we standing upon the round of faith in the Masonic ladder to-day, and earnestly reaching out to grasp the rounds of hope and charity? Are our examples before the young and rising generation consistent with the principles of our Institution? My brethren, we are continually exerting an influence for good or evil; which is it? Let us to-day take a retrospect of the past, and if we have forsaken the old landmarks, let us get back to duty and reconsecrate ourselves to the pure principles of our Institution, and from this time forth be good and true Free and Accepted Masons in our hearts and in our lives.—*Voice of Masonry.*

PROFANITY AND INTEMPERANCE.

BEFORE concluding this address, I beg leave to call to your attention, painful though it may be to me, what I conceive to be flagrant violations of our rules, regulations and principles.

It is charged that some subordinate Lodges within this jurisdiction retain members who profane the name of the Deity, and who blaspheme the name of that God in whom we are taught in the most solemn manner to "put our trust." The Lodge that tolerates such conduct is at variance with the very fundamental principles and doctrines of the Order. No Mason who properly regards his Masonic character will so far forget himself as to speak lightly of that Divine Being of whom we are reminded when within the walls of a Masonic Hall. Profanity is wrong in any man, but in a Mason it is a crime.

George Washington, first President of the United States, and for many years Worshipful Master of a Masonic Lodge in Virginia, while commanding the army of the Revolution, observing that profanity was prevalent among the troops, on the 3rd day of August 1776, issued an order in reference thereto, in which he said, "It is a vice so mean and low, without any temptation, that every man of sense and character detests and despises it." Where is the Mason who has so far forgotten his allegiance to his Creator, his Benefactor, and his first entrance into a Lodge, as to hurl into the face of the Almighty blasphemous oaths and epithets? What has become of his dignity, his manhood, his nobility, his plighted faith? Has he expunged from that book, the Holy Writings, that constantly lies upon the altar of the Lodge-room, the command that was issued amid the thunders of Sinai, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain!" Truth needs no compound oaths to make it more true. Pure and chaste language elevates and refines; it gives dignity to manhood, and tone to character; without it, the Masonic life is a fraud, and Masonic character a deception.

There is another vice to some extent prevalent, and I would be recreant to duty were I not to raise my voice against it, and warn the brethren of its consequences. Whilst we are satisfied this monstrous evil is on the decrease, yet it is still amongst us. I allude to intemperance or drunkenness. It is a vice that carries with it wreck and ruin—ruin socially, ruin morally, ruin intellectually, ruin financially, and therefore, ruin Masonically. "Oh! that men should put an enemy into their mouths to steal away their brains; that we should with joy, gaiety, revel and applause transform ourselves into beasts, when every inordinate cup is unblest, and every ingredient is a devil!" Strike from a man his good reputation, and he is shorn of his strength. Drunkenness dwarfs manhood, de-thrones reason, destroys character. While our obligations do not prohibit the moderate, temperate use of ardent spirits, yet they do prohibit most stringently the excessive use of every intoxicating drink. Whatever our individual views and opinions may be in reference to the use of intoxicating beverages, Masonry restricts only to the temperate use of them. Drunkenness is in direct and unequivocal violation of our precepts and tenets. No drunkard, therefore, should be retained as a member of any Lodge. I do not believe it would be a usurpation of authority for the Grand Master to arrest the charter of any Lodge that tolerates profanity or drunkenness among its members.

Brethren, we cannot be too cautious, too circumspect. We cannot raise the standard of Masonry too high, morally. Her code of morals, emanating from a divine source, and coming down through the ages unimpaired, should be faithfully observed and rigidly enforced. Her members should be men of spotless reputation. It is not wealth, nor station, nor honour, nor learning, that constitutes the model Mason, but character unimpeached and unimpeachable. The humblest citizen is on the level with the highest representative of the nation. Hence our Order knows no distinction among the just and the upright. Let us, then, as a brotherhood, strive to reform every vice, and purify every corruption found among our members—in love, warning—in justice, reproving—holding on as long as self-respect and allegiance to trust will allow, to the wayward and refractory, and when patience and long-suffering are exhausted, and the last fraternal effort is made to reclaim, and has proven futile, then, be just and fear not, applying the rule of discipline, according to the Constitution, laws and edicts of the Order.—*M. W. J. G. Harris, Alabama.*

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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ST. JOHN LODGE, No. 70.

THE annual banquet was held last week, at the Freemason's Hall, Princess-square, Plymouth, and was one of the pleasantest and most largely-attended gatherings that has been held for many years. The company numbered considerably over a hundred, of whom nearly one-half were Provincial Officers (past or present) and Past Masters of Lodges. An excellent banquet was served by Brother and Mrs. Harvey, Steward and Stewardess of the Club, and the arrangements were most satisfactorily carried out under the immediate superintendence of Bro. W. H. Dillon, Secretary to the Masonic Hall Company. The musical arrangements were all that could be desired, and an excellent programme was performed during the evening by an instrumental band conducted by Bro. A. T. Lidiard Organist of 105. In addition to this the toasts were interspersed with songs and recitations, by Bros. J. Kinton Bond, Major Tracy, Gillman, J. Leonard, J. Rendle, C. Mutton, A. B. Toms, and Gee. Bro. J. H. Evans W.M. presided, and there was a large company. The toasts of Her Majesty the Queen and the M.W. the Prince of Wales Grand Master of England, and the Grand Lodge, were given from the chair, and received with true Masonic enthusiasm. Bro. Wreford I.P.M. 70 proposed the Rt. W. Bro. the Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon, and Bro. Major Tracy P.P.G.S.W. responded. The toast of the R.W. Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall, was proposed by Bro. Dr. Lemon P.P.G.J.W., and was received with great heartiness. The toast of the Master of Lodge St. John 70, Bro. J. H. Evans, was proposed by Bro. Du Pre P.P.G.D.C., and the W.M., in briefly responding, said he felt that great honour was done to the Lodge and to himself as its W.M. at having such distinguished company present, and he hoped it would be a stimulus to all the members to do what they could to uphold the principles of Freemasonry in their entirety. Bro. Sir H. Waring P.P.G.T., on rising to propose the next toast, was received with heartiness, the whole company rising and cheering with great enthusiasm, and following this up by giving three cheers for Lady Waring. When the cheering had subsided, Sir Henry said this was the first Masonic gathering he had attended since the high honour Her Majesty had conferred upon him, and he assured them he esteemed most highly the reception they had given him. The toast he had been asked to propose was that of their Bro. Fredk. Wreford I.P.M. They were told that it required a good man to make a good Mason, and he was convinced that in Bro. Wreford they had both. During the past three years they had been in close touch with their friend Bro. Wreford, in another capacity, and he was able to bear testimony to his excellent character as a man and as a public officer; and being a good man, it followed, as a matter of course, that he must be a good Mason. As chief of the police force, Bro. Wreford had proved an excellent disciplinarian, and while maintaining discipline he had secured the confidence and respect of the men under him by the genial manner in which he had discharged his duties. That he enjoyed the confidence and respect of his brother Masons was shown by the fact that they elected him to preside over their deliberations a year ago, and that he was now their Immediate Past Master. He (Sir Henry) had been requested to ask Bro. Wreford's acceptance of a life-governorship on behalf of the Lodge in recognition of the admirable manner in which he had discharged his duties, and he had very sincere pleasure in making the presentation to him. Bro. Wreford, in responding, gratefully acknowledged the assistance he had received from the Officers of the Lodge during his year of office. Their assistance had made his work a pleasure and a labour of love, and his whole connection with Lodge St. John had been most pleasant and agreeable. He cordially thanked Sir Henry Waring for the kindly references he had made to himself, and he could truly say, by way of reciprocation, that if ever the police had a friend they had one in Sir Henry Waring. With regard to the life-governorship which had been presented to him, and which he should value very highly, he was asked by the brethren whether he would accept a jewel or a life-governorship. In making his choice he reflected that, after all, a jewel was a little display of vanity, whereas a life-governorship could be devoted to some useful purpose, and might be doing good even after he was gone. He had no difficulty, therefore, in making his selection, and he hoped they would agree that he had taken the proper course. Bro. Griffin P.P.G.S.D. proposed in complimentary terms the health of Bros. Pengelly and Gover, Treasurer and Secretary of Lodge 70, and the brethren named briefly returned thanks. Sir Edward Clarke, whose rising was the signal for loud cheering, said he was very glad to find himself again at the festive board of Lodge St. John. It was some years since that, with his dear friend now gone—the late Bro. Foster Moore—he attended one of the banquets of that Lodge, and enjoyed a pleasant, and to him, a memorable evening. It was the only occasion during his connection with Plymouth on which he had ventured to sing a song. Some of them might remember that he was assured most faithfully that they were so closely tyled that not a single note of his music would be able to reach the outer world, and the result was that he was tempted into what was intended to be harmony. They can imagine, however, that his surprise was great at reading in one of the daily newspapers on the following morning an article of a satirical character making fun of him in connection with the words of that song. His singing days were now pretty well over, but he was very pleased to find himself again in the company of the good Masons and the good men of Lodge St. John. He had been entrusted with a toast, which he was sure they would drink with great cordiality, for it was that of the Directors and Shareholders of the Devon and Cornwall Freemasons' Hall and Club Company. He was sure they all felt grateful to those whose efforts had resulted in the erection of their Masonic Hall and Club, because there was no doubt that Masonry, which had always been active in the borough of Plymouth, found a

great convenience for its assemblies. As to the shareholders, they did not expect dividends. As he understood, the hall was not established for the purpose of being a financial speculation so much as to provide a comfortable building for Masonic purposes. He would not wish them large dividends at present, because for some years any money which might be applied for dividends ought, on premises of that kind, to be expended, for the advantage of Freemasonry, upon the premises themselves in making them more and more fit for the purpose for which they were erected. But he wished for them all that the place should have that prosperity for which it was established, and that it might prove to be advantageous to Freemasonry. For the sake of Masonry in the Three Towns he trusted that it might be a successful institution, and he was very glad to have that opportunity of proposing the toast, and of taking his share in the proceedings of the banquet of Lodge St. John, a Lodge which preserved the old traditions and preserved them worthily, and which he wished every possible prosperity and happiness. Bro. J. R. Lord P.P.G.T., whose name was coupled with the toast, endorsed what Sir Edward Clarke had said, that there was no desire on the part of the directors and shareholders in the company to regard the hall as a money-making concern. Their first and chief object was to find a home for the brethren in the Three Towns. Their old Masonic Temple was very limited in its accommodation, but they now had room for all, and what was especially desired was that those who had not yet identified themselves with the hall would do so by becoming shareholders in it. He appealed to the brethren in the Three Towns to take the earliest opportunity of becoming shareholders, for it was only by united effort that they could hope to succeed. Bro. Moysey P.P.G.J.D. proposed the Senior and Junior Wardens and other Officers of Lodge 70, and Bro. W. L. D. Colling responded. The other toasts were Our Sister Lodges and Visitors, proposed by Bro. Gover P.P.G.S., and acknowledged by Bro. S. Edgcumbe W.M. of 105; Masons' Wives and Sweethearts, proposed by Bro. W. F. Westcott P.G.S.D., and responded to by Bros. J. Kinton Bond P.P.G.D.C. and G. Sercomb; and Absent Brethren and those who need our sympathy, proposed by Bro. Dr. Lemon P.P.G.J.W.

