

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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EXPENDITURE AT THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

TRULY "there is nothing new under the sun." Even one's ideas are but the re-echo of those of some one else, and it seems almost impossible to secure anything like originality in any sphere of life. We do not suppose we are singular in our experience in this direction, nor that there is one of our readers but has not found, at one time or another, his brightest thoughts put into the mouth of his neighbour, and his best ideas worked on by strangers, before he has even had time to express them. An instance has just occurred to us. We had decided to look further into the statement of accounts and balance sheet just issued by the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and were in hopes of being able to present such an attractive "other side" to the picture we gave last week as would prove that in some respects, at least, the Institution at Wood Green is being conducted on satisfactory lines, when a letter reached us from "AN OLD READER OF THE CHRONICLE," which, in the words of the ordinary speaker at Masonic meetings, completely took the wind out of our sails. Several of the points we had marked for consideration in our present article are touched upon there, and treated in much the same way as we intended to treat them. The result is, we must, to a certain extent, modify some of our comments, so as to keep outside the arguments of our correspondent, who, we doubt not, will be pleased to find us so much in accord with his ideas.

Our readers would do well to first read his letter, which appears elsewhere in this issue, and then attempt to answer for themselves the question he propounds as to which of his two average "costs per annum" should be regarded as the one for consideration. Much can be said in support of the lower figure, and as much on behalf of the higher. After all, whether we agree that the boys on the establishment cost £43 or £51 per annum each, there is no getting away from the fact that the higher figure represents the outlay of the year, and, with the best of desires to make things appear as satisfactory as possible, we fail to see any reasonable plan of setting down the outlay at the lower figure.

Last year those in authority spent £2000 odd in special sanitary improvements, baths, fire appliances, escapes, &c. This, and next year, and every succeeding year, if the money is forthcoming, it will be spent in further improvements or new fangled notions, and so matters will go on, much as they have done in the past. But we must object to these special outlays being disregarded when an average is struck as to the cost per boy. If the sum referred to has resulted in a permanent improvement in the value of the property of the Institution, then there can be no excuse for reckoning it in the total before striking the average. But if, as we imagine is most likely, an estimate of the value of the property to-day would produce no better results than was the case when it was set down

as worth £30,400, then the outlay must be included in the current expenditure. Perhaps it might be more just to spread it over the accounts of three, four, or even five years, but we do not anticipate this would make any difference a few years hence, as other items of special moment would continually arise. Improvements such as those under notice are really on a par with "Repairs and Renewals," and we consider it unreasonable for a Committee, which saves money in one direction, only to expend it in another, to claim they have made any improvement in the working of an Institution, until they can show a reduction on the average per head, calculated on the total outlay.

Looking at the individual items of the expenditure account we are pleased to see an apparent improvement all round; and if it only lasts, and the Committee will be content to keep matters going along quietly, rather than seek for expensive outlets in the way of improvements and additions, there is every reason to hope that the report of the present year will come as a gratifying surprise to many of us; but there is that fearful craving for improvement in a new Board of Management to be overcome, and we almost fear it is impossible to get along without a regular repetition of the "Special" items which form just now a bone of contention among supporters of the Institution, and have such a terrible effect on the average of the year, increasing it from £43 to £51 per boy.

It will no doubt be in the minds of our readers that the accounts, as set out in the report of the Committee of Investigation gave a gross expenditure of £13,107 14s 4d for 258 Boys, the various subdivisions being as given below. We have added the totals for last year, from the accounts just published, subdivided in the same manner, as far as we are able, and these figures will no doubt render it easy for our readers to compare for themselves what is being done now alongside of what was done a few years back. It must be understood, however, that the figures in both cases are open to grave criticism, from the fact that they represent actual payments, without any regard to outstanding indebtedness, either at the beginning or the close of the financial year. Our correspondent shows how this would affect the later total by £350 17s 2d, how far it would add to or detract from the earlier figures it is impossible to say.

	Gross Expenditure.	
	Committee of Investigation Accounts.	Accounts of 1890.
	258 Boys.	264 Boys.
Office	1829 7 3	1813 6 0
Salaries and Wages	2360 13 3	2210 4 7
Provisions	3019 9 3	2651 13 2
Clothing	1704 10 11	1262 1 3
Education and maintenance of children outside, or outfits on leaving Institution	124 7 0	488 2 4

Household requisites	736	4	3	142	16	11
Infirmary	132	9	7	123	15	1
Rates and Taxes	530	18	5	639	4	0
Miscellaneous	2167	14	8	1698	19	6
Repairs and Renewals	501	19	9	2281	19	1
	13,107	14	4	13,312	1	11

"JOINERS."

FREEMASONRY has at least one sin to answer for, according to the view of some persons, and that is the existence of the large and growing army of "joiners."

A "joiner" is a brother who is as restless as a flea, or a grasshopper, until he has jumped into and been accepted by all the secret societies known among men in his vicinity.

Before discussing the "joiner," let us arrive at a fair conclusion as to whether Freemasonry is, or is not, responsible for the existence of this abnormal specimen of manhood, and often of Masonhood.

In our opinion, the "joiner" is a species of remote consequential damages which cannot be justly charged to Freemasonry.

It is unquestionably true that our Fraternity was the first, the original, the parent secret society of the ages, and it has no connection, even the most remote, with any other society which is the outgrowth of modern times. For many centuries Masonry was the sole secret society in the world, and no other one pretended to spring from it. Now there are hundreds of secret societies, but they have no more connection with it than the profession of the law has with the profession of medicine, or the butcher has with the fisherman. They were perfectly independent in origin and purpose; the only similar feature which all in common possess is their secrecy—they conceal their forms and ceremonies from the public.

The brood of secret societies which to-day cover our land as a cloud, owe their existence to the inordinate ambition of *individuals* (some of whom are Masons), to play the role of "Solomon" in creating a new social organisation. They are ambitious to be manufacturers of rituals, to originate high-sounding titles, to hold office after office, and thus to live, die, and be buried an office-holder in some secret society.

Occasionally some of these societies vainly attempt to ennoble their own character, and venter their modern origin and purpose, by unlawfully assuming the title "Masonic" as a part of their name. Beyond question such action is worthy only of condign reprobation and punishment, and the proper Masonic authority is not slow to brand such illegitimate action as unwarranted, fraudulent and clandestine. *No society is Masonic but Freemasonry.* No order has the right to adopt the term "Masonic" as a part of its title, without warrant from a Grand Lodge, which is the parent and sovereign body of the Craft in each jurisdiction throughout the globe. Any Freemason who joins a bastard body of the kind referred to, subjects himself to liability to trial and expulsion from Freemasonry. If he prefers the false to the true, he must enjoy the false alone, and be cut off from his Masonic brethren.

Ninety-nine out of one hundred secret societies, however, stand honestly and fairly on their ground. They are the social play-things of the hour, the toys to amuse children of a larger growth. But it is astonishing how many of these children there are. They are all "joiners." They are, or should be, men without homes, men without families, men with liberal means, men of prodigious memories, men born to rule. But are they?

We pity the wife and children of the "joiner," if he has any! How can he ever get acquainted with them? How can he remember their names? How can he feel any interest in their welfare? How can he support them? How, in case he be a Freemason, can he duly perform even his Masonic duties? The Freemason who diligently attends all of his Masonic meetings and committees, and looks after "the widows and orphans," has little if any leisure for other societies; the remainder of his time should be devoted to his family, his church, his social and kindred duties.

Indeed the "joiner" is a society monstrosity. He is daft on the subject of secret organizations. But perhaps

he is a politician; it may be there is a method in his madness. He desires to know everybody, to call everybody "Brother," to shake hands mystically with Tom, Dick and Harry, to be a "Brother beloved" to the great mass of the people!

But who keeps plethoric the "joiner's" bank account, to say nothing of his time? It costs money to become a "joiner," it costs money to remain a "joiner." He possesses no sinecure—he has to pay as he goes. The "joiner" will bear watching—look out for him!

It is unjust to visit Freemasonry with the "joiner's" sins. They are his own individual sins, not ours. If he be a Freemason, how little of Freemasonry he must have understood, when he went astray after the false gods of the thousand-and-one secret organizations of to-day. What just comparison can be made between any one of them and Freemasonry? The two are as far apart as the poles. The one is as ancient as civilization, the other is as modern as the telephone. The one has giants in intellect in it; the other is largely composed of mediocre men. The one has been tested by all the ages and never found wanting. The one is intellectual, moral, social and convivial; the other, how can it be as much?

The "joiner" is of no use to himself or Freemasonry, to his family or society at large. He has mortgaged both his time and his means until he is hopelessly involved. What is the best thing he can do? Resign and resign numerously. Resignation is the specific for the "joiner's" disease.—*Keystone.*

CHINESE MASONRY.

OLD Masons were, until late, of the opinion that no such a thing as a Chinese Mason existed. One gentleman said he had seen Arabs and Turks who were good Masons, but, to the best of his knowledge, no Chinaman was in the Order. Nevertheless, there are not only Chinese Masons, but right here in New York there is a Chinese Masonic Lodge in full blast with a membership of over three hundred. It is a native organisation, not allied directly to the Free and Accepted Masons, but said to be founded on principles very nearly akin.

The Lodge room is at No. 18 Mott Street, second floor, front, and has recently been re-modelled and refitted in very good shape, all newly painted and cleaned. The Lodge furniture is of Chinese design, and imported from China expressly for the society, at a great expense. A tall flagstaff with a rope for running up colours is on top of the building. Above the door as one enters the Lodge room is a red sign in native characters signifying "Chinese Masonic Society," and down the sides are two long slips of red paper bearing mottoes. One of these is, "Do good to one another," and the other relates to the business of the Order.

The interior is like most Chinese quarters, only lighter, and not full of odd turns and unsuspected corners. Immediately on entering one is led into a sort of ante-room and thence into the main or Lodge room. At the lower end of this room is the altar, and a very valuable one it is, costing in China 1500 dollars. Above it is an alcove in which a coloured drawing is suspended. It is not the least curious thing in the place, the design being three figures, one seated and two others bending over his shoulder. The seated figure represents the venerable father of Chinese Masonry. The face is heavy, placid, and adorned with a long black beard. The other two are respectively the spirits of light and darkness, who are supposed to be giving him counsel. In front of the altar a lamp is hung. It is never extinguished, and burns in commemoration of the dead of the Order. Another emblem is two sticks of sandal wood punk thrust into a box of sand. They keep smouldering away and fill the air with a faint but sweet perfume.