HARMONY LODGE, No. 156.

AT a meeting, held at the Masonic Club, Plymouth, on Monday, the 5th inst. Bro. W. E. Chapell S.W. was installed as W.M. for the year, the ceremony being performed by the retiring W.M. Bro. Thomas Parker, assisted by a large Board of Masters. The Officers appointed were Bros. Parker I.P.M., Thomas S.W., Newell J.W., Rev. William Whitley Chaplain, Hearle P.M. Treas., Michell P.M. Sec., Jenkins S.D., Manley J.D., Stebbing I.G., Widger D.C., Snell A.D.C., Greet Organist, Jones A.O., Luke S.S., Endacott J.S., Barter 1st Assist. Steward, Clark 2nd Assist. Steward, Phillips Tyler. Bro. Knight P.M. was re-appointed representative on the Committee of Petitions, and Bro. Whitley P.M. Charity Steward.

DOMATIC LODGE, No. 177.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday of last week, at Anlerton's Hotel, when Bro. T. B. Goodfellow was placed in the chair for the year, and the Officers were regularly appointed. Among those who assisted in the work of the Lodge were Bros. Nathan Salmon (the Master of the past year), T. B. Goodfellow S.W., Ernest A. G. Smith J.W., George Everett P.M. Treasurer, Thomas Morris Secretary, Alfred Piper S.D., E. Riechelmann Organist, George Gardner D.C., T. H. Hobbs Steward, while among the company were several Past Masters, a large number of members, and about thirty visitors. The usual routine of opening having been observed, and the report of the auditors submitted, the installation ceremony was proceeded with, the new Master being placed in office by Bro. Nathan Salmon. The new Officers were appointed, as follows:—Bros. Smith S.W., Piper J.W., Everett Treasurer, Morris Secretary, John Barnett jun. Senior Deacon, W. E. Wigmore Junior Deacon, Gardner I.G., Riechelmann Organist, Hobbs D.C., Morris Steward, and James Stephens A.D.C. An interesting item in the later proceedings was the presentation of a massive clock to Past Master Ferguson, which was acknowledged in feeling terms. The next business before the Lodge was the granting of a sum towards the presentation of the Grand Lodge clothing to Bro. George Everett, who has been nominated for the office of Grand Treasurer, without opposition. In proposing the grant, it was pointed out that a very great honour had been conferred on Bro. Everett by his unopposed nomination, but the members of the Domatic Lodge might consider that a greater honour had been conferred on them by the nomination of one of its oldest members to the highest elective office of the Order. The various Lodges with which their Treasurer was associated had decided to present him with the clothing for his new office, and the Domatic would doubtless take pleasure in adding its share to the general fund. The grant was unanimously agreed to, after which the Lodge was closed, and the company repaired to the banquet, which was presided over by the new Worshipful Master. The toast of the Queen and the Craft was heartily received, and was followed by that of the Prince of Wales Grand Master of the Order, after which the Master submitted the toast of the Grand Officers, coupling with it the name of Bro. C. F. Hogard Past Grand Standard Bearer of England. Bro. Hogard, in the course of his reply, spoke of the rapid flight of time, as exemplified in the annual installations of the Domatic Lodge, at many of which he had had the pleasure of being present. He felt that any Grand Officer who had once attended the Domatic Lodge would recognise the hearty way in which they were received, both in Lodge and at the festive board, and could but hope to come again. He felt he now stood up as a Grand Officer with the privilege of replying to the toast for the last time, for in a few weeks the Domatic Lodge would number among its members a brother who would seldom have to give way to a senior. He heartily congratulated Bro. Everett on his selection for the important post of Grand Treasurer, and the Lodge on having among its members a Mason so widely respected and

esteemed as he was. Bro. Salmon, the retiring Master, submitted the toast of the Worshipful Master. He felt a great responsibility devolved upon him when he was asked to propose the toast of the new ruler of the Domestic Lodge. He was sure the new Master would prove by his actions that he well deserved his name; that he would prove a good fellow both in action and name. He would impress on the members that the Master could not do everything in the Lodge; he needed the assistance and support of the members, and, as one of the Past Masters of the Lodge, he hoped the new Master would receive both. He believed that in due course their new chief would go forward in support of one of the great Charities of the Craft, and he hoped that when that did occur he would receive the assistance of the members of the Lodge, and that they would one and all strive to advance the welfare of the Charitable Institutions. In reply, the Worshipful Master said he had been a member of the Domestic Lodge for many years. It was then just on nineteen years since he was initiated in it, and he well remembered he had been admitted by their Past Master Bro. Ferguson. The members could well understand how pleased he was to see that brother made the recipient of a testimonial that evening. He might claim that he had remained true to the Domestic Lodge, for he had missed but few of its meetings during the nineteen years of his membership, and he was now amply rewarded in being placed at its head. Referring to the remarks of his predecessor in regard to the support of the Charities, he hoped the members would rally round him and help to raise a substantial total on behalf of the Boys' School, which was just now specially in need of funds. He had long resided close to the Institution, at Wood Green, and had watched its progress. He could remember it as a comparatively small gentleman's residence; now it was an institution they must all be proud of, and he hoped they would do much to support it. The subsequent toasts included the following, viz., the Installing Master, the Visitors, the Past Masters, the Treasurer and Secretary, special honour being paid to Bro. George Everett, in consideration of his selection as Grand Treasurer of England. During the evening a pleasing selection of music was given, under the direction of Bro. Riechelmann, the Organist of the Lodge, the artistes being Mdme. Riechelmann, Miss Emily Foxcroft, Mr. W. P. Richards, and Mr. Reohab Tandy.

FRIENDSHIP LODGE, No. 202.

THE installation banquet was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Princes Square, Plymouth, on the 7th inst., when brethren and visitors to the number of eighty partook of an excellent dinner, ably served by the Steward and Stewardess (Mr. and Mrs. Harvey), under the personal supervision of the indefatigable Secretary to the club, Bro. Dillon. The Worshipful Master Bro. Joseph Oldfield presided, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The usual Masonic and Loyal toasts were duly honoured, and responded to. Excellent songs were given by Bros. Leonard 202, Lemon 189, Sweet 202, Leonard 202, Collins 202, Lathorn 202, Eades 202, Cross 202, Orchard 230, Good-year 223. Mr. Harris, of Devonport, presided at the piano.

AFFABILITY LODGE, No. 317.

THE installation of Bro. Vasil Marco Vultchhoff took place and the St. John's Festival was celebrated, on the 7th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. The usual night of meeting is the first Thursday in the month, but in consequence of New Year's Day falling on a Thursday, the meeting was postponed. The following brethren were present:—E. G. Chesworth W.M., V. M. Vultchhoff S.W., S. Staton J.W., W. J. Culliffe P.M. Treas. P.P.G.S.D., J. Read Sec., F. Spencer S.D., Wm. Garside J.D., Geo. Jackson I.G., John Bladon P.M. D.C. P.P.G.A.D.C., Past Masters Dawson, Lever, Walmsley, Lisenden, Garside, Robinson, and Bashell; Bros. A. Allen, N. Field, A. Wild, G. H. Scott, John Quail, J. H. Marsh, Lawrence Hall, W. N. Paterson, J. S. Whitehead, F. W. Ashe, E. Wahl, and W. Brocklehurst. Visitors:—T. R. Peel P.M. 1147 P.P.G.J.D., E. L. Littler P.M. 1730 P.P.G.P. W.L., T. J. Hooper W.M. St. George's P.P.G.P., Stephen Jupp P.M. 1140 P.G. Organist W.L. Wm. Hardcastle P.M. 1773 P.P.G.D.C., E. Hallard W.M. 1773, Wm. Sturm P.M. 1161, Jas. Wilson P.M. 317, J. H. Dalglish I.P.M. 1117, J. Aldred P.M. 1140, S. Lewis W.M. 1161, J. Stovold P.M. 993, W. T. Hesketh P.M. 1375, W. Campbell P.M. 1357, J. W. Rattray I.P.M. 1993, Thos. Shorroek P.M. 204, A. W. Pemberton 1030, M. Evangelino (Harmonic Lodge), A. Broome 1166, Edward Smith 317, J. Ridsdale Bowley 216, and Edward Pike P.M. Prince Edward Lodge. The Lodge was opened at 3.45, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. In the second degree the W.M. elect Bro. V. M. Vultchhoff was presented to the Installing Master (Bro. E. G. Chesworth) by Bro. John Bladon P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., and after the usual preliminaries, and with all due rite and ceremony, inducted into the chair of K.S. before a Board of 26 Installed Masters. On the re-admission of all M.M.'s, the usual proclamation was made and salutes given, after which Bro. James Dawson P.M. delivered the address to the W.M., and invested the following brethren Officers for the ensuing year:—Bro. S. Staton S.W., J. Read J.W., W. J. Culliffe P.M. Treasurer P.P.G.S.D., Wm. Garside Secretary, F. Spencer S.D., George Jackson J.D., John Bladon P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C. Dir. of Cers., J. S. Whitehead Organist, Thomas Bashell P.M. I.G., Alfred Allen, J. H. Marsh, and J. Quail Stewards. Bro. R. R. Lisenden delivered the address to the Wardens, and Bro. John Bladon to the Brethren. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. E. G. Chesworth I.P.M. for his services during the past year, and he returned thanks in a neat speech. There being no further business, "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visitors, and the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 6.15. The brethren subsequently celebrated the Festival of St. John with a capital banquet, after which the usual toast list was proceeded with. The health of the W.M. was proposed in enlogistic terms by the I.P.M. and heartily drunk by all present, Bro. J. S. Whitehead singing "Here's to his Health in a Song." The W.M. having replied in appropriate language, Bro. Dawson proposed the Visitors in one of his telling speeches, several of their number responding. The other

toasts included the I.P.M. and Installing Master, the Officers, the P.M.'s, the Masonic Charities, and the intervals between the toasts were enlivened with some capital songs, from Bros. Stephen Jupp, Ridsdale, Bowley, Thomas Shorroek, J. S. Whitehead, &c., Bro. Lisenden reciting the ever-popular "Kissing Cup's Race." A pleasant evening was spent, which would, however, have been far more agreeable had it not been for the fog that penetrated the banquet-room and created a disagreeable impression and appearance on the otherwise brilliant scene.