On the wall is a long board, and on this are pasted a great number of sheets of paper covered with Chinese hieroglyphics. These are the list of members voted on in the New York Lodge. Near the roster hangs two books. One of these is sent out from the Supreme Lodge at San Francisco, and gives a detailed account of a number of cases of those in distress and sickness, and the whereabouts of each one who needs help. The other is a subscription book in which the various amounts subscribed are entered. At intervals these two books and the amount

raised are transmitted to the Supreme Lodge, from which the dependent members are relieved.

Meetings are not held upon regular nights, but at intervals decided upon by the dignitaries of the Order, as the necessities of business may demand. The members are notified of meetings, held generally on Sunday nights, by the appearance of a triangular flag at the top of the pole on top of the house. This flag is white, and bears the picture of a hangered dragon, with its tail towards the point. There are grips, signs and passwords, exactly as in an American Lodge. "The travelling card" of this society is quite a curiosity in itself. It is a square of red silk inscribed with Chinese characters, and is a document highly prized by all its possessors.—*N. Y. World*.

AN ALLEGED MASONIC TRAGEDY.

TOLEDO (Ohio), 9th March.—A tragedy, which recalls the famous Morgan mystery, in which the Freemasons were charged with putting away a man who was supposed to threaten the existence of the Order, has just come to light here. In this case a man, believed by many to have been charged with the commission of a similar crime was almost miraculously saved from murder, and found refuge in suicide. On Friday last a gentleman arrived at the Boody House Hotel and registered his name as Charles F. Edwards. On the following day the Rev. Father Quigley called upon the Chief of Police and informed him that Edwards intended to commit suicide. The Police Chief lost no time in verifying the priest's suspicions. He secured the aid of the hotel manager, who ordered one of the bell boys or pages to climb through the transom over Edwards's chamber door. The boy opened the door from the inside, appearing with a white scared face. When the investigators entered they found Edwards stretched dead on the floor, with nearly all the popularly known liquid poisons represented in ounce bottles by his side. There were six one-ounce vials of laudanum, one of tincture of aconite, one of aqueous extract of opium, and one of prussic acid. In the fire grate were the ashes of a number of letters or other papers which he had utterly destroyed, no scrap remaining to reveal his identity. "Charles J. Edwards" is believed to have been an alias. Father Quigley is inclined to believe that it was the intention of Edwards, who called at the presbytery, to murder him. His visitor wore a Masonic emblem, indicating that he belonged to one of the higher organizations within the Craft. This recalled to the priest's mind sundry mysterious threats he had received soon after preaching a powerful anti-Masonic sermon a year ago, and a previous abortive attempt on his life.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I can well imagine your feelings were somewhat akin to satisfaction when you perused the report and balance sheet recently issued by the Provisional Management Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, not because I think you desire that estimable Charity any harm, but rather because your consistent support of the old secretary and the old board of management is demonstrated as justifiable by a cursory glance at the figures just issued. I think when you have carefully examined the expenditure under the different heads, you will agree that considerable saving has been accomplished since the new order of things has been introduced. Indeed, I take it your remark, that you never denied there was room for improvement, supports my opinion, and if I remember rightly, you have, on more than one occasion in the past, fiercely criticised expenditure you deemed excessive or unnecessary, not only in connexion with the Boys' School, but also with regard to the sister institution. Of course the past cannot be recalled, and although I am among the most loyal in supporting the present executive of the Boys' School, I cannot refrain from expressing my private view that we lost our best man when we drove Bro. Binckes from his post.

Relying on your sense of fairness and your oft-expressed desire to give both sides of a case an impartial hearing, I now crave a portion of your space to present some items of the balance sheet just published in a light which I hope will show that the Provisional Management Committee have not wholly failed in their work of reform, although they have not yet reduced the cost per boy to the marvellous average set down in their accounts published twelve months back, and I further venture the opinion we shall have to wait many a long day before that desirable result is achieved.

In the first place, the expenditure of the £2,111 16s 7d on special sanitary improvements, &c., should not, I think, be included in any summary of expenses compiled with a view of striking an average, although it would seem necessary it should be so included when a comparison is desired with the past, in regard to actual cost of

working the Institution, as such outlays were then included. But having once disposed of this awkward item, I think you will agree there is a saving everywhere, as my figures, drawn from the accounts prepared for the Committee of Inquiry and those just issued, will, I hope, demonstrate.

By the balance-sheet of 31st December 1889 the Institution was shown to owe £1448 3s 10d to sundry creditors; last year the amount is set down at £1999 18s 2d, but as there is an item in the expenditure account "Liabilities relating to 1889, under estimated at 31st of December" of £200 2s 2d, the actual difference in amounts due to "Sundry Creditors" on the two years is £351 12s 2d against the Institution. On the other side "Sundry Debtors" figures for £136 10s 8d in the accounts of 1889, and for £137 5s 8d in those of 1890, so that the School stands 15s better off under that head, or a net variation on the balance-sheet of £350 17s 2d. Add to this latter sum the total expenditure of the past year (General £10,821 19s 2d, Pensions £106 4s, Repairs to organ £72), and we have a gross out-going of £11,351 0s 4d, which, divided among the 264 boys, set down as chargeable to the Institution, gives an average cost of £43 per annum, outside the special expenditure of £2,111 odd, already referred to, and which of course puts the average up to close on £51 per boy. Now, the question arises, which of these two averages is the fair one to work on? Taking the outlay of the year and dividing it by the number of boys on the establishment of course gives the higher figure as the average, but it seems to me that some other means should be found of accounting for the outlay on improvements, baths, &c., so that the "average" might be relieved of that item, not, perhaps, for purposes of comparison with the past, but as setting up a standard for the present and the future. One consideration strikes me. Is this £2000 odd spent on the boys now in the School? Or is it a permanent addition to the "Land and Buildings at Wood Green," set out in the balance-sheet at a valuation of £20,000? In other words, would a valuation to-day come out £2000 better than when the last was made? because if so, it would be fair to charge the improvements against capital, or set them down as an investment, rather than mix them up with current expenditure. I do not profess to be an adept at accountancy, but I fancy I can see the principle on which the accounts are set forth in the paper just issued from the Institution, and I fancy matters are not quite so bad as some of us are likely to imagine from a hasty or incomplete glance at the figures. I even hope to see you, Mr. Editor, telling us a little of the other side of the story. Let us bury the past—the unadornable past—in its own history, and by united and energetic action prove that we of the present are as good as our forefathers; aye, and a great deal better.

Yours, &c.

AN OLD READER OF THE CHRONICLE.

IS THE LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE BUT A NAME, OR IS IT A REALITY?

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am driven to ask this question from two cases which came before the Lodge on the 18th inst.—one from a brother who appealed for a little help to supplement what his friends were doing for him to gain a living, and the other (the widow of a Colonial Mason, sixty-five years of age, eyesight too bad to enable her to earn her living) without hope, to whom was granted the magnificent sum of £5. And that munificence displayed after the case had been brought forward by a brother of 38 years' standing, and who is President of all the Institutions.

Yours fraternally,

ST. AUGUSTINE.

NEWSPAPER STATISTICS.—From *The Newspaper Press Directory* for 1891 we ascertain that "there are now published in the United Kingdom 2,234 newspapers, distributed as follows:—

England—	
London	470
Provinces	1,293—1,763
Wales	90
Scotland	201
Ireland	157
Isles	23

Of these there are—

142 Daily Papers published in England	
6 Ditto	Wales
19 Ditto	Scotland
15 Ditto	Ireland
1 Ditto	British Isles

On reference to the first edition of this useful *Directory* for the year 1846 we find the following interesting facts—viz., that in that year there were published in the United Kingdom 551 Journals; of these 14 were issued daily—viz., 12 in England and 2 in Ireland; but in 1891 there are now established and circulated 2,234 papers, of which no less than 183 are issued daily, showing that the Press of the country has more than quadrupled during the last forty-five years. The increase in Daily Papers has been still more remarkable; the Daily Issues standing 183 against 14 in 1846. The Magazines now in course of publication, including the Quarterly Reviews, number 1,778, of which more than 448 are of a decidedly religious character, representing the Church of England, Wesleyans, Methodists, Baptists, Independents, Roman Catholics, and other Christian Communities."

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WHERE WE FIND ALL THIS.

An Oration before the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in California, 15th October 1890, by Bro. Jacob Voorsanger, Grand Orator.

(Continued from page 181.)

WHAT is this position, and what are these relations? These questions, my brethren, are the theme of Masonic inquiry as they were of the contemplation of antiquity. Our modern mysteries are, in my humble opinion, designed to enable us to ponder these questions. I care not for the speculations of those of the Craft whose historic studies seek to encompass the birth, age and antiquity of Masonry. To me, Masonry is a noble philosophy, and an inquiry into the nature and significance of its mysteries alone has enabled me to come to such a conclusion. I discover design and harmony in our symbolism, from the moment the novice is required to place himself in charge of the Stewards to be duly and truly prepared until, as a Master Mason, he takes his seat among the brethren. But I see, likewise, that every feature of the mysteries is in the nature of a preliminary truth to prepare the candidate by degrees for the central truth, around which Freemasonry revolves as the world around the sun. It is to that central truth that we must look as the dearest possession of the initiated, so dear, in fact, that all the trials and travails of the candidate appear justifiable; so dear, in fact, that he who ponders it will perceive the necessity of preparation and preliminary instruction. But mark you, like the contents of the Ark, it will appear very simple when once we have arrived in its presence. There is this analogy between our own mysterious abode and that of the ancients, that its interior is enhanced by the awe, the feeling of uncertainty, the state of suspense of the candidate. It is well it should be so; truth must be bought at some price, lest, being held too cheap, it is cast away like a worthless bauble. Clothe it with mystery, attire it in apparently unintelligible forms, and it will surely make an indelible impression upon the novice; for he will seek to penetrate the mystery; he will surely endeavour to ponder the secrets that have been imparted to him.