FAITH AND UNANIMITY LODGE, No. 417.

AT the annual festival, held at the Masonic Hall, Dorchester, on the 7th inst., Bro. E. Newman was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The following were the Officers invested:—Brothers E. W. Young S.W., H. A. Haxtable J.W., Hewgill Secretary, Look P.M. Treasurer, Knight S.D., Maltby J.D., Stroud D.C., Rev. H. Everett Chaplain.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 528.

THE installation meeting of this Lodge was held on New Year's Day, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Wm. May Clear W.M. presiding. Bro. John Gibson was passed to the second degree. Bro. Kench P.M. P.G.P., at the request of the W.M., installed Bro. William Webb as Master of the Lodge for the year. The Officers appointed were Bros. W. May Clear I.P.M., G. L. Lyons S.W., W. E. Willby J.W., James Kench P.M. P.G.P. Treasurer, J. B. Sly P.M. Secretary, S. G. Eldridge S.D., Hooker J.D., Pittmann I.G., J. W. Elvin P.M. D.C., W. G. Fenn P.M. and J. L. Prior Stewards, Theo. Ward, R.A.M., Organist, and Walkley P.M. Tyler. The ceremonies of the evening were ably performed by Bros. Clear, Kench, and the Officers. Lodge was closed, and the work was followed by a choice banquet at Freemasons' Tavern. The banquet was succeeded by the usual Masonic toasts, and some exquisite singing by Madle. Vagnolini, Miss Flora Edwards, Bros. G. L. Lyon and J. J. Pittmann, with Bro. Theo. Ward at the piano. Bro. Kench, responding for the Grand Officers, wished the brethren on that first night of the new year all health and prosperity. On behalf of Grand Lodge, he would say that the Lodge La Tolerance was well represented at the Quarterly Communications and at the meetings of the Board of Benevolence. It was the duty of the W.M. to attend those meetings, and he was sure the new W.M. would do so. Although the Past Masters and Wardens had the right to attend the Quarterly Communications, it was only the Master who was permitted to attend the Board of Benevolence. There was always something of interest at these meetings. At a recent meeting of Grand Lodge there were three distinguished visitors, the Grand Masters of Pennsylvania, Louisiana, and Canada, and it was most interesting to listen to the speeches of those brethren on the subject of Masonry in their districts. At the last meeting of Grand Lodge a sum of one hundred guineas was voted to the families of the crew of H.M.S. Serpent, which was lost with its hands, except three, off the coast of Spain. There were some who maintained that the funds of Grand Lodge should be voted only to Masonic purposes, but that was not the feeling of the members of Lodge La Tolerance. Whilst fully admitting that Masons' first care should be for those ranged under the banners of Masonry, they would be false to the old teaching and spirit of the Craft did they not also endeavour to help, succour, and defend all those in peril, danger, and tribulation. They were all only stewards of those good things their Heavenly Father had entrusted them with. He did not suppose there was ever a period in the history of Masonry when those efforts for good were so powerful as now. The more its tenets became known and understood, the more they were subscribed to and practised, the greater would be their reverence for the Sacred Law, and the better would they be enabled to unite in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness. Bro. Clear I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., a brother who was initiated at the same time as himself (Bro. Clear). They had since worked up together. There was no brother in whose hands the interests of the Lodge could be with greater safety left. It was impossible it could lose any of its lustre in the hands of Bro. Webb. In a W.M. they required many qualities; he must be a good man and true, he must have powers of governing with firmness and yet with discretion, he must be genial in disposition, and Bro. Webb possessed all these qualities. They all knew he had them, and this he would show: he would set an example to the La Tolerance Lodge, and would represent it as Steward at the next Festival of the Girls' Institution, an Institution to which all the brethren of the Lodge gave their support. The Worshipful Master, who was received with hearty applause on rising, said he did not think he was a vain man, but he was afraid he might become so when he found himself so warmly received. He thanked the brethren for his election to the chair, a position it had been his ambition to occupy ever since he was initiated. He believed the ambition to be a right one. He made a mistake when he was quite a young Mason; he thought when a man got in the chair there was nothing for him to do, but he now found that the more he knew the more he wanted to know. That he thought accounted in some measure for the fact that old Masons who had been in the Craft many years still took a great interest in it; they were, in fact, more enthusiastic every meeting. He was the youngest man who had had the honour to preside over the La Tolerance Lodge, and he must ask the brethren to excuse him if he made any mistakes on that ground. He hoped they would have plenty of work during the year, and he would pledge himself to do the best he could for the Lodge, and, with Bro. Kench and other Past Masters to assist him, he was sure he should succeed. The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of the I.P.M. During his year of office Bro. Clear had governed the Lodge with the firmness which was necessary, but he had combined with that such heartiness and bonhomie, that it was a pleasure to be ruled by him. The Lodge had voted him a Past Master's jewel, but, although it was but a slight token of their regard, Bro. Clear would take it, as it was meant, as a sincere token,

and the brethren hoped he would have many years of health and strength to wear it and be proud of it. Bro. Clear, in responding, said that during the year he had occupied the chair he did all he could in regard to the ceremonial work. He had to thank Bro. Kenoh for performing the installation that evening. It was a pride to them that they had an old Past Master who could do it so well. Thanking the brethren for the jewel, he assured them he should wear it with pride, and it would be a sort of remembrance to him of the time when he was W.M. It had been a very happy year, and he should always look with regret on his relinquishment of it. He was, however, able to reflect that it was now occupied by a brother who would do it honour. Bro. Scurrah and other brethren responded to the toast of the Visitors, and Bros. Skinner and Fenn for that of the Past Masters. Bros. Kenoh and Sly replied to the toast of the Treasurer and Secretary, and Bro. Lyons and other Officers to that of the Officers. Bro. Walkley closed the meeting by giving the Tyler' toast.

ETRUSCAN LODGE, No. 546.

AT the Masonic Hall, Longton, on Thursday, the 8th inst., Bro. John Ward was installed W.M., in the presence of upwards of 30 brethren. The ceremony was efficiently performed by Bro. Alfred Mear, the retiring W.M., assisted by Bros. W. R. Blair, J. Webberley, T. H. Griffiths, A. S. Walters, and D. Chapman P.M.'s. The following Officers were appointed:—Joseph Wood S.W., James T. Mear J.W., the Rev. G. F. Tamplin Chaplain, W. R. Blair Treasurer, J. Webberley Secretary, George Radford S.D., G. E. Walters J.D., G. C. Kent P.P.G. Assistant Secretary D.C., W. T. Bonner Organist, James E. Hodson I.G., H. R. Stone, and J. W. Bromley Stewards, T. Warren Tyler. In addition to those whose names are given above, there were present at the Lodge or the dinner which followed the transaction of the business the following brethren:—Bros. T. Taylor P.P.G.S.W. 2149, J. B. Ashwell P.G.S.D. 637, A. G. Prince P.P.G.J.D. 546, J. Ingamells P.P.G.J.D. 460, W. Tunnicliff P.G. Superintendent of Works 418, E. V. Greatbatch P.P.G. Superintendent of Works 418, B. H. Brough P.P.G. Superintendent of Works 418, E. Hallam W.M. 1942, W. H. Howson W.M. 2064, A. Cotton P.M. 1474, W. Brickel P.M. 1765, W. Hampton W.M. 418, G. Bennion P.M. 546, P. H. Bennion P.M. 546, &c. The banquet was provided by Bro. G. Bennion, at the Crown and Anchor Hotel, and was of the best description. The W.M. proposed the loyal toasts, and those which are usually given in recognition of the rulers of the Grand Lodge of England and the Provincial Grand Lodge were proposed by Bros. Webberley, G. Bennion, and T. H. Griffiths, Bro. Ashwell and others responding for the Provincial Grand Officers. The health of the W.M. and I.P.M. having been drunk with great cordiality, Bro. G. C. Kent submitted the toast of the Visiting Brethren, for whom Bros. Howson, Cotton, Ingamells, and Taylor responded. Bro. Prince proposed the toast of the Masonic Charities, observing that charity was one of the fundamental principles of the Masonic Order, and Masons recognised their responsibilities in supporting their charitable Institutions. He alluded to the improved position of the Boys' School, which he said was attributable in a great measure to the efforts of Bros. Greatbach and Tunnicliff, both of whom were present that evening, and he hoped their valuable services would be more fully recognised than they had yet been. The subscriptions last year to the three principal Masonic Charities amounted to £56,000. Much valuable work was being done in the way of educating boys and girls and supporting aged persons, and Masonry was getting a stronger hold upon the people of the country year by year. The toast was heartily drunk, and Brothers Greatbach and Tunnicliff responded and commended the Charities to the support of the brethren. Other complimentary toasts followed, and the evening was spent convivially and pleasantly, several of the brethren supplying music and recitations.