And how simple are those secrets! Venturing, like the priests of old, with dread and trembling into the inner chamber, what does he discover when the light is revealed to his eyes? Ah, the same simple rule of life, so simple to the student, so terribly difficult to the unlearned. Simply, in humble adaption of the grand lessons of Sinai deposited in the ark, that he must hold Deity in reverence, square his actions and keep his passions within due bounds toward all mankind! A grand, a holy lesson! You should know, my brethren, that when we stand in the clear light of our revealed mysteries, it is no longer mystery but knowledge that guides us. Then we learn, or should already have learned, that in the inner circle of Masonry, as in the inner circle of the ancient initiated, the problems of human life must be solved, so far as we can and may, with a view of teaching us wisdom, honour and philanthropy. Then we are done with symbols and speak in emblematic language the noble truths that should guide us. Then we may ascertain to what extent Masonry, by means of its mysteries and its teachings, can become a power amongst men, sustaining the aged, refining the moral perceptions, developing the reasoning faculty that alone can bring us in communion with the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Then we may observe that the great lights of Masonry are the chapters of a system of philosophy, designed to enhance the Mason's happiness, to solve his problems, to reconcile him to the inevitable destiny of man and to lead him to immortality. The first chapter, we then learn, is contained in the ethics, laws and maxims of the revealed writings, to be the rule and guide of our faith. Does man need a rule or guide? Does he require the moral strength of the Scriptural wisdom as an eloquent reminder of that Deity before whom the Entered Apprentice and the Master alike should bow with reverence? What think you, my brethren? Man is so strong, so wise, so potent for good and evil, does he require such a guide? The answer to this question is the answer to the mysteries. It is your duty to explain this matter to the novice, not only in the symbolic language of the ritual but in every-day, matter-of-fact speech. You, to whom your younger brethren attribute knowledge and experience,

whose years of service have given evidence of a well-tryed faith, you should make this great underlying principle of Masonry the theme of your conversation, whether you meet with your companions in the temple, or under the dome of heaven. Does man need this guide which Masonry recommends him? The most eloquent answer to that question can be given by each creature for himself. Ask the novice, when, in his helpless and forlorn condition, he faces the darkness. Ask him, when an unknown hand is leading him he knows not whither. Ask him, when his imagination, intensified by the darkness, conjures up a thousand weird pictures. Watch the spontaneous answer that rushes from his lips—the word that comes to him first of all his vocabulary. Who is his guide? God! This man has spoken, not of the strength of his conviction, but out of the great need of his soul. This man's spirit has discovered a protection in danger—the Master's will spurs him on to proclaim the great refuge of man.

How beautiful, then, is this mysterious symbol, that leads the novice, wandering in darkness, to recognise that his first need, his first trust, is a merciful, a loving, a helping God. He is right, because his heart spoke its need, and he is rightly told that his faith is well founded. Therefore, when the darkness disappears, when his eyes salute the light, he beholds no further mystery; he merely beholds that which his heart has already conceived. This point, brethren, must always remain the most significant phase of Speculative Masonry. No matter how much philosophy may be crowded in the upper degrees, the great central thought of Masonry is illustrated in the initiatory degree, when the candidate, by the force of circumstance, and in the stress of his necessity, promptly verifies the experience of mankind, that the fundamental principle of society is God, and likewise our own experience that Masonry is so far interwoven with religion as to teach us the rational worship of Deity. Amplify this thought, my brethren, whenever opportunity presents itself. In that central truth lies the germ of our whole system of moral and Masonic philosophy. God means government, order, harmony; God means life, death, and immortality. Teach your young brethren that the foundations of civil society lie in God. Teach them that order without God is chaos, peace without Him is anarchy. Teach them, and you will indeed teach them truly, that we, who, without these sacred precincts, are divided into sects, castes and classes, are here on the level even as the humble apprentices in the north-east before the Master, recognising that generous influence that cometh from the East, "as a bridegroom cometh forth from his chamber, rejoicing even like the war-steed to fly on his course." We recognise as the fundamental principle of Speculative Masonry the great need of man, God, the All-Father, the Supreme Architect, the all-wise Disposer of life and death. We have felt the need of this guide. We never saw him, for we are not privileged to penetrate this mystery of all mysteries. But like the Entered Apprentice at the moment of his need, our hearts have found Him, and such is the Divine revelation that comes to all men. When we were tempest-tossed; when the whirlwind passed over us; when the storm-clouds fought in the heavens; when the sails of our frail ship were torn into shreds; when we floated like the drift-wood on the sea of life, helpless, powerless, spiritless, then we found the Grand Master of the Heavens and the Earth. When darkness surrounded us; when our feet trembled; when hands, felt not seen, led us on uncertain ways, when we imagined an abyss where we found refuge; when we knelt on thorns and cried out in our pain—then, my brethren, we found the Architect who inspired the widow's son to draw his moral designs on the trestle-board of religion and philosophy. Then, like Moses and the workmen of King Solomon, we brooked no priestly supererogation, no sacerdotal ceremonialism; we pierced the mysteries with our spirit and we saw the Presence between the wings of angels overshadowing the covenant!

We, therefore, purified by the teachings of this philosophy, which is the philosophy of life and experience—we can point to Holy Writ as the visible evidence of that strength that guides us to heaven. Therefore our catechism is different from that of the scoffer and the materialist; and our catechism, I beg you to understand, is not that of the theologian, nor one conceived with dialectic skill, but the pure conceptions of the initiated Mason, who has become convinced that his guide is the same one who led the feet of the young son of David to the temple erected in his honour.

Just listen to the catechism of the scoffer, of him who cannot even see the glamour of significance in mystery. He is like the dry tree, that gives not fruit, and whose leaves fall to the ground, withered, dead. Ask him, what is life, that great mystery? He answers, nervous force! What is death? Disintegration. What is morality? A police regulation. What is religion? A fiction. What is the soul? A theological quibble. What is immortality? A dream. This man, my brethren, will never pass beyond the mystic veil. He holds in his hands the hour-glass and the scythe; he pillows his head on a coffin and a spade. He never beholds the sprig of acacia. He is translated from the upper crust of the earth to a bed in the lower stratum; he lies down to sleep, but not to rise again.

How much happier are we, the disciples of Hiram, of the tribe of Naphtali, who, when the sun stood at meridian height, called the Craft from labour to repose, and who, at low twelve, dreaded not the reckless brutality of traitors, but trusted in his God, though his life was the forfeit? What was life to him? A purely material gift from nature, a mere temporary being? Nay, he esteemed it a gift from the Supreme Architect, an opportunity to develop the gifts with which nature has enriched his soul. Was death to him disintegration? Nay, the symbols we discover to the candidate prove the strength of that doctrine of the righteous, that this distinguished and pious hero of tradition, like all righteous men and Masons, believed that death was a passage to immortality, "not a grim tyrant, but a kind messenger sent to translate us from this imperfect to that all-perfect, glorious and celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe for ever presides." To him, therefore, and to us morality is not a police regulation, not a mere consensus of human opinion as to what constitutes right and wrong, not the dry, determinate effect of centuries of experience, but for ever the harmony between God and men, for ever the rule suggested by our faith, for ever the line of human action, not because man forced its direction, but because God made it straight! Therefore, to us immortality is no dream of poets, rather a logical consequence of life.

Where do I find all this, brethren? On the altar of Masonry, where lies the Writ of ages and the experience of mankind. Where do I find all this? Between the points of the extended compasses, wherein are contained the most important tenets of our Order. Where do I find all this? In the mystic letter for ever hovering above the Master's head—the letter that flashes a world of intelligence and wisdom on every well-intentioned Mason.

Now, then, what is the principal lesson of the mysteries? Are the latter so mysterious after all? Having found the key to unlock the book with many seals, do we not behold every symbol teeming with wisdom, with precious counsel, with quiet admonition? Study your ritual, brethren. It will give you choice pearls of wisdom and you will become wise. It will teach you, to quote the wise Socrates, so to prepare your thoughts and actions that they completely harmonise with the intentions of the Supreme Master. Then, by the aid of that wisdom, you may verify the traditions, that the workmen may enter the sanctum sanctorum at any time. Then, no priest shall dictate your communion with God. Then, no mysteries shall any more bar your entrance. Then, the spirit shall be master over the body and your wisdom shall discover the true happiness of life. For, says that wisest of all ancient philosophers, the Athenian, whose precious teachings were preserved by his disciple, Plato, "The greatest boon of the wise is wisdom." We are to seek the truth. Alas! The body gives us little leisure for this important task. To-day its sustenance requires entire care; to-morrow it is assailed by sickness; then follow other affairs of the body, love, fear, desires, wishes, freaks and follies, which constantly detract our mind, allure our senses from one vanity to another, and cause us to crave in vain for the real object of our rational wishes—wisdom. What causes war, rebellion, strife and dissension among men but the body? What else but the body and its insatiable wants? For covetousness is the mother of all unrest and the soul would never hanker after its peculiar possessions had it not to care for the hungry desire of the body. Thus we are occupied most of the time and seldom have leisure to seek for wisdom. Finally, if a leisure hour has been gained, and we prepare ourselves to embrace it, then, this disturber of our happiness, the body, stands again in our path and offers us its shadows instead of truth. Thus far,

Socrates. The lecturer on the Masonic platform speaks no purer wisdom. The Socratic admonition is the finest application of the Masonic injunction to circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds.

Thus I have traced before you, my brethren, the meaning of these great lights of Masonry, and endeavoured to weave a beautiful web of philosophy in them. Let us, then, hold these lights in great reverence, the Bible, the square, the compasses; the first as a reminder of the Deity, the second as an emblem of mortality, honour and integrity, the third as the emblem of that surpassing wisdom that will enable us to enter the sanctum sanctorum, there to reflect upon the problems of human thought, life, death, immortality. It was because that the ten commandments contained all the rules man needs to live justly, uprightly and holy, that they alone were deposited in the inner sanctum. It is because our three great lights are all we need whereby to live, prosper and find happiness, that the candidate beholds them when the clouds of darkness fall from his eyelids. Without them he is the slave of his passions, with them he is more than a Mason of the third or thirty-third degree; he is Master of himself, the conqueror of his evil inclinations. And it may be, brethren, it may be that when all men shall have been led to the sanctum sanctorum, when the spirit of wisdom shall prevail over the spirit of folly, when the soul's beauty shall obscure the hideous passions and appetites of men,—it may be that then the last mystery shall be cleared and the world will understand immortality. When every Master Mason shall have encompassed his desires, when the teachings of his Order shall have made him a good, wise man, when he shall deserve a monument such as described by the poet:

Go build his monument—and let it be
Firm as the land, but open as the sea;
Low in his grave the strong foundations lie,
Let be the dome expansive as the sky,
On crystal pillars resting from above,
Its sole supporters—works of faith and love;
So clear, so pure, that to the keenest sight
They cast no shadow; all within be light;
No walls divide the area, nor inclose;
Charter the whole to every wind that blows.
Then rage the tempest, flash the lightnings blue,
And thunders roll—they pass unharmed through.
One Simple altar in the midst be placed,
With this, and only this inscription graced—

* * * * *
Glory to God! good will, and peace on earth!
Then be thy duteous sons a tribe of priests,
Not offering incense, nor the blood of beasts,
But with their gifts upon that altar spread—
Health to the sick, and to the hungry bread,
Beneficence to all.
Pain, want, misfortune, thither shall repair.
Folly and vice reclaimed shall worship there—
The God of him in whose transcendent mind
Stood such a Temple free to all mankind!

Worshipful Master and Brethren — when the poet's precious burden shall be understood by all men, the Bible, the Square and the Compasses shall yet stand out as instruments that have contributed to the redemption of mankind. We who have partaken of the mysteries, shall we not strive to live our lives in harmony with their teachings, that in our generation we may speed the day when the sanctum sanctorum shall not be veiled any more?—when all men shall have attained that stage of happiness that is the result of a union of a pure body and a pure spirit. And may the Grand Lodge of California, our noble mother, for ever increase in that power, that is, the power of benevolence, faith and charity, a true mother, a beneficent teacher of generations yet unborn. And to each of you, my brethren, this simple and heartfelt wish—

So may thy wealth and power increase,
So may thy people dwell in peace.
On thee th' Almighty's glory rest,
And all the world in thee be blest.

—Voice of Masonry.

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NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

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FORTITUDE LODGE, No. 66.

THE annual meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on the 18th inst., to instal Bro. Hicks S.W. as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was most impressively rendered by Bro. Lord P.M. 50 P.P.G.S. Works. The Officers invested were Bros. Westcott I.P.M., Roberts S.W., Whittley P.M. J.W., Bird P.M. M.O., Kevern P.M. S.O., Keats P.M. J.O., the Rev. Whittley P.M. Chap., Jew P.M. Treas., Gover P.M. Sec., Latimer P.M. R. of M., Coppin P.M. S.D., Hearle P.M. J.D., Gray P.M. D.C., Dimier P.M. Orgt., Crimp P.M. St.B., Clemens P.M. I.G., and Gidley P.M. Tyler.

VIRTUE LODGE No. 152 (MANCHESTER).

A REGULAR meeting was held in the Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 20th inst. Present:—Bros. Gellebrand P.M., Bati S.W., Cantrell J.W., Crompton Secretary, Mellington S.D., Campbell J.D., Williams P.M. Dir. of Cers., Davis I.G., Froggart J.S., Daniel I.P.M., Constantine, Ireland, Kelly and Kay; P.M.'s Conway, Blaikie and Pritchard. Visitors—Bros. Cheetham Past Master 1993 P.P.G.J.D., E. Williams P.M. 325 P.P.Supt. Works, Hall P.M. 1387, Whitwell 1219 and Beaswell 594. The Lodge was opened with solemn prayer at six o'clock, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. After the usual preliminaries Brother Constantine was raised to the third degree by Bro. Conway P.M. Prior to the Lodge being closed, Bros. Cheetham and Williams (who represented the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire) explained the nature of a scheme for extending the usefulness of the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution. Bro. Blaikie proposed, and Bro. Conway seconded, a vote of thanks to Bros. Cheetham and Williams for their lucid explanation, and there being no further business the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 8.15.

LOYAL LODGE, No. 251.

A SPECIAL meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Barnstaple, on Monday evening, the 16th inst., to welcome Bro. James Stevens P.M. P.Z., &c., the well-known Masonic lecturer. Bro. F. J. Codd W.M. presided, and besides the members of the Lodge there were present several visitors from Ilfracombe and Torrington. Bro. Stevens delivered a most interesting and instructive lecture on the Ritual of Symbolic Freemasonry, to which the brethren listened with great attention, and until the near departure of the railway trains necessarily compelled separation. A hearty vote of thanks to Brother Stevens was proposed by Bro. C. G. Davie P.M. Provincial Grand Secretary, and being seconded by Bro. the Rev. Thomas Russell P.M. Past Provincial Grand Warden, was carried unanimously. There was a very strong feeling amongst those who had had the advantage of hearing Bro. Stevens's admirable lecture, that the information given was as valuable as the delivery and oratory of the lecturer were fluent and impressive. There can be no doubt that the Craft will gain considerably by his experience and instruction in Masonic working.

COMBERMERE LODGE, No. 605.

THE installation meeting took place on Thursday, the 19th inst., at the Queen's Hotel, Birkenhead, and was numerously attended by members of the Lodge and visitors. The retiring Worshipful Master (Bro. Roberts) presided at the opening of the Lodge. Prior to the installation two candidates were initiated into the Order, the work being efficiently performed by the retiring Worshipful Master, who afterwards installed with much solemnity and effect Bro. Alex. Moore, who during his connection with the Order has proved a most zealous and active supporter of the Craft on the Cheshire side of the river. After the installation Bro. Moore invested his Officers for the year, as follow:—Bros. Roberts I.P.M., Watt S.W., Frazer J.W., Simm P.M. P.P.G.T. Treasurer, Jones P.M. P.P.G.Std.Br. Secretary, Clark P.M. Dir. of Cers., Woodcock S.D., Thompson J.D. Jackson I.G., Reinhardt S.S., Jones J.S., Birkett Assist. Steward, Holloway being re-elected Tyler. Subsequently the brethren adjourned to the Music Hall, where an excellent banquet was served by Bro. Baker, followed by the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, the health of the newly-installed Worshipful Master (Bro. Moore) being drunk with the greatest cordiality by the brethren present. The proceedings were greatly enlivened by the musical efforts of Bros. Kirkham, Baker, Roberts, Parry, Proudman, Galt and Jackson, the services of the latter in presiding at the organ at the installation ceremony being especially appreciated. In the course of the evening a handsomely ornamented sword was presented to the Lodge by Bro. Jones, the sword having previously been the property of the late Bro. Captain Tebbs Deputy Grand Master of Canada, and purchased by Bro. Jones. The gift was accepted with cordial thanks, and it was resolved that the presentation should be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge. A very valuable and neatly-designed P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Roberts for his valuable services in the chair during the past year.

CALLENDER LODGE, No. 1052 (MANCHESTER).

A REGULAR meeting was held at the Town Hall Buildings, on Tuesday, the 17th inst., when there were present:—Bros. Jaz. Campbell W.M., Lofthouse S.W., Start J.W., Outram P.M. Treasurer, White P.M. Secretary, Smith S.D., Thorpe J.D., Wrigley P.M. Dir. of Cers., Luck I.G., Jordrell P.M. Tyler, Warburton P.M. P.P.G.S.B., Walker P.M., Roscoe, Ballard, Brierley, Edwards P.M. and Reilly. Visitors—Bros. Sinnister, Killuck 992, and R. R. Lissenden (FREE-

MASON'S CHRONICLE). The Lodge was opened in the usual manner at six o'clock, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. Two brethren who were candidates for the second degree were interrogated, and withdrew. A Brother was subsequently passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M., and Bro. Reilly by Bro. Williams P.M. This being the night of election, after the usual preliminaries Bro. Lofthouse was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Before proceeding to elect a Treasurer, Bro. Outram P.M., who has held that office for several years, stated his fixed intention, owing to pressure of business, of resigning the office, and asked the brethren to accept his resignation and elect some other brother in his place. Accordingly Bro. Wrigley was elected Treasurer. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded Bro. A. B. Outram for his highly appreciated and valuable services. Bros. Smith and Brierley were appointed Auditors of the Treasurer's accounts, and Bro. Dawson P.M. was elected Tyler. After some further Lodge business, the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 9.30.

LODGE METHAM, No. 1205.

THE annual meeting was held at the Masonic-rooms, Caroline-place, Stonehouse, on the 18th inst., to instal Bro. Perring S.W. as W.M. for the year ensuing. The installing officers were the retiring W.M. Bro. King, Dunn P.M. 1205, Sitters P.M. 1205, and W. Kennedy P.M. 1205. The board of installed masters being closed, the W.M. invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. King I.P.M., Perkins S.W., Hughes J.W., Peek P.M. Chaplain, Cross P.M. Treasurer, Powell P.M. Secretary, Dunn P.M. Assistant Secretary, Facey S.D., Skellern J.D., Maddock D.C., Maunder A.D.C., Wills Organist, Ambrose I.G., Webster S.S., Start J.S., Chanter A.S., Ferguson A.S., and Gidley P.M. Tyler.