ZETLAND LODGE, No. 561.

ON the 8th inst., the annual meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Guisborough. Bro. W. T. Newcombe was installed W.M. The Officers appointed were Bro. W. Bungay P.G.A.P. I.P.M., W. Wilks S.W., W. Richardson J.W., T. Dale P.P.G.S.B. Treasurer, W. Fryer Secretary, T. Scott S.D., W. Collier J.D., W. Robinson P.M. D.C., T. Clarke Organist, T. Rodham P.G.S. I.G., J. Garbutt jun. and J. Suggett Stewards, and T. Byers Tyler.

LODGE OF THE MARCHES, No. 611.

MORE than usual interest attached to the annual installation meeting of this Lodge, which took place on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Ludlow. The newly elected W.M. Bro. C. W. Wicksted, one of the most popular gentlemen in the neighbourhood, who for some years has been master of the Ludlow hounds, where he has gained that esteem and respect so essential to the "Country Gentleman." During his career, though a comparatively young Mason, he has gained the confidence and affection of his Lodge. Last year Bro. Wicksted was Junior Warden, but as this year may possibly be an important one for 611, Bro. Valentine S.W. generously waived his claim to the chair of K.S., and asked the brethren to place Bro. Wicksted in that honoured position. The installation ceremony was performed most efficiently by the retiring W.M. Bro. R. McBean P.G.S.D., assisted by Bros. R. Venables, F. Cox, and Townsend. The following were appointed Officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. S. H. Valentine S.W., T. J. Salney J.W., J. P. Cranstoun Chaplain, F. Cox Treasurer, T. Everall Secretary, A. Lacey S.D., R. K. E. Roberts J.D., R. J. Venables D.C., C. B. Cranstoun I.G., F. W. Smith and R. de C. Peele Stewards, Williams Almoner, Roberts Charity Representative, Prince Tyler. The W.M. presented I.P.M. McBean with a Past Master's jewel. A second presentation also took place, Bro. Thos. Roberts P.M. P.G.R.

being the recipient of the "Charity Jewel," with the following inscription on the bar:—"From the Lodge of the Marches, No. 611, to W. Bro. Thomas Roberts P.M. Prov. G.R., President of the Shropshire Masonic Charitable Association." Bro. T. Roberts thanked the W.M. and the brethren for their handsome gift and for the liberal support they had given him, as a representative of the Charities. Bro. Allcroft jun. was balloted for as a joining member, and was unanimously elected. Lodge was then closed in due form. The brethren adjourned to the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, where an excellent banquet was provided, the visiting brethren were well represented, some dozen remaining for the repast. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to most heartily. The I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., who replied, thanking the brethren for the honour they had done him. The toasts of the Past Masters, Visiting Brethren, and Officers of the Lodge were all received with the usual Masonic honours. Bro. Cranstoun (Chaplain) gave the Masonic Charities, coupling the name of Bro. T. Roberts with it. Bro. Roberts deserved the highest praise—they all knew that the contributions to the funds of the Association had greatly increased since he (Bro. Roberts) had been Lodge representative, perhaps Bro. Roberts would tell them how much the increase really was. Brother Roberts, replying, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the manner in which they had received the toast; he had only done what he considered was the duty of every Mason when called upon, given a little of his time to the Charities of the Order. He was very pleased to be able to inform the brethren that since 1882 (the year he became Lodge representative) the contributions had greatly increased. In 1882, the total subscriptions amounted to £3 11s. And in 1890, to £26 8s. In 1882 there was only one subscriber to the A fund and ten to the B fund. In 1890 there were 13 to the A fund and 51 to the B fund; this he considered very satisfactory, and praise therefore was due to the individual members of 611, all of whom subscribed to the B fund and many of them to the A fund. The musical portion of the evening was rendered very enjoyable by the following brethren, Bro. Bartholomew presiding at the piano:—Bros. Sharp, Cox, Brooks, S. Valentine, Nickson, C. Valentine, and Deakin of Lodge 117, who gave an amusing Yankee recitation. Bro. Sharp's song, the "Jesse Huntman," was greatly relished, on account of the W.M.'s hunting proclivities. At 10'30 the brethren parted, after having spent a most enjoyable evening in spite of "No more Harmony."

FRANKLIN LODGE, No. 838.

THE brethren held their annual installation on the 9th inst., when Bro. G. H. Gregory, Mus. Bach., Oxon., was installed as W.M. Bro. W. H. Kirby officiated as Installing Master. The W.M. subsequently invested his Officers:—Bros. T. Thistlethwaite I.P.M., W. H. Gane S.W., J. Panley J.W., H. Shepherd Treasurer, R. J. Newcomb Secretary, C. A. Kirby D.C., S. Bradbrook S.D., W. H. Hopkins J.D. T. F. Pearson I.G., A. A. Crabtree Organist, W. S. Barrett and C. R. Clarke Stewards, and M. Johnson Tyler. The usual banquet took place in the evening.

CAREW LODGE, No. 1136.

BRO. Thos. C. Jeffery W.M. presided at the installation banquet, held at the Oddfellows' Hall, Union-street, Plymouth, on the 7th inst., when over fifty brethren sat down to a banquet, served by Mr. T. Langridge, of the Jubilee Hotel, Exeter-street, Plymouth, the tables being splendidly decorated. Regret was expressed at the enforced absence, through indisposition, of Bro. E. Poor P.P.G.S.D. Treasurer. The Worshipful Master was heartily congratulated on his accession to office, and the I.P.M. (Bro. John Ward) was specially thanked for the admirable manner in which he had carried out the duties of his office during the past year. A most pleasant evening was spent, Miss Barratt and Miss Murphy contributing materially to the success of the same.

LODGE OF EQUALITY, No. 1145.

THE brethren met at the Red Lion Hotel, Acorington, on Thursday the 8th inst., to celebrate the festival of St. John, and to instal Bro. John Grimshaw P.M. as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bro. Knowles P.M. 462 officiated as installing Master. The following Officers were appointed:—Bros. H. Ramsbottom S.W., J. D. Lonsdale J.W., R. Lonsdale Treasurer, J. H. Bury Secretary, W. Parker S.D., J. Hoyle J.D., T. Hindle D.C., J. Lonsdale Organist, W. H. Dixon I.G., S. Edmondson Tyler, P. Macfarlane Almoner, R. Rushton Charity Representative, and D. Tunks I.P.M. There were several Visitors present.

ST. KEW LODGE, No. 1222.

THE annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, 7th inst., when Bro. W. H. Glass P.M. 453 was formally installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the installation ceremony being undertaken by Bro. John Glass P.M. 453 P.P. Grand Supt. Works Essex, brother of the W.M. elect. The following were invested with collars of office:—Bros. W. E. Perrett sen. I.P.M., S. Sellick S.W., J. P. Capel J.W., S. Lewis P.M. Treasurer, W. E. Perrett P.M. Sec., G. H. Perrett P.M. Chaplain, H. Butt S.D., F. Blackmore J.D., J. Cooper I.G., S. Jones Organist, Webb and Dart Stewards. The usual banquet followed the completion of business.

CHORLTON LODGE, No. 1387.

A REGULAR meeting of this Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, on Thursday, the 8th inst., when there were present:—Bros. Charles Martyn W.M., F. S. Bedford S.W., F. Reushaw J.W., John Chadfield Treasurer, Chas. Heywood

P.M. Secretary, Harry Martyn S.D., T. Ferneley Org., J. B. Wolstenholme I.G., W. Chessyre Tyler, Robert Davies P.M. P.P.G.S.B., Past Masters Henry Nall, J. Crompton, J. Swann, Dr. A. E. Pownall, Wm. Hall, and J. G. Batty; Bros. T. Shaw, Emil Heymann, E. Woodhouse, A. Woodburn, John Mee, H. Casper, O. Williams, Herman Ogden, and G. Trevor Smith. Visitors:—Wm. Richmond 267, James Ogden, N. Traghern 1055, S. Benley, Edward Smith late 317, and R. R. Lisenden P.M. 317 (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE). The Lodge was opened at six o'clock, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. E. Woodhouse as a joining member, and declared favourable. Bros. Woodburn and Mee having answered the questions leading from the first to the second degree, retired. Bro. Woodburn was afterwards passed to the second degree by the W.M., and Bro. Mee by Bro. Past Master Swann. Later on, Bro. Herman Ogden gave proofs of his proficiency in the second degree, and retired. He was subsequently raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the W.M., and there being no farther business, the Lodge was lowered, and ultimately closed in due form at 8:40. After supper, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured. Bro. J. Crompton proposed the health of the newly-passed brethren, and Bro. Woodburn replied for himself and Bro. Mee, the latter being asked to sing, which he did very nicely. Bro. Charles Heywood proposed the health of Bro. Herman Ogden in felicitous terms, and Bro. Ogden returned thanks in appropriate language. Bro. Henry Nall proposed the health of the newly-joined Bro. Woodhouse, which was heartily drunk and responded to. Bro. Wm. Hall P.M. proposed the Visitors, and Bros. Richmond, Bayley, and Treghern replied. The W.M. proposed, in eulogistic terms, the health of Bro. Henry Nall, who was recently installed W.M. of the Architect Lodge 1375, at Withington. The toast was received with enthusiasm and drank in a bumper, and subsequently Bro. Nall, who is much liked and greatly respected, replied. After the W.M.'s health had been proposed and drank, the Tyler's toast finished a very pleasant evening. During the intervals between the toasts, Bros. T. M. Ferneley and Emil Heymann performed a duet on the organ and piano respectively. Bro. Mee, who has a pleasing voice, sang "The Lost Chord," accompanied on the organ by Bro. P.M. Ferneley. Bro. Chas. Heywood gave a recitation in the Lancashire dialect, and songs were also sang by Bros. Dr. Pownall and S. Locke.

EBRINGTON LODGE, No. 1847.

THE installation banquet was held on the 7th inst., at Bro. Routly's, Farley Hotel, Plymouth, a capital dinner being well served. The menu cards, which were very neatly printed, bore a lithographed portrait of the W.M. Bro. J. Harvey, who presided, and was supported by Bros. Geo. W. Street S.W. and Harold Roberts J.W. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. The health of the W.M. was cordially received, and Bro. Harvey presented Bro. J. T. Rook I.P.M. with a handsome P.M.'s jewel as a token of regard. The inscription on the jewel ran:—"Presented to Bro. John T. Rook P.M., by the brethren of Ebrington Lodge, No. 1847, in appreciation of his Masonic zeal, January 1891." A capital evening was enjoyed by the brethren, under the genial chairmanship of the W.M., whose past services to the Lodge were generally acknowledged. Bros. Twose, Rawling, J. Lose, Rawling, Blight, Major Tracy, Hosking, Livermore, Hayward and Macey were among those who sang or gave recitations.

RICHMOND LODGE, No. 2032.

THIS Lodge held a meeting, at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., when there was a fair muster of the brethren under the presidency of Bro. J. M. Marjason W.M. The business of the Lodge included the passing of Bro. C. W. Capel Smith and the initiation of Mr. P. L. Whittet. Both ceremonies were ably performed by the W.M. and his Officers. At the banquet which followed the work, Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., M.P. (Mayor of Richmond), honoured the Lodge with a visit, and amongst others present were:—Bros. B. E. Blasby, C. I. Digby, E. Dare, H. Sapsworth, H. Messum, W. F. Reynolds, A. Crew, W. Clifford, F. C. Monflet, A. Aldin, T. Covell, J. Aldredge, G. C. Rowland, J. H. Ford, A. Skene, S. Abell, H. F. Nash, G. Trinder, F. R. Robinson, N. J. Payne, J. Ambrose, W. B. Pentelow, A. Bray, H. Young, Gardner, Johnson, R. W. Simpson, Axten, A. C. Amy, C. W. Capel Smith, and P. L. Whittet. A capital bill of fare was submitted by Bro. Monflet. After the removal of the cloth, the Worshipful Master submitted the toast of the Queen and the Craft, which was, of course, honoured with every sign of loyalty. Next came the Prince of Wales and the rest of the Grand Officers, proposed by the W.M., and coupled with the name of Sir Whittaker Ellis P.G.W., who, in responding, referred briefly to the duties devolving upon Masons. After a short interval the W.M. asked the brethren to drink the health of the Past Masters of the Lodge and the Mayor and the Town Council of Richmond. The toast was enthusiastically received, and responded to by Bros. Blasby, Digby, Dare, and Sapsworth for the P.M.'s, the Mayor and Councillors Skene and Simpson for the Council. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bros. Gardner and Johnson. Bro. Sapsworth submitted the health of the W.M., and the remaining toasts were the Treasurer (Bro. Reynolds), and the Secretary (Bro. Rowland), and the Officers of the Lodge. During the evening songs were sung by Bros. Abell, Crew, Messum, Young, and Pentelow.

Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614.—

The weekly meeting was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on the 8th inst. Bros. Hewett W.M., Reynolds S.W., Foon J.W., Greenway Deputy Preceptor, G. Reynolds Treasurer and Secretary, Unwin S.D., Bromley J.D., Harnell I.G., Weeks Tyler, Bergholtz, Walker, Thrusell, Burgess, Jarvis, Seary, Matthews, Coleman, Kirk, Folkard, Buxton, Kedge, Warwick, Hare, Albertini, and others. After preliminaries, the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, the W.M.

(Bro. S. Hewett) installing the S.W. (Bro. G. H. Reynolds) into the chair, the work being performed in a most admirable manner. The following were elected members:—Bros. Hare 511, Albertini 511, and Warwick 765. The W.M. for the ensuing week was elected on the 1st January. The following brethren were appointed Auditors for the past year, viz., Bros. Foon, Burgess, and Bromley. Bro. Greenway Deputy Preceptor proposed that a hearty and cordial vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Hewett for his excellent rendering of the ceremony of installation. It was a credit to any brother. For many years past it had been the practice for the W.M. of the Mother Lodge to rehearse the ceremony of installation previous to the installation meeting at the Lodge, and this was another proof of the good feeling between the Mother Lodge and the Lodge of Instruction. He wished the new Master (Bro. G. H. Reynolds) a happy year of office. Bro. Hewett made a suitable reply; he thanked the brethren sincerely for their attendance that evening; the opportunity given him of rehearsing the ceremony had been of great service to him. Bro. G. H. Reynolds also thanked the brethren, remarking that the investing of his Officers had given him capital practice, which he hoped would not be forgotten. Nothing farther offering for the good of Freemasonry, the Lodge was closed and adjourned.

The following extract from a letter just received from a brother at Kimberley will show how our brethren in that distant land carry out their Masonic duties:—"I went into Bechuanaland a couple of months ago, and on arriving at Vryburg fell into a tank and broke a bone in my leg, and severely sprained my ankle, and am only now just beginning to walk. I was treated very kindly by the Masons of Vryburg after my accident there. I knew no one in the place, so sent for the Master of the Lodge. He came, and, with the brethren, paid me a great deal of attention while I laid there, and when I was able to move got me a special carriage to send me home in."

Messrs. J. R. Parkington and Co. state, that the shipments of port for December amount to 8,201 pipes (Great Britain, 3,380 pipes), making 84,654 pipes for twelve months, against 85,211 pipes in 1889, and 85,309 pipes in 1888. The shipments of sherry were 5,332 butts in December, making 60,063 butts for 1890, against 55,130 butts in 1889, and 49,289 butts in 1888.

WAS SHAKESPEARE A FREEMASON?—This question has often been discussed, and the general opinion has been that the great dramatist was a member of the Craft. A seal that has been shown us during the past week throws a ray of light upon the matter. It has been pronounced by Mr. Mackie, of Birmingham, to be of the time of James I., and on one side is a portrait of Shakespeare and on the reverse Masonic emblems. It is an interesting article, and is in the possession of Mr. E. Birch, of this town.—*Stratford-on-Avon Herald*.

Passing along the Strand recently we noticed an old lady admiring the representation of the installation of the Duke of Clarence at Reading, which appeared in one of the weekly papers, and we could not help a smile when she asked her companion—who was evidently a member of the mystic Brotherhood—why the Prince of Wales and others on the platform had their hands in their pockets. We could not hear the explanation, but appearances are certainly deceptive.—*Evening News*.

A largely attended ball was held at the Town Hall, Buxton, on Thursday, the 8th inst., promoted by the Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann, No. 1235, and the Buxton Lodge, No. 1688. One hundred and sixty persons accepted invitations, a large majority of those present being Masons. The fine hall was tastefully and seasonably decorated by Mr. J. Binns, plants being lent by Dr. Dickson. The Pavilion Orchestra was in attendance. Mr. Lane, of the King's Head Hotel, supplied the refreshments.

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YOUNGEST SON OF THE LATE BRO. W. O. GOLDSMITH.

Bro. GOLDSMITH was initiated in the Chislehurst Lodge, No. 1531, shortly after its consecration in 1875, and remained a subscribing member till 1881, when he joined the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928. In this latter Lodge he served all the offices up to that of W.M. It was while holding this office, and three days after the election of his successor, that he died, on the 15th November 1887. He was a Life Governor of the Boys' School, and a Subscriber to all the Masonic Charities, and was, at all times, a hard worker in Masonry. He was for many years, and at the time of his death, a member of the Reporting Staff of the Press Association, and in that capacity was well known to all Journalists in the United Kingdom. The under-mentioned Brethren strongly recommend the case of his son, the above-named candidate:—

Bro. CHARLES KEDGLEY, Hibernia Chambers, London Bridge, S.E., W.M. 73, P.M. 1614, M.E.Z. 73.
The Rev. S. A. SELWYN, Past Chaplain 210, St. James's Vicarage, Hatcham, S.E.
Bro. H. E. F. BUSSEY, P.M. 1928, 123 Brixton Hill, S.W.
Bro. Alderman FARNCOMBE, Prov. G.J.W. Sussex, East Sussex News Office, Lewes.
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Bro. THOS. C. SUMNER, Yorkshire Post Office, Leeds, No. 1211.
Bro. THOMAS MINSTRELL, P.M. 87, P.M. and Secretary 1928, 16 Ann Street, Union Square, Islington, N.
Bro. H. MASSEY, P.M. 619, P.M. and Treasurer 1928, 93 Chancery Lane, W.C.
Bro. J. C. DUCKWORTH, P.M. 1928, Liverpool Courier Office, 81 Fleet Street, E.C.
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Bro. J. H. HAWES, P.M. 38, West Sussex Gazette Office, Chichester.
Bro. W. J. INNES, 1928, 219 South Lambeth Road, S.W.
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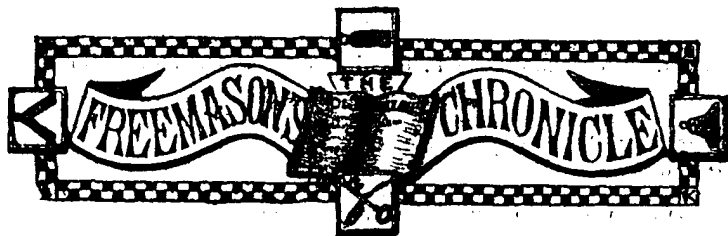
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GOSSIP ABOUT FREEMASONRY; its History and Traditions. A Paper read by Bro. S. VALENTINE, P.M. and Z. No. 9, to the Brethren of the Albion Lodge of Instruction, 2nd November 1889. Free by post of W. W. MORGAN, Belvidere Works, Hermes Hill, Pentonville.



SATURDAY, 17th JANUARY 1891.