ON the 19th inst., the brethren held their annual banquet at the Masonic Hall, Plymouth. Bro. G. Perring the W.M. presided, and the attendance included many past and present Provincial Officers. Special interest attached to the proceedings by the presence of the Right Worshipful Bro. Colonel Elliott, District Grand Master of Barbadoes, P.G. Deacon of England, and P.P.G.S.W. of Devonshire. Bro. Colonel Elliott was also the founder and first W.M. of Lodge Metham, and his presence at the banquet on this occasion was hailed by the brethren with great pleasure. There were also present Bros. Jew P.P.G.T., Powell P.G.T., Cross P.P.G.T., Gibbons P.P.G.O., Dickson P.P.D.D.C., Cooper P.P.G.J.D., Hiffley P.P.G.D.C., Browning P.P.G.D.C., Pike P.P.G.O., Major Dick R.M.L.I. and S.W. of the Western District Service Lodge, King I.P.M. 1550, Trout, Wilson, Dunn, Peek, Setters, Allsford, Marchant, Rawlings, Leonard W.M., Kennedy, Orchard, Lister (1855), Maunder, Ewens, Williams, Mitten S.W. 1550, Rodgman, Menhinick, Smith, Jackson, Hearn, Stevens, and Pengelly. The dinner was well laid and served, and the dining-hall presented a very pretty and attractive appearance, thanks to the efforts of Bro. Ewens, who had decorated it with great taste with flags, Japanese lamps, and other ornamentation. After the toast of "Her Majesty the Queen" had been given, the W.M. proposed "The Most Worshipful H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, and the Grand Lodge of England." The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Colonel Elliott, who was received with great cordiality. He said: Their Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, who had descended from a long line of Royal Masons, was loved and honoured by all classes of the community. His princely position and conduct specially qualified him to preside over the Masonic body. Under his patronage, and under his superintendence and guidance, the order had achieved marvellous successes, and had made prodigious strides. Annually it was distributing thousands of pounds through its Charities, whose hands were always open to assist brethren who, by age or misfortune, were reduced to indigence and want. The Grand Lodge was no institution of yesterday; it was nearly a thousand years old. It was an institution of which he believed the first Grand Lodge was established in the year 926, and the first Grand Master, Elwin, had the warrant conferred upon him by his brother, King Athelstan. From the oldest times, Kings, Princes, and other eminent persons had paid homage to that grand assembly. Masonry had declined and risen as the times had varied and fluctuated, and now as then, in proportion as Masonry had received encouragement its influence for good was felt throughout the length and breadth of the world. They were now living in an age when Masonry received every encouragement. Her Majesty the Queen was Patron of the Order, the Prince of Wales was Grand Master of the Order, and other members of the Royal family occupied prominent positions in the Order. It was due to the interest taken in Masonry by the Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal family, coupled with the fact that the Grand Lodge itself put forth its powerful energies for the good of the Order, through the Board of General Purposes, that Masonry owed its prosperity, and that its members were able to congratulate themselves on belonging to a society that did so much for the good of their fellow creatures. Bro. Kennedy proposed, and Bro. Jew acknowledged the toast of "The R.W. the Viscount Ebrington, M.P., P.G.M., and the Prov. Grand Officers, past and present." Both brethren spoke in sympathetic terms of the illness of Bro. Viscount Ebrington, whose services as Grand Master they warmly eulogised, and their expressions of hope that his lordship might soon be restored to perfect health, were warmly applauded. Bro. Setters gave the toast of "The R.W. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe Prov. Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Cornwall," and Bro. Marchant responded. The health of "the W.M. of Lodge Metham" was proposed by Bro. A. W. King, and received with great heartiness. Bro. Perring, in reply, said he hoped to fully realise the responsibility attaching to the position he held, and that during his year of office the harmony and good feeling that had always existed in Metham would be continued and maintained without interruption. Bro. Powell P.G.T., in proposing the health of the I.P.M. (Bro. King), reminded the brethren that Bro. King had recently been the recipient of a handsome P.M.'s jewel in recognition of the excellent manner in which he had filled the W.M.'s chair during the past year.

No P.M. had more richly deserved the honour than Bro. King had, for whatever office he had occupied he had discharged his duties with care, courtesy, and ability. Bro. King briefly replied, cordially thanking the brethren for the valuable assistance they had given him during his year of office. The toast of "The Past Masters of Lodge Metham" was proposed by Bro. G. Perkins, and responded to by Bro. Colonel Elliott, who reminded the brethren that Lodge Metham was originated by himself. His reasons for doing so were these. He had been Master for two successive years of a Lodge abroad, and was then ordered home from a place where he found it absolutely impossible to find a Past Master in the whole community to whom he could entrust the warrant of that Lodge. There was nothing for it but for him to bring home that warrant, and the Ascension Lodge ceased to work from that time. He regretted very much the action he was called upon to take, but he did it in the conviction that he was acting rightly, and his action was approved by the Grand Lodge. He came to the Three Towns, and his first idea was that they wanted brethren in the services who would go through the chairs and become Past Master, so that in the event of their going abroad any difficulties such as he had mentioned might be obviated. Hence it was that the Metham Lodge was started, and he was glad to know that during all the years that had since gone by it had worked in perfect harmony, and with continued success. Bro. Dann, who proposed the health of the Treasurer and the Secretary of Lodge Metham (Bros. D. Cross and W. Powell), highly eulogised the services which they had for many years rendered to the Lodge. The brethren, moreover, he said, largely indebted to Bros. Cross and Powell for the splendid services they had rendered to the Lodge as its executive Officers, and the position which the Lodge occupied in the Province was largely due to the care and attention they had always paid to their duties. Bros. Cross and Powell briefly responded. The toast of "The Wardens and Assistant Officers" was proposed by Bro. Dixon, and acknowledged by Bros. Perkins S.W. and Hughes J.W. Bro. Cross proposed "Our Sister Lodges and Visiting Brethren." He remarked that he knew of no other society in existence, except that of Freemasonry, the members of which could go to any part of the world and claim admission into a Lodge. Such a privilege was, he believed, unique, and it was a privilege which all Masons ought to fully appreciate and value. The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Major Dick S.W., who, in the course of some practical remarks, strongly recommended the Masonic Hall to the support of the Lodges in the Three Towns. He believed that if the position of the hall was placed before the brethren of the Lodges of the Three Towns they would come to its support, and add to its influence for good by subscribing the capital that yet remained to be taken up. There were, he believed, nearly twenty Lodges in the Three Towns, and if each Lodge would do its part there ought to be no difficulty in subscribing all the money that was required and thus adding to the usefulness of the Institution. There was a club in connection with the hall, and in his opinion every member of the club should be a shareholder in the hall. If that were done the shares would soon be subscribed and the company would be placed in a sound financial position. Bro. Jew, in very appropriate terms, proposed "Masons' Wives and Sweethearts," and the last toast was that of "Our poor and distressed brethren," given by Bro. Gidley. Before the proceedings terminated, Bro. Cross proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Ewens for the trouble he had taken in so handsomely decorating the dining hall. Bro. Ewens had done this at great inconvenience to himself, and had decorated the hall in a manner that did him the greatest possible credit. Bro. Perkins seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. During the evening the toasts were interspersed with songs and recitations by Bros. Rawlings, Mutton, Kennedy, Hughes, Peek, Jew, Setters, and Menhinnick, and a specially attractive and enjoyable contribution was a clever whistling solo by Colonel Elliott, who accompanied himself on the piano.

PEMBROKE LODGE, No. 1299.

THE annual installation meeting took place at the Sheil Park Hotel, Fairfield, on Thursday, the 19th inst., when Bro. Ramsay was installed Worshipful Master. There was a large gathering of members and visitors, among the visitors being:—Bros. Robinson P.P.A.G.D.C., Hill 220 P.P.G.S.B., Mackenzie P.P.G.S.D., Round P.M. 1609, Shield P.M. 2385, 1086, 2294, Hatch P.M. 220, Bowyer I.P.M. 667, Underwood P.M. 238 (Scotch), M'William S.W. 1013, Bellingham I.G. 594, Cousins J.S. 1353, Rish 241, Chipchase 1570, Ward 724, Conlthart 238 (Scotch), Gidden 2114, Glossop 1893, Eaton Batty 1609, Griffiths 1620, Hawke 823. Bro. Ramsay P.M. P.P.G.P. performed the installation ceremony in a most effective and impressive manner. The Worshipful Master Bro. Ramsay, afterwards invested his Officers, as follow:—Bros. Harrison I.P.M., Pearson S.W., Leach J.W., Vines P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Treasurer, Jones Secretary, Haden Jones P.M. Dir. of Cers., Isaac Jones S.D., Higgin J.D., Davies Organist, Conlthart I.G., Dr. Higgins, Baker, Cousins, and Parkinson Stewards. At the close of the business an excellent banquet was served by Bro. Thomas Saxton, and during the evening Bro. Harrison I.P.M. was presented with a P.M.'s jewel, valuable diamond ring, and P.M.'s apron, as a mark of the esteem and respect in which he is held by the brethren. A most excellent musical programme was furnished by Bros. Eaton Batty, Jones, Ward, Baker, Davies, and others.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE, No. 1614.

THE regular meeting was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, S.W., on the 11th inst., when there were present:—Bros. G. H. Reynolds W.M., Hewett I.P.M., Foan S.W., Unwin J.W., Coleman P.M. acting Secretary (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. G. Reynolds, through severe illness), Bullen S.D., Burgess J.D., Walker I.G., Potter Tyler, Nathan, Cox, Keen, Carter, Wise, and others. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the meeting held in February were read and confirmed. Bros. Cox, W. M. Carter and

Keen were passed, and Bro. Wise raised, the W.M. doing the work of the two degrees in a most admirable manner. The Lodge was then closed and adjourned until the second Tuesday in April. On account of the inclement weather many brethren were prevented from attending; letters and telegrams were received to that effect.

Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614.—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, S.W. on the 19th inst., when there were present:—Bros. Warwick W.M., Harnell S.W., Winsor J.W., G. H. Reynolds Acting Secretary (on account of grave illness of Bro. G. Reynolds), Kirk Acting Preceptor, Cogliati S.D., Fonlaster J.D., Guffanti I.G., Weeks Tyler, Pedant, Wise, Rowe, Burgess, Hoggins, Foan, and others. Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. J. Wise offered himself as a candidate for initiation, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. Bro. R. Kirk worked the second section of the first lecture. Bro. J. R. Harnell was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. J. H. Warwick (the same to be entered on the minutes) for the admirable and clear manner in which he had worked the ceremony of initiation in this Lodge of Instruction, for the first time, and also for the careful manner in which he had carried out the duties of the chair. The W.M. made a suitable reply. Nothing further offering, Lodge was closed and adjourned.