MARK MASONRY.**CONSECRATION AT CAMBORNE.**

THE consecration and dedication of a new Mark Master Masons' Lodge, the Mount Edgcumbe Lodge, No. 417, was celebrated last week at the Masonic Hall, Camborne. There were fourteen founders, and by them the Lodge was opened at 10.30 a.m. under the warrant granted. Six candidates were initiated and became members of the Lodge. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened at 12.30 p.m. by R.W. Bro. Sir Charles B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., 30 deg. Prov. G.M.M. of Cornwall. Bros. W. J. Johns P.P.G.J.W. P.G. Sec. D.P.G.M.M.M. pro tem, Major J. J. Ross 404 P.G.S.W., E. Milford-Milford P.G. Treasurer P.G.J.W. pro tem, Rev. J. Core, Curate-in-charge at Padstow, P.G. Chaplain, W. King Baker P.P.G.M.O. M.O. pro tem, H. P. Vivian 73 P.G.S.O., F. W. Thomas 87 P.P.G.O., J. C. Barrow 87 P.G.A.D.C. Dir. of Cere. pro tem. An anthem was sung. The founders of the new Lodge were then arranged in order. They were Bros. F. W. Thomas, J. C. Barrow, H. P. Vivian, R. Rowe 87, W. Vial 87, A. Dankin 87, F. J. Lee, J. Whitworth 87, J. W. T. Jackson Rev. Marks 87, Jno. Adams 87 P.G. Std. Br., A. J. Tangye 87, J. Pendray 87, W. Teague 73, Jas. M. Holman 87. The Provincial Grand Master said there was no occasion for him to address the founders on the nature of that meeting, as there was a very excellent oration to be read to them, from the pen of Bro. W. J. Hughan, by Bro. Vivian. To Bro. Hughan they were very much indebted for the readiness with which he had applied his great Masonic learning on former occasions to their benefit. They were now further obliged to him on the present occasion, and would have been much delighted to have had him present with them, but regretted to find that could not be, from the state of his health. He (the P.G.M.) congratulated them on the rapid progress being made in Mark Masonry in that Province and elsewhere. During the time he had occupied his present office he had been privileged to be called upon to consecrate five new Mark Lodges in his Province. The Prov. Grand Secretary designated Bro. F. W. Thomas as the W.M., Bro. R. Rowe S.W., W. Vial J.W., and at the call of the Prov. G.M. the brethren signified their approval. Bro. H. P. Vivian next read this oration, contributed by R.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan Past

Grand Warden of England. It is especially appropriate to consider the most interesting subject of Masons' marks, at the consecration of a new Mark Lodge, because it is mainly owing to the ever-increasing prosperity of the Mark degree that so great has been the attention paid to that time immemorial custom. When it first became the usage to employ the marks in stones, in eloquent silence to speak of the Masons who fashioned them, cannot now be decided; but beyond question it takes us back to a period long before the Christian era, and centuries prior to the reign of the Royal Solomon. Even in later times the custom was obligatory for Masons, assembling in Lodges, to select their marks and have them duly registered. Laws still extant, of the 16th century, provide for such accordingly and a Mason then, without his mark, would have been as great a curiosity as one without tools. In our own day no better system has been devised to connect the workman with his work, by his own act and deed; and the mark-book is the witness whose decision knows of no appeal. At the building of the Truro Cathedral the first foundation-stone of the kind, laid with free Masonic Honours, the venerable system of Masons' marks was employed, only inserted on the bed of the stone, instead of the face or side exhibited. It has been contended, however, that we as Freemasons have nothing to do with marks, as it is exclusively an operative custom. But such an objection wholly disappears when it is remembered that gentlemen who joined the Masonic Lodges in early days selected their marks and had them duly booked, just as the Apprentice and Craftsman. John Boswell, Esq., attended the Lodge of Edinburgh on 8th June 1600, as a member, and attested the minutes of the meeting by signing his name and adding his mark. Many noblemen joined that old Lodge, which continues to this day, during the 17th century, and all of them chose their marks. Numerous Lodges of that period likewise observed the same custom as respects their speculative brethren, and also during the last century, so that the universality of the choice of marks by speculative as well as operative Freemasons down to modern times is well established. The noted mark-book of Aberdeen of the year 1670 contains a roll of forty-nine members, forty-seven of whom had their marks registered, and only eight of their number were operatives. The Master was a tutor, and the list included several noblemen, ministers, surgeons, tradesmen, &c. When the ceremony of the Mark degree was added cannot now be fixed, but I am inclined to date it soon after the Royal Arch, which was arranged about A.D. 1740. The earliest known minute of the Mark degree being conferred is about 1773, at Durham; the next, of 1777, at London, and the third at Banff, of A.D. 1778. Many old Lodges continued the custom of mark choosing, and added the Mark ceremony, which has been continuously worked for considerably over a century. Several of these are on the register of the Mark Grand Lodge, which body was formed in 1856 to govern the Degree in England and the Colonies. The first Grand Master was Lord Leigh, and the second the lamented Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master of the Craft in England, who continued his interest in the ceremony down to his decease. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has been Grand Master from the year 1886, and I think it may fairly be declared that the Mark degree has all the recognition it needs, and that its continued prosperity is well assured under the present able management. The Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Chapter both acknowledge and adopt the Mark degree, as also Ireland, and, save in England, no Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch communicates that ceremony until the Mark degree has been taken. There are now some 200,000 contributing Mark Master Masons in English-speaking countries. The first Mark Lodge, under regular authority, was established in Cornwall in 1864-5, but the degree was worked in Redruth nearly a century ago, with many others. No. 417, Camborne, makes the twelfth under the genial rule of the R.W. Bro. Sir Charles B. Graves Sawle, Bart. It is well for us to remember that the more degrees that are taken the greater our obligation to do right, and the greater the sin to do wrong. Unless the 200,000 chosen Mark Masons exhibit due moral advancement, they had better have remained in the ranks of the two millions of Master Masons. Those who act immorally are not Mark Masters, but Mark defaulters. At any rate, if we fail to do our duty as in God's sight, the fault is wholly ours, for in no degree are the injunctions respecting morality and goodfellowship more enforced and binding than in that of Mark Masonry. An anthem followed, and the ceremonial of the consecration was proceeded with by the D.P.G.M. and his Officers. At its conclusion the Provincial Grand Master declared the Lodge duly consecrated, and dedicated and pronounced the final benediction. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed. The new Lodge was next opened by Bro. E. Milford-Milford, who officiated as the Installing Officer. Bro. F. W. Thomas was installed as the W.M. The Board of installed Masters, in addition to those who were previously officiating, included:—Bro. E. Aitken-Davies, W. Wales jun., J. O. Eva, W. A. Bennett. The Officers invested were:—R. Rowe S.W., W. Vial J.W., J. Whitworth Secretary, J. C. Harrell M.O., A. Dunkin S.O., F. J. Lee J.O., J. Adams S.D., A. J. Tangve J.D., J. Pendray I.G. Bro. H. P. Vivian was elected Treasurer, and Bro. John Nicholls Tyler. All the Officers each found his own collar jewel, and presented each jewel to the Lodge for the use of the future Officers. The Lodge was thus spared the expense of purchasing a set of collar jewels. Two handsome pieces of antique silver were supplied by Bro. Vivian for use at the consecration—a cup from a coffee service once belonging to a magnate at Algiers, and a salt box formerly the property of an Arab Sheik. Bro. W. King Baker gave the brethren a very interesting explanation of recent discoveries made in the side lettering of the Mark tracing board, for which he was gratefully thanked. Among the large number of Mark brethren present, in addition to those previously mentioned, were Bro. George Williams, R. James, W. G. Hancock, H. Stephens, R. S. Read, S. A. Taylor, J. P. Smith, J. W. Dudley, M. Sampson, R. P. Couch, G. R. Mockridge, V. Rogers, John Bray, John Langdon. In the evening the brethren dined together, the W.M. Bro. F. W. Thomas presiding.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE MASONRY.

Bucyrus, Ohio, 22nd December 1890.

WITHIN a few days there has been a judicial decision in the long-pending Masonic controversy, which is a substantial victory for the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the United States of America, their territories and dependencies, of which Sheriff-elect John J. Gorman, of New York, is Most Puissant Grand Commander. This case is one of many that have arisen throughout the state of Ohio under similar circumstances, growing out of the attempt of the Grand Master of the State to discredit the organisation of which Judge Gorman is Grand Commander, and to expel its members from office and membership in State Lodges. There has been endless turmoil inside the Lodges, and many suits are still awaiting settlement, in which the points are substantially the same as in this case. But in Ohio it happens that the Grand Master belongs to another Scottish Rite body, known as the Northern Jurisdiction body, and in order to strengthen his organisation and weaken the other, he used his official position in many ways, until restrained by the courts, to check the growth of the rival or United States body. In some cases attempts were made to disfranchise Masons in good standing. One of the most notable of the Ohio cases was that of the members of Goodale Lodge, of Columbus, who were charged with un-Masonic conduct, for the reason that they had become members of Judge Gorman's Scottish Rite body. They got an injunction in the courts against the Grand Master, on the ground that he had exercised undue authority and persecution, and thus oppressed and injured them as Masons. A little over a year ago a referee was occupied about two weeks in New York City taking testimony on the matters in dispute. Many witnesses were examined, and the investigation covered an exhaustive history of the origin of Scottish Rite Masonry in the United States. Judge Gorman's council claimed an unbroken descent from 1807 to the present time, except during the desertion of the Robinson party, in 1866, and alleged consolidation with other Masonic bodies, which consolidation, it was alleged, was unlawful and void. All the testimony was forwarded to Ohio, and is now on file in the Columbus court, and is by stipulation to be used in the case of Percy B. Davis, a minister of the Gospel, and member of Madison, Ohio, Lodge No. 221, who was threatened with expulsion because he was a member of a Cerneau Scottish Rite body. The decision just rendered by the Bucyrus court is in a case growing out of circumstances precisely like those at Columbus, which are still in litigation. The Bucyrus court sustains all the claims of the Supreme Council of the United States of America, their territories and dependencies, of which Judge John J. Gorman is Grand Commander, and overrules the demurrer of the Northern Jurisdiction rite. It is a decision which seems likely to settle the long-pending controversy, and to bring the Ohio Masons into the same category with the Masons of other States who do not assume to decide the vexatious Scottish Rite controversy, but permit their members to join whichever body they please, so long as they perform their duties as Masons in their respective Lodges. The practical effect of the Bucyrus decision will be to stop the quarrels of Masons in Ohio, and thus strengthen the Order in that State. The decision is one that will be interesting to all members of secret societies, because it sustains the claim that members of one society who are not members of another, cannot carry their quarrels into a foreign organisation and attempt to disrupt it, and deprive members of valuable rights and privileges by a conspiracy for no legal cause.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

—:O:—

AMERICAN MASONIC PIETY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your paper of 6th December appeared an article from the *Voice of Masonry*, headed "Our Jewish Brethren." The article was written by one who is acquainted with history, but he evidently knows nothing about American Masonry or about the American Masonic Ritual. For instance, the last paragraph in the said article is as follows:—

"In the Blue Lodge and Chapter, Jews and Christians can and do meet on common ground, joined by mutual vows of holy Brotherhood, irrespective of creed or race, worshipping one God, attached to the same general rules of conduct, and following the same lines of duty."

From the above, one would infer that no sectarianism exists in the Masonic Ritual. I, however, maintain that it is directly the reverse. Any one who has ever seen a Massachusetts Masonic certificate will tell you that he has seen thereon a figure of a lady holding up a cross. There are three marble statues in the principal hall in the Boston Masonic Temple, representing Faith, Hope, and Charity, and Faith is represented by a cross, and that the Ritual is not free from sectarianism may be inferred from the address of the G.M. of the District of Columbia at the last meeting of the said Grand Lodge, 13th November, when the Grand Master said:—

"There is a subject of which I wish to speak, and which I approach with some delicacy, although I have found many well informed brethren in accord with my views. We do not ask an applicant for the degrees what his religious belief may be, beyond satisfying

ourselves he is not an atheist. In consequence we have among us brethren of all creeds and denominations, and while the great mass of Masons in this country at least are of one faith, it seems manifestly improper to me that there should be any allusion whatever in the Lodge room to any religious subject which might give offence to sectarian or denominational prejudice.

"Objections have been made to the language of our Ritual, and some have desired a change in that particular; but while it is not probable that such a change could be effected, special reference to any dominant faith can and should be avoided."

Let it be understood that the Lodge room is a common ground where the children of the Great Father may come together, united in adoration of His name, without the use of a word calculated to make any Brother feel he is not in harmony with the whole."

The fact is American Masons pretend to be very pious, but, I am sorry to say, that neither truth nor justice forms part of their piety; and, however much they may pretend to be horrified about French Masonry, I bluntly confess that French Masonry is more in accord with truth, justice, and genuine piety, than the so-called Masonry in America is.

Faithfully yours,

JACOB NORTON.

BOSTON, 26th December 1890.

Obituary.

We have this week to record another break, by the grim destroyer Death, in the ranks of membership of St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211. Bro. Henry Green, after only a few days' illness, departed this life last week, and was buried in Ilford Churchyard, on Monday, the 12th inst., amid every possible token of the respect and esteem in which he was deservedly held. Bro. Henry Green was initiated in the St. Michael's Lodge, on the 13th November 1877, but he never aspired to office. He was, however, at all times ready to assist in advancing the true sentiments of Freemasonry. At the funeral No. 211 was represented by its W.M. Bro. Harry Nash, by the Treasurer, and by one of its Past Masters. Amongst others who were present were Bros. George Green (partner of the deceased), R. Wood, 765, and W. Brown.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. William Fenwick Raeburn, of 27 George's-road, Newcastle. The deceased gentleman was one of the representatives of Messrs. John Abbot and Co., Limited, Gateshead, with which firm he was connected for many years. As a member of the Masonic body he was elected Master by his brethren of Lodge of Industry, No. 48, Jackson-street, Gateshead, in the spring of last year. He was also a member of other Lodges, and took the liveliest interest in everything pertaining to the mystic art. Only a few weeks ago he attended the funeral of a brother Mason whom he held in the highest esteem, and on that occasion complained of cold. Some time after, he became unwell, and was confined to his house, during the past few days, suffering from congestion of the lungs, which terminated fatally on Monday, the 5th inst.

The mortal remains of Bro. Godfrey Thomas were interred at Llantwit Cemetery, Neath, on Friday, 9th inst., amid general manifestations of regret. The funeral was attended by a large number of the residents of the town and district. Deceased was a member of the Neath Lodge of Freemasons, and in the cortege were several members of that body.

The weekly meetings of the Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 861, were re-commenced on Tuesday, the 13th January 1891, at 7 o'clock, at the Goose and Gridiron, London House Yard, St. Paul's Church Yard, E.C.

According to a contemporary, the members of a Chicago Freemasons' Lodge, numbering 300, have agreed to let portions of skin be taken from their bodies for grafting on John Oscar Dickenson, a cancer patient and Freemason. The name of the Lodge is not given, the information arriving by telegram. Although there is no limit to a Freemason's charity, it would be interesting to have the particular Lodge mentioned which is identified with this gift of flesh to replace that of an afflicted Brother.

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

THE THEATRES, &c.

Empire.—The management of this popular place of amusement have introduced a pantomimic ballet as their holiday attraction, which has quickly achieved a remarkable success. It is in five tableaux or acts, and has been arranged by Madame Katti Lanner, and the Music is specially composed by Leopold Wrenzel. "Dolly" is a true pantomime, for never a word is spoken throughout, yet the story is intelligible enough, thanks to the art of the principal personages. Walter, a toymaker, Signorina M. Cavalazzi, has constructed a beautiful mechanical doll, which he takes to the house of Mr. Pompons to sell, but he asks too much for it, and the rich man refuses to buy it. Meanwhile the children seize the doll and destroy it, and on demanding compensation from Mr. Pompons Walter is driven from the door. As his family are starving he is in great grief, when he is visited by Dolly, the fairy of the toys, Signorina Emma Palladino, who leads him to the toy shop, a veritable children's paradise. Here we see toys of all sorts and sizes, to the number of some hundreds, who, forming themselves into procession, march and dance round the stage to the inordinate delight of the youngsters and, we may add, of those of a larger growth also. This scene is received with applause, which is thoroughly well deserved. The other tableaux show the retribution that overtakes Mr. Pompons and his family, and the final scene, in Fairyland, is of the most dazzling description. Besides those already mentioned, we must add the names of Signor Albertieri as the Gnome, Signora Bettini de Sortis as Snowflake, and Mdlle. Fnea the flying dancer, all of whom perform their allotted tasks with the utmost skill, agility and grace. The variety portion of the entertainment is also amusing, the ballads, sung by Miss Lucy Clarke, the operatic selections of Mdlle. Juana, and the eccentricities of Mdlle. Vanoni are all very enjoyable, while the pretty ballet of "Cecile" brings the programme to a successful termination.

Terry's.—Mr. Montague Roby's Midget Minstrels will give a series of matinees at the above theatre, commencing Monday, the 19th inst. Mr. Roby's is the only children's minstrel troupe in the world, and some idea may be formed of the merits of the performance from the fact that they have grown steadily in popularity during the past four years. The performance is to all intents and purposes of the well-known minstrel type, but of a superior kind. The departures from the orthodox lines of minstrelsy may be briefly summed up. In the first place the company consists of both boys and girls, and the introduction of female voices is a great improvement from a musical point of view. The boys only appear with blackened faces, presenting a striking and effective contrast to the girls. The first part of the programme consists of many of the loveliest songs, new and old, interspersed with comic nigger songs and some admirably rendered choruses, including the market chorus from "Masaniello," and the well-known "Anvil Chorus" from "Il Trovatore." These items are rendered with inconceivable smartness and correctness, and with irresistible drollery and merriment. The second part opens with a sketch, specially adapted to the tastes of the young folk, followed by a piccolo solo, Balfe's "Excelsior," arranged as a grand chorus, and perhaps not the least enchanting item is a song and dance by Miss Nellie Merton. Last on the programme is the farcical sketch by Mr. B. Soane Roby entitled "Snooks." We venture to predict this sketch, so perfectly stage managed and so admirably acted, will come as a surprise to London. The title rôle is played by Master J. M. Richardson, eldest son of Billy Richardson, of Stump speech fame. It may be mentioned that during a recent visit to Dublin the Marchioness of Londonderry personally complimented Mr. M. Roby on the excellence of his company, and Mr. Terry is to be congratulated on their engagement.

Bro. J. A. Collings's Annual Smoking Concert will take place at the Banqueting Hall, St. James's Hall, Regent Street, on Wednesday next, the 21st inst. Bro. Collings has received promises of support from a strong contingent of the most successful artistes of the day, and we are convinced those who give our brother their support will be provided with a first class entertainment.

On Wednesday, the 7th inst., a grand ball took place in the Town Hall, Ryde, under the banners of the East Medina Lodge, No. 175, and the Ryde Lodge, No. 698. The larger hall was nicely furnished and decorated with handsome plants. The pedestal chair and banner of the East Medina Lodge were at the stage end of the hall, and those of the Ryde Lodge at the opposite end. The smaller hall was tastefully laid out as a supper room, under the supervision of Mr. A. S. Marlow. The music was supplied by the splendid band of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, and dancing commenced about 9:30. There was a large attendance.

"PITCHFORKING."—An emergency meeting of Lodge Dramatic, No. 571 (S.C.) was held on the 29th ult., in the Hall, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow, Bro. J. C. McDonald R.W.M. in the chair. Applications for admission to the Craft were read from Dan Godfrey jun., conductor of music; Fred. W. Davis and Wm. Wallis, musicians; and Wm. John Findlay (W. Wilbert) artist. The ballot being clear, the four candidates received the Apprentice degree at the hands of Bro. John Gillespie, and then the Fellow Craft degree from Bro. Wm. Algie, and were afterwards made Master Masons by Bro. David Mearns. This was done in presence of a good number of musical and theatrical brethren. The reason for giving the three degrees at once was that the candidates, who had been performing in Glasgow, were compelled to leave the town during the week.—*Era*.