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BRO. JAMES STEVENS P.M. P.Z. is prepared to enter into arrangements with Metropolitan and Provincial Lodges (however distant) for the delivery of his Lectures on the Ritual and Ceremonial of the Symbolic Degrees in Freemasonry (two hours), in respect of which most favourable criticism has been published by the Masonic and Local Journals. "Brother Stevens must be heard within the four walls of our respective Lodge Rooms, for there only can his most useful work be understood and appreciated."—Address, in first instance, to the care of the Editor of this paper.

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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BRO. JACQUES WYNMAN WILL BE HAPPY TO TAKE THE MANAGEMENT OF MASONIC BALLS. FIRST-CLASS BANDS PROVIDED.

PROSPECTUS ON APPLICATION.

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

INSTITUTED 1788.

Chief Patroness: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

ENTIRELY SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

The 103rd ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held in May next, under the distinguished presidency of

THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD CARRINGTON, G.C.M.G.

R.W. Prov. Grand Master Buckinghamshire.

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

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

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

APRIL ELECTION, 1891.—FIRST APPLICATION.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers of the

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys

are earnestly solicited on behalf of

HENRY THOMAS YOUENS,

(AGED 7 YEARS.)

The Father, Bro. HENRY YOUENS, was initiated in 1878, in the West Middlesex Lodge, No. 1612, and subscribed thereto for five years, during which period—being then in prosperous circumstances—he joined the Ewell Lodge, No. 1851, in which he served all the offices, and filled the Master's Chair. He is a Life-Governor of the R.M.I. Boys, and R.M. Benevolent Institution. In consequence of heavy losses in business, and severe domestic affliction, his position became greatly altered, and he is now filling a situation at a very small salary, this being the only means he has of supporting himself, his wife, and four children.

There are very painful circumstances connected with this case which render it well worthy of support, and it is strongly recommended by the following Brethren:—

EDWARD J. ACWORTH, P.M. and Treasurer No. 1612, P.M. 2077, and W.M. 2265, Homeleigh, Hamilton Road, Ealing, W.
BENJAMIN E. BLASBY, P.M. 780, Mortlake House, Kew, S.W.
F. BOTLEY, P.M. No. 1906, May Villa, Disraeli Road, Ealing, W.
T. F. DUPRE, W.M. elect No. 1851, 29 Lyal Street, North Bow, E.
T. B. GOODFELLOW, P.M. 1185, Hatton Garden, E.C.
R. W. HUNTER, I.P.M. No. 1685, Barton Villas, Birkbeck Road, Leytonstone, E.
W. H. PADDLE, P.M. Nos. 1201 and 1851, Loughborough Park, S.W.
W. PARKER, P.M. No. 1851, 61 Cheapside, E.C.
E. C. PORTER, P.M. No. 1612, 2 The Mall, Ealing, W.
H. H. ROOM, Prov. G. Sec. Middlesex, P.M. 1159 1851 2090, 17 Gwendwr Road, West Kensington, S.W.
J. RUSSELL, C.O. Kent, West Street Brewery, Gravesend.
A. E. TAYLOR P.P.G.S. of W. Surrey, P.M. Nos 1201 and 1851, 88 Fulham Road, S.W.
SIR HENRY TREWMAN WOOD, P.A.G.D.C., 8 Castellain Road, W.

Proxies will be received by any of the above Brethren, or by Bro. YOUENS, 191 Latimer Road, W.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, ELECTION, APRIL 1891.

The votes of subscribers are earnestly solicited for

HAROLD STREETER GOLDSMITH,

AGED 8½ YEARS,

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. 9 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.
BRO. R. J. ALBERT, 1362 1928, 24 Stockwell Park Crescent, S.W.
BRO. THOS. C. SUMNER, Yorkshire Post Office, Leeds, No. 1211.
BRO. THOMAS MINSTRELL, P.M. 87, P.M. and Secretary 1929, 16 Ann Street, Union Square, Islington, N.
BRO. H. MASSY, P.M. 619, P.M. and Treasurer 1928, 1 Clifford's Inn, Fleet St., London, E.C.
BRO. J. C. DUCKWORTH, P.M. 1928, Liverpool Courier Office, 81 Fleet Street, E.C.
BRO. W. T. PERKINS, W.M. 1928, Manchester Courier Office, 27 Fleet Street, E.C.
BRO. A. F. ASHER, P.M. 1395, Surrey Advertiser Office, Guildford.
BRO. J. H. HAWES, P.M. 38, West Sussex Gazette Office, Chichester.
BRO. W. J. INNES, 1928, 219 South Lambeth Road, S.W.
BRO. W. E. PITT, 1928, Press Association, Wine Office Court, E.C.
BRO. JAMES WILLING JUN., V.P., W.M. 2361 P.M. 177, 1507, 1744, 1987 and 1319 P.Z. 1000, 1507, 2048, P.A.S. Middlesex, &c.
BRO. R. STACEY, P.M. and P.Z. 180, 434 Brixton Road, S.W.

Any of the above Brethren will thankfully receive votes, or they may be sent to Mrs. GOLDSMITH, 71 Manor Road, Brockley, S.E.

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

OFFICE—6 FREEMASONS' HALL, W.C.

Grand Patron:—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President:—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held in the Large Hall, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Friday, the 10th day of April 1891, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To receive the final report of the Provisional Management Committee.

To consider Notices of Motion.

To elect a Treasurer for the ensuing twelve months.

To elect a Trustee of the Sustentation Fund, in accordance with law VII.

To elect as members of the Council representing the Life and Annual Subscribers, Twelve brethren not being Life Governors.

To elect Thirty Life Governors from a list of thirty-five candidates nominated at the Council, held 7th March, to act as a Board of Management.

To elect Twenty-eight Boys from an approved List of 45 Candidates.

The Chair will be taken at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

The ballot for the election of Boys will be open at One o'clock, or so soon as the general business of the Court shall have terminated, and will close at Three o'clock precisely.

By Order, J. MORRISON McLEOD, Secretary.

London, 25th March 1891.

N.B.—Copy of the Agenda may be had on application to the Secretary, and will be handed to each qualified voter attending the Court.

* * The Ninety-third Anniversary Festival will be held on the 24th of June 1891, under the distinguished Presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, R.W. Deputy Grand Master and Prov. G.M. West Lancashire. The services of Brethren as Stewards representing Lodges, or Provinces, are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged, the present exceptional requirements demanding exceptional support.

APRIL ELECTION, 1891.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers of the

Royal Masonic Institution for Girls

are earnestly solicited on behalf of

EDITH GRACE WILSON,

(AGED 8 YEARS.)

Daughter of the late Brother Henry R. L. Wilson, who was initiated in April 1877, in the Lodge of Temperance, No. 169, and continued a Member until his death, in October 1886, in the forty-second year of his age. He was a subscriber to the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows. Brother Wilson was in the employ of the Surrey Commercial Dock Company for twenty years, and left a Widow and six children surviving entirely dependent upon her, the eldest being only twelve years of age. In consequence of the large family and much illness, Bro. Wilson was unable to make any provision for his family beyond a small amount of Life Insurance.

The undermentioned Brethren strongly recommend the case to your sympathy, and Brothers marked thus * have kindly consented to receive proxies. Votes for Widows and Boys will also be thankfully received for exchange.

SIR F. WYATT TRUSCOTT, P.G.W. P.M. No. 1.
SIR JOHN HENRY JOHNSON, P.M. 2063, Vice-Patron Girls, L.G. Boys, on Benevolent Institution.
* J. GRIFFIN, P.M. 90, Life Governor of all the Institutions, 106 Fenchurch Street, E.C.
* G. BOLTON, P.M. 147, 169, 1155, P.Z. 1098, 177, Vice-President of all the Charities, 46 Amersham Road, New Cross.
D. J. MORGAN, L.G. Boys, 1 St. Helen's Place, E.C.
A. PULLY P.M. 169, P.Z. 169, L.G. of all the Charities, 9 Gracechurch Street.
W. C. BELLAMY, 91 Belmont, Anerley, S.E.
C. DANTON, P.M. 169, L.G. of all the Charities.
H. MOORE, P.M. 73, 1155, P.Z. 169, L.G. of all the Charities, 12 Deptford Lower Road.
G. BROWN P.M. 169, P.Z. 169, L.G. Girls' School, L.G. Benevolent Institution, 32 Campbell Road, Bow.
H. BARTLETT, P.M. 147, P.Z. 169, L.G. of all the Charities, 8 Nutcroft Road, Peckham.
G. L. MOORE, P.M. 169, L.G. of all the Charities, 155 Commercial Road, Peckham.
J. J. PITT, W.M. 147, L.G. of all the Charities, 21 Evelyn Street, Deptford.
G. BOLTON JUN., 1155, L.G. of all the Charities, The Broadway, Deptford.
J. ROSENSTOCK, P.M. 169, P.Z. 169, L.G. of all the Charities, Derrick Street, Rotherhithe.
F. MORGAN, P.M. 1155, L.G. of all the Charities, 31 Upper Tulse Hill.
J. J. HUTCHINGS, P.M. 147, P.Z. 548, L.G. Boys' School, L.G. Girls, L.G. Benevolent, 8 Radwell Road, Brockley.
* G. JONES, 1475, Surrey Commercial Docks.
N. L. JACKSON, S.D. 169, L.S. Boys.

INSTALLATION
OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES
As the M.W.G.M. of England,
AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,
28th APRIL 1875.

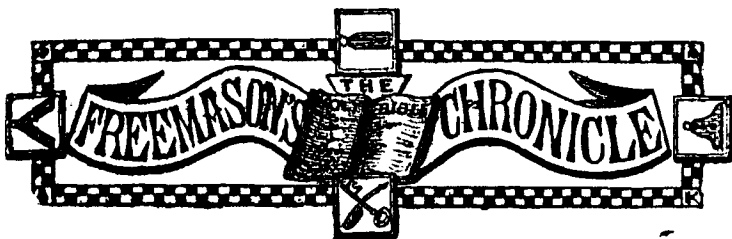
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SATURDAY, 28TH MARCH 1891.

CONSECRATION OF THE COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 2397.

NO better proof of the popularity of Freemasonry can be found than the rapidly increasing number of Lodges that recently have been and are intended to be established in this country. The last list issued by the Most Worshipful Grand Master contained the names of no less than thirteen Lodges for which warrants had been granted since the previous Quarterly Communication, and it was at the consecration of one of this number, the Columbia Lodge, No. 2397, that it was our pleasure to assist on the 19th inst., at the Café Royal, Regent Street, W. The ceremony was performed by Very Wor. Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke P.G.D. G.S., assisted by Bro. T. Kenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, as S.W., W. G. Lemon A.G. Dir. of Cers. as J.W., Rev. R. J. Simpson, LL.D., P.G. Chaplain, C. F. Matier P.G. Standard Bearer as Dir. of Cers., Col. W. Bristow P.G. Sword Bearer as I.G. There were also present Bros. George Hayes P.G.S. P.D.D.G.M. New York State, T. H. Tilton D.D.G.M. New York City, R. Loveland-Loveland P.G.S.D., Sir Somers Vine G.S.D., Baron de Ferrières P.G.D., A. A. Pendlebury A.G. Sec., S. Vallentine A.G.P., D. D. Mercier G.P., W. M. Bywater P.G.S.B., R. F. Gould P.G.D., W. F. Smithson P.G.D., Brackstone Baker P.G.D., Richard Eve P.G.T., I. Zacharie, M.D., P.G.M. California, R. C. Sudlow G. Stand. Bearer, Major George Lambert P.G.S.B., H. Sadler G.T., W. J. Spratling P.P.G.T., Rev. H. W. Turner P.P.G. Chaplain, H. M. Gooden P.P. Dir. of Cers., C. J. Phipps P.P.G.S.; Past Masters Major F. W. Frigout, R. F. Ward, Dr. J. J. Wedgwood, Maurice Jewell, A. W. Chapman, W. Henry, Chas. Hubbard, J. B. Cumming, F. Statham Hobson, Henry Lindfield, John Paige, Frank V. Atwater, Nebraska, E. Caffin, J. H. Haines, T. J. Barratt, and Bros. Bradley, Joseph, Lee, Archer, Cook, Fisher, Tomson, V. Le Huray, Gates, Pond, Hill, Hewetson, Kearton, Linton, Dickson, Orton Cooper, and Alfred Cooke, J.P., Mayor of Leeds. The Lodge having been opened in the various degrees, the Consecrating Officer addressed the brethren on the motive of the meeting, saying that it was a most important Masonic occasion and of great interest to all Freemasons. Four years ago he had consecrated the Anglo-American Lodge, that had been established to welcome and extend the right hand of fellowship to any American brethren who might be in London. Its mission had been amply and successfully carried out, and the present Lodge was founded upon similar lines. H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master had favourably considered the petition, and had granted a warrant for the Columbia Lodge, which he trusted would have a prosperous career. He would especially direct the attention of the Officers and brethren present to the fact that they should be particularly careful as to whom they admitted into their Lodge; to seek out the character of every candidate for initiation, and to reject him unless they were quite sure he would be a credit to the Craft. He was rather afraid there had been some indiscriminate elections of late years, and therefore urged the necessity of being careful. The Chaplain having given the prayer, Bro. Matier arranged the Founders of the new Lodge in order, and then read the petition and the warrant, which was dated 16th January 1891, to which the brethren signified their approval. Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson then delivered an interesting oration upon the extent of Freemasonry among the English-speaking peoples whose territories formed one-quarter of the entire globe. After an anthem, the first portion of the dedication prayer was recited, and the Consecrating Officer gave the Invocation. The Lodge was then sprinkled with corn, the emblem of plenty, with wine, the sign of joy and happiness, with oil, in token of unity, and with salt, the symbol of friendship. The Consecrating Officer afterwards proceeded to dedicate and constitute the Lodge. Bro. Adolphus Clark, having been selected as the first Master, was then installed into the chair, according to ancient custom. Bro. J. B. Cumming P.M. was elected Treasurer, and the following Officers were appointed:—Major George Lambert P.G.S.B. as acting I.P.M., Col. John T. North S.W., Alfred Cooke, J.P., J.W., W. J. Spratling P.M. Secretary, Henry S. Wellcome S.D., F. Statham Hobson P.M. J.D., Elias Jessurun I.G., Benj. Crumplin D.C., J. M. Richards A.D.C., W. Heney P.M. Organist, F. C. Van Duzer, Chas. Hubbard and Major Frigout Stewards, and T. Bowler Tyler.

A Committee to frame the bye-laws was elected, and several propositions for joining and initiation were received. Bro. B. Baker proposed, and Bro. Lambert seconded, that the Grand Officers who had taken part in the consecration ceremony should be elected honorary members of the Lodge. This was put to the meeting and carried unanimously. On the W.M. rising for the third time, Bro. Major Lambert requested the Lodge's acceptance of a handsome box of working tools. It also transpired that all the Lodge furniture had been presented by various brethren. Bro. Col. North giving a beautiful banner, Bro. Clark the gavel and maul, Bro. Cumming the Bible, Bro. Van Duzer the gauntlets, Bro. Frigout the alms box, Bro. Wedgwood the wands, &c., &c. It was decided that the names of the donors should be entered on the minutes, together with a vote of thanks. It only remains to add that the excellent musical arrangements, both in the Lodge and at the subsequent banquet, were under the direction of Bro. Tom Hill, who was assisted by Bros. Osman, Lester, Stribling and Ward, all of whom kindly volunteered their services. At the termination of a very *récherché* banquet, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and received, Bros. Rev. R. J. Simpson and Sir Somers Vine responding for the Grand Officers, and Bro. Brackstone Baker proposed the Sister Grand Lodges of the United States and Canada, a toast, he said, always given in the Anglo-American Lodge. They had present the Masters of many different States, so that the traditions of the Craft were well preserved, and he trusted it might ever be so. He bore testimony to the energy and industry of the American people in Masonic matters, and stated there were now over forty-eight different Grand Lodges in the United States, with 578 Lodges, numbering over 560,000 Masons. Thus the two nations were knit together in one bond of fellowship, since one touch of Masonry makes the whole world kin. Bro. George Hayes District Grand Master of New York State, in returning thanks, said the idea of having Anglo-American Lodges was a good one, though it originated in New York City, for when Americans came to England they would immediately be among friends. He, however, ventured to remark that Freemasonry was becoming too cheap, that not sufficient care was taken in looking for quality rather than quantity in candidates, and it must be remembered that Masonry affords an excellent cloak for the devil, although they could not help sometimes having bad Masons. With regard to the advance of American Masonry they had now a magnificent building in New York that had cost a million dollars for maintaining the aged and widowed. They considered themselves the second largest Masonic jurisdiction, but they would try even to outstrip England, as they would certainly not hide their candle under a bushel. He then described how they held public installations in order to show the people as much as possible of the tenets of the Craft, and so make it popular. It proved to the people that Freemasonry was an associate of the Church, and tended to promote morality. He might mention that in New York State alone they numbered over eight hundred ministers of the Gospel, so it must be concluded they were a religious body. The speaker's remarks were received throughout with loud applause. Bro. Major Lambert proposed the health of the W.M. and success to the Columbia Lodge, and stated that Bro. Adolphus Clark was no tyro, but was perfectly capable of filling the Master's chair, as was proved by the able manner in which he had fulfilled his duties as Master of the Anglo-American Lodge. In wishing success to the Lodge he thought there was plenty of room for them, and he did not doubt that it would prove successful if they adopted Bro. Hayes' advice, and were careful whom they admitted into their Lodge. Let them not forget that the Americans are part and parcel of our race, they all sprang from the same stock, and should therefore be doubly welcomed to the Lodge. The W.M. having suitably replied, Bro. H. S. Wellcome gave the Consecrating Officers, and said they were honoured by having so many distinguished Masons to assist in laying the foundation-stone of their Lodge, which was established to afford an additional tie and an additional blessing to the English-speaking races. Bro. Shadwell Clerke, in response, said that having had the honour of consecrating the Anglo-American Lodge, he had peculiar pleasure in taking part in the ceremony. The Grand Lodge of England were only too delighted to keep up attachment with brethren on the other side of the ocean, and would be pleased to further any advance between the two countries. The toast of the Visitors was proposed by Bro. Alfred Cooke J.W., and acknowledged by Bro. W. G. Lemon Assist. Grand Dir. of Cers., and H. W. Turner; and Bros. Cumming and Spratling responded for the Officers of the Lodge. The Tyler's toast, given at a late hour, brought the proceedings to a pleasant termination.

That, to quote the words of H.R.H. the Grand Master, the arrangements were excellent, went without saying, on the occasion of the inauguration of the new and handsome hall and school buildings of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls on Thursday last; and Brother Edward Letchworth, who, as chairman for the month, led the House Committee in making the necessary preparations, may look back on the day's proceedings with entire satisfaction. The new Alexandra Hall, as it is, by gracious permission of the Grand Patroness, to be henceforth called, is a magnificent Tudor-Elizabethan structure, and the stained glass windows given by various Lodges are exceedingly rich and effective. The advantages of this important addition to the school buildings, for calisthenics, prize meetings, and recreation on wet days, cannot be over-estimated.

—The World.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Confidential Advice free per post to all in weak and failing health, with loss of strength and vitality. Fifty years experience in Nervous Ailments. Address, the Secretary, 3 Fitzalan Square, Sheffield. Form of Correspondence Free. Write to-day. 60 years experience. All diseases arising from impurity of the blood absolutely cured.

ROYAL ARCH.

—:—

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF
EAST LANCASHIRE.

THE annual meeting was held on the 19th inst., in the Town Hall, Bury. The M.E. Prov. Grand Supt. Col. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, presided over a gathering numbering nearly 100 members of the degree. All the 38 Chapters were represented, with two exceptions. Comp. J. Chadwick Prov. Grand Scribe E. read the annual report, which congratulated the Prov. Grand Supt. upon the continued prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry within the Province. The number of subscribing members returned for the past year was 978, against 922 in the previous year, and the finances of the Province bore an equally favourable comparison. During their periodical visits to the various Chapters, the Provincial Grand Officers had observed in many instances that the attendance was good and the working highly creditable. There were some few Chapters where there was room for improvement in regularity in holding their meetings, and in their working generally, but promises made and assurances given led to the belief that more energy and diligence would be displayed, and that a better result might be anticipated. The accounts were passed by the meeting, and a sum of £20 was voted to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic and Benevolent Institution. Col. Starkie afterwards invested the following as Provincial Grand Officers for the year ensuing:—

J. H. Sillito	H.
A. H. Jeffries	J.
John Chadwick	S.E.
W. J. Canliffe	S.N.
W. S. Weeks	Registrar.
A. Hopkinson	P.S.
J. Loftus	1st Assistant S.
T. Mellor	2nd Assistant S.
S. Warburton	Sword Bearer.
Joseph Harling	Standard Bearer.
C. E. Collingwood	Dir. of Cers.
Thomas Preston	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
H. Mellor	Organist.
James Newton	Assist. S.E.
Thomas Higson	Janitor.