Bro. Jno. J. Furney was installed W.M. of the Loyal Monmouth Lodge of Freemasons on Tuesday, the 6th inst. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. Captain S. G. Homfray D.P.G.M. Monmouth. After the W.M. had appointed his Officers, the brethren dined together at the King's Head Hotel.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, under the presidency of Bro. J. Newton, who was supported by Bros. C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., Thos. B. Daniell, J. Brett P.G.P., C. Daniell, F. Mead P.G.S.B., J. Freeman, W. J. Marlis, W. H. Making, A. Mullord, J. Barnett jun., W. H. Hubbert, J. S. Cumberland, G. Everett, Wm. Fisher, C. F. Hogard P.G. Standard Bearer, W. M. Bywater P.G.S.B., Hugh Cotter, C. Kempton, T. B. Purchas P.A.G.D.C., A. Durrant, A. Forsyth, E. M. Money Grand Steward, C. H. Webb, J. P. Fitzgerald, G. Mickley, and James Terry P.G.S.B. (Secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, the Secretary reported the death of five annuitants (three men and two widows), and one widow (half annuitant), and two men candidates. The death of Bro. William Winn, a Patron and one of the Trustees of the Institution, was also reported. The Warden's report for the past month was read, and that of the Finance Committee read and adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The Committee next devoted themselves to the consideration of 11 petitions (10 men and one widow), one of the former was deferred, the others were accepted, and the names ordered to be entered on the lists for the election in May next. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

At the regular meeting, on Tuesday, of the St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211, Bro. P. J. King the S.W. of the past year was elected W.M.; Bro. Alfred Green P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Banks Tyler. The death of an esteemed member was officially reported to the Lodge by the Secretary Bro. Radcliffe P.M., and it was agreed that a vote of condolence to his widow should be sent by the Lodge.

At the monthly meeting of the St. John's Lodge, No. 328, held at the Masonic Hall, Torquay, on Monday, the 5th inst., Bro. R. D. Renwick W.M. in the chair, Bro. Thomas Becket S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. John Salter P.M. was elected Treasurer in succession to Bro. C. J. Harland P.M., who has resigned, after holding the office for seventeen years. Bro. G. Burt was re-elected Tyler. The annual banquet takes place at the Royal Hotel, next month.

Bro. Stevens' lecture on the Ritual and Ceremonial of the Symbolic Degrees in Freemasonry was delivered by him in the New Cross Lodge, No. 1559, at the Portland Hotel, Greenwich, on the 13th inst., and was received with great favour by the members of the Lodge and its visitors. Bro. C. N. McIntyre North W.M. presided, and at the conclusion of the lecture expressed, on behalf of himself and those present, his deep sense of the valuable information which had been imparted by Bro. Stevens, whose instructive remarks were worthy of the consideration of all earnest Masons interested in the preservation of the purity of Craft Ritual. A very interesting evening gave general satisfaction, and was terminated after supper by song and recitation in the social circle. We are gratified in the fact that Bro. Stevens' efforts are being so well appreciated. Craftsmen will do well to listen to what he has to say.

The annual banquet and Cinderella ball of the Chough Lodge, No. 2264, of which Bro. G. J. Judge is the W.M., will be held at Cannon-street Hotel, on Friday 30th inst.

At their last meeting, at Anderton's Hotel, the brethren of the Manchester Lodge elected Bro. Herbert Kew as their W.M. for the year ensuing. To the outgoing W.M. Bro. Gettings it was agreed to present a jewel in recognition of his services in the chair.

It is intended to place in Highclere Church a memorial of the late Earl of Carnarvon, through whose munificence the beautiful edifice was erected some years ago. As his Lordship was in the habit of reading the lessons in the church, which stands within a short distance of Highclere Castle, it is proposed that the memorial should take the form of a brass lectern.

DANCING.—To Those Who Have Never Learnt to Dance.—Bro. and Mrs. JACQUES WYNMAN receive daily, and undertake to teach ladies and gentlemen, who have never had the slightest previous knowledge of instruction, to go through every fashionable ball-dance in a few easy lessons.

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REVIEWS.

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

Cyclopædia of Foods, Condiments, and Beverages. By J. W. Hoffman. London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co., Stationers' Hall Court.

THE author of this work is the consulting chemist of the Pure Comestible Company, 287 Portobello-road, Notting Hill, W. The book contains a collection of information useful to housewives and chefs de cuisine, and the various recipes are described in an entertaining manner, quite different to the now old-fashioned cookery books. We regret the items are not more numerous; but that, we suppose, is a matter for future volumes. There is an interesting introduction, in which we read that it is "on record that at the marriage banquet of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, in 1243, the moderate number of 30,000 dishes were served for the occasion." Forks were unknown in England. Bread and meat were presented to the guest on the sharp point of the knife; he then cut smaller pieces, which he conveyed with fingers on the left hand to the mouth. Tablecloths were unknown, but in the 16th century, when they did come into use, they were made expensive luxuries, some of them costing £20 each. In these days we prefer to sink the money in what is placed on the cloth. Among the various dishes, the author perpetuates an epicurean one which, in its day, must have been a slow poison to bilious subjects. It is called "Angels on Horseback," and consists of "Oysters enveloped in slices of bacon, rolled up and toasted, and served up on slices of toast or bread." A dyspeptic, who was unable to resist his craving, has been known to reconcile himself to the inevitable by ordering "Kidneys for one!" and reflectively murmuring to himself, "Torture for two!" but to him what would "Angels on Horseback" mean? We fancy his reply—"Devils, with wings." The author's style is chatty; he has been careful in his selection of liqueurs and dishes ("Angels on Horseback" excepted), and the student in cookery as well as the professional chef will find the volume handy for service in their pursuit of catering wholesome food, the concomitants of which are described for general guidance in a manner intelligible to all.

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720 Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, 7
 781 Merchant Navy, Silver Tav, Burdett Rd., 7:30
 813 New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Rd.,
 862 Whittington, Red Lion, Fleet Street, 8
 902 Burgoyne, Essex Arms, Strand, 8
 972 St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, 8:30
 1037 Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
 1269 Stanhope, Fox and Hounds, Putney
 1356 Toxteth, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool, 7:30
 1475 Peckham, 518 Old Kent Road, 8
 1511 Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull
 1601 Ravensbourne, George, Lewisham, 8
 1604 Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant,
 S.W., 7:30
 1662 Beaconsfield, Chequers, Walthamstow, 7:30
 1681 Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, May Fair, 8
 1692 Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent, 8:30
 1791 Creton, Wheatsheaf, Shepherd's Bush, 8
 1922 Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell
 New Road, 8
 1963 Duke of Albany, 153 Battersea Park Road, 7:30
 2192 Warner, Bridge Chambers, Hoop Street, Wal-
 thamstow
 2206 Hendon, Welsh Harp, Hendon, 8
 R.A. 177 Domatic, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8
 R.A. 720 Panmure, Goose and Gridiron, E.C., 7
 R.A. 933 Doric, 203 Whitechapel Road, E., 7:30
 M.M. Grand Masters, 8a Red Lion Square, 7
 M.M. Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., 8

Thursday, 22nd January.

144 St. Luke, White Hart, Chelsea, 7:30
 147 Justice, Brown Bear, Brompton, 8
 263 Clarence, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C.
 435 Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air Street, W., 8
 704 Camden, Masonic Room, Lewisham, at 8

754 High Cross, Coach and Horses, Tottenham, 8
 879 Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Rotherhithe
 New Road
 1017 Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8
 1158 Southern Star, Sir Syd. Smith, Kennington, 8
 1182 Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool, 7:30
 1278 Burdett Coutts, Swan, Bethnal Green Road, 8
 1306 St. John, Three Crowns, Mile End Road, 8
 1360 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales, Wimbledon, 7:30
 1426 The Great City, Masons' Hall Avenue, 8:30
 1558 D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Camberwell, 8
 1571 Leopold, City Arms Tavern, E.C., 7
 1580 Cranbourne, Red Lion, Hatfield, 8
 1603 Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse, Liverpool
 Road, N., 8
 1612 West Middlesex, Bell, Ealing Dean, 7:45
 1614 Coven Garden, Criterion, W., 8
 1625 Tredegar, Wellington, Bow, E., 7:30
 1673 Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 5:30
 1677 Crusaders, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Gate,
 Clerkenwell, 9
 M.M. Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall
 M.M. 355 Royal Savoy, 15 Finsbury Pavement, 7:3

Friday, 23rd January.

Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, 8
 General Lodge, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, 8
 167 St. John's, York and Albany, Regent's Park, 8
 453 Chigwell, Pub. Ha, Station Rd., Loughton, 7:30
 507 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 7:30
 733 Westbourne, Swiss Cottage Tavern, Finchley
 Road, N.W., 8
 749 Belgrave, Harp Tavern, Jermyn Street, W. 8
 765 St. James, Princess Victoria, Rotherhithe, 8
 706 William Preston, St. Andrew's Tav, Baker St., 8
 780 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, 8

834 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith
 1056 Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, 7
 1185 Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, Wood Green, 7:30
 1228 Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone, 8
 1298 Royal Standard, Builders' Arms, Canonbury, 8
 1365 Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, 7:30
 1381 Kennington, The Horns, Kennington, 8
 1642 E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, 8
 1901 Selwyn, Montpelier, Choumont Rd., Peckham, 8
 2030 Abbey Westminster, King's Arms, S.W., 7:30
 R.A. 95 Eastern Star, Hercules Tavern, E.C.
 R.A. 820 Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, 8
 R.A. 890 Hornsey, Porchester, Cleveland Sq., W.
 R.A. 1275 Star, Stirling Castle, Camberwell, 8
 1744 Royal Savoy, Blue Posts, Charlotte Street, 8
 1950 Southgate, Railway Hot, New Southgate, 7:3
 1986 Priory, Constitutional Club, Acton
 R.A. 753 Prince Frederick William Lord's Hotel,
 St. John's Wood, 8
 R.A. 1471 North London, Northampton House,
 Canonbury, 8
 M.M. 199 Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Dalston, 8

Saturday, 24th January.

87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's
 Park, near Nunhead Junction, 7:30
 179 Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C., 8
 198 Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8
 1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E.,
 1288 Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, Highbury, 8
 1364 Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward, Hackney, 7
 1524 Duke of Connaught, Lord Stanley, Hackney, 8
 1624 Eccleston, 13 Cambridge Street, Pimlico, 7
 2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, Hammersmith, 7
 R.A. Sinai, Union Tavern, Air Street, W., 8



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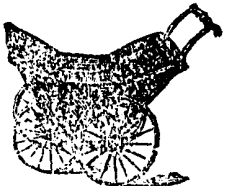
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