The Chapter was succeeded by a dinner at the Derby Hotel, Col. Starkie in the chair.

CALEDONIAN CHAPTER, No. 204
(MANCHESTER).

THE bi-monthly meeting was held in the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 19th inst. Present—Comps. Eldershaw M.E.Z., Willis H., Slatter J., Swinn S.E., Powell S.N., Russell P.S., Hughes A.S., Aldred P.Z. Treasurer, Dumville P.Z. P.P.G.S.B. Dir. of Cers., Millen P.G.O. Organist; Comps. Sallon P.P.G.S.B., Cliffe, Nathan, Molesworth P.P.G.S.N., and Schofield P.Z.'s; Comps. Andrew, Millen, Naphtali Hill, Jackson, Watson, Foxcroft, Sawyer, Hargreaves, Shorrocks, and Richardson; Visitors—Comps. Royle P.S. 935, Thomas P.Z. 377, Smith H. 645, Goddard 993. The Chapter was opened at 5.15 in due form, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bros. Hardy, Thomas, Thornhill and Boothroyd, and announced favourable. Bros. Hardy and Thomas were subsequently exalted to the Holy Royal Arch degree by Comp. Eldershaw Z., and Comps. Thornhill and Boothroyd by Comp. Cliffe P.Z. The beauty and impressiveness of the ceremonies were much enhanced by the effective rendering of the musical programme, for which this Chapter is noted. The music was arranged by Comp. Dumville P.Z. P.P.G.S.B., and was admirably executed by Comp. Millen, the Chant and Anthems being given by Comps. Dumville, Smith and Shorrocks. The business concluded and Chapter closed, the Companions spent a very enjoyable social hour listening to several songs and glees provided by the musical Companions.

TRAFFORD CHAPTER, No. 1496 (MANCHESTER).

THE bi-monthly meeting was held at the Western Hotel, Moss Side, on Wednesday, the 18th inst. Present—Comps. Biggs M.E.Z., Maybury H., Rathbone J., Jones S.E., Thomason P.S., Kershaw 1st Assistant Soj., Blears 2nd Assistant Soj., Burslem P.Z. Treasurer, Johnson P.Z. Dir. of Cers., Long Organist, McKellam P.Z., Gelleman P.Z. P.P.G.T., Land, Battersby, Knight, Wilson, and Hampson. Visitors—Robert Buresford 209, and John Garside M.E.Z. 317. The Chapter was opened in due form at 6.15, and the minutes of the last convocation read and confirmed. There being no candidates to exalt, the three lectures were delivered—the first by Comp. Burslem, the second by Comp. Biggs, and the third by Comp. Rathbone, after which the Chapter was formally closed.

COVENT GARDEN CHAPTER, No. 1614.

A CONVOCATION of this Chapter (the fifth since the consecration in July last) was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, S.W., on the 19th inst. Present—Comps. Hewett M.E.Z., Cox acting as H., Kedge J., Hancock P.S., Coltart P.Z. as N., Burgess Acting Scribe E. (in the absence of Comp. G. Reynolds, through illness), Clarke 1st Assistant Soj., Jacobs 2nd Assistant Soj., Fromholtz Steward, Stacey P.Z. Organist, Potter Janitor, Dawson, Foan, Bullen, Hoggins, Graham, Rowe, Woodward, Blyth, Bergholz, Stanley Spooner, Harris, Thruswell, and Kirk. Visitors—James J. Woolley H. 2191, F. Harrison P.Z. 177, and G. H. Reynolds 1321. The Chapter having been formally opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. Bros. Stanley, Spooner, G. A. Bergholz, and A. Harris, of the Anglo-American Lodge, 2191, were impressively exalted into the Royal Arch Degree by the M.E.Z., ably assisted by the Principals and Officers. Letters regretting enforced absence, through illness, were read from Comps. G. Reynolds Scribe E. and J. Skinner Scribe N. After hearty good wishes the Chapter was closed, and the Companions adjourned to a banquet, ably served by Bro. G. P. Bertini. The customary Loyal and Royal Arch toasts were proposed in a cordial manner and heartily responded to. For the Visitors, Comps. James J. Woolley, F. Harrison, and George H. Reynolds replied, and expressed themselves in terms of approval at the manner in which the Chapter work had been rendered, and of the hospitality and good fellowship which permeated the Covent Garden Chapter. After a pleasant evening the proceedings terminated with the Janitor's toast.

MARK MASONRY.

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METHAM LODGE, No. 96.

THE members held their annual meeting on the 24th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Home Park, Stoke. Bro. Dillon P.P.G.A. Secretary (the W.M. elect) was installed. Bros. W. J. Stanbury P.P.G.D.C. and Gillman P.P.G.D.C. were the installing Officers. The Officers invested were Bros. Pengelly I.P.M., Foster S.W., Fry J.W., Rev. Dr. Lemon P.P.G.S.W. Chaplain, Miller M.O., Davis S.O., Booth J.O., May S.D., Osmond J.D., Stanbury Treasurer, Painter Secretary, Blackall Registrar of Works, Gillman I.G., Rashbrook Tyler.

LYEGROVE LODGE, No. 218.

THE annual festival took place on Monday, the 16th inst., at the Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury. Amongst those present were Bros. Baron de Ferrières Prov. Grand Mark Master of the Province, W. Forth P.D.P.G. Mark Master, W. R. Felton Prov. Mark Master P.G. Steward, and several other influential brethren from the Province and Bristol. The ceremony of installing Bro. C. Roberts Prov. Grand Sword Bearer as W.M. of the Lodge was performed by Bro. Forth, assisted by the R.W. Prov. Grand Mark Master, and other Prov. Mark Masters. The musical portion of the ceremony was efficiently performed by Bro. Shrapnell, upon an organ kindly provided for the occasion by Bro. Bennett. The following Officers were afterwards invested by the W.M., viz.:—Bros. Gunning I.P.M., Milligan S.W., Merrick J.W., King M.O., Owsen S.O., Rossiter J.O., Naysmith Treasurer, Newman Secretary, Hughes Registrar of Marks, Evans S.D., Bennett J.D., Ferris Dir. of Cers., Lea I.G., Iles Tyler. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Mrs. Codrington, at the Grapes Hotel.

Obituary.

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MR. HUGH WILLIAMS.

THE remains of this worthy brother, who died at his residence, Lathom View, Egremont, were conveyed to the grave, on the 19th inst. The place of interment was the deceased's family vault in Walton Churchyard, and at the church where the funeral service took place there was a large congregation, including members of the Masonic Order, the pilot service (of which the deceased was a retired Master), and representatives of other public bodies, who had been associated with Mr. Hugh Williams. As a Freemason the deceased had originally been initiated in the Mariners' Lodge, No. 249, some thirty-six years ago (then held in Duke Street), and rose to the position of P.M., and upon a strong desire being evinced to form another Lodge an offshoot of the Mariners, Bro. Williams assisted some twenty-two years ago in forming the now popular Neptune Lodge, No. 1264, of which he was the first I.P.M. Subsequently he attained the Provincial rank of Assist. Grand Dir. of Cers. Bro. Williams was a Life Governor of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. The service at the grave was made additionally impressive by the W.M. of 1264, Bro. Kohn, giving a Masonic address to the brethren present.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AT PLYMOUTH.

THE Fraters of two Encampments of the Knights Templar held their annual convocations on Monday, at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth. Prov. G. Prior, Rev. Dr. Lemon, was through illness unable to attend. The business commenced with a convocation of the Holy Cross Preceptory and Priory of Malta. S.Kt. Westcott P.P.G.W.R. presided. Frater Pengelley P.P.G.R. the E.C. elect was installed. Frater Westcott officiated as the installing officer, assisted by Commanders E. Aitken-Davies P.P.G. of the National Great Priory of England and P.P.G. Const. of Devon, Griffin P.G. Reg., Austin P.P.G. Ex. The Officers invested were Fraters Captain Strode-Lowe I.P.E.C., Thomson Const., Lavers Marsh., Westcott Treas., Griffin Regis., Regar C.G., Gidley Guard, Phillips Equerry Without. The Convocation of the Royal Veterans Preceptory and Priory of Malta followed. Frater Dillon P.P.G.V.C. the E.C. elect was installed. Fraters P.E.C. Lord, Trevena, Jew P.P.G.T., were the installing Officers, assisted by the P.E.C. present at the previous convocation and P.E.C. Grover P.P.G. Chairman. The Officers appointed were:—E.S. Knight Lord I.P.E.C., Fraters Wallis 1st C., Kinton Bond 2nd C., Cornish Prel., Austin Treas., Gover Regis., Roberts Exp., Hamilton C.L., Trevena P.B., Major Grey Skipwith R.M., H. Phillips Guard. E.S. Knight Dillon was installed as a Prior of Malta. In the evening the Knights dined together in the refectory of the Freemasons' Club. Frater Dillon presided. A capital entertainment was furnished, and the two Encampments fraternised with very pleasant harmony.

EAST LANCASHIRE MASONIC CHARITIES.

A MEETING of the Charity Committee of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of East Lancashire was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on the 20th inst., Bro. Harwood Chairman, presiding. The principal business was the adoption of candidates for the support of the Province at the forthcoming election on the London Masonic charitable foundations, viz., one for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and three old men and one widow for the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows. Bro. Harwood was re-elected Chairman, and Bro. Sillitoe was re-elected Vice-chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year, and these brethren, together with the Secretary Bro. Chadwick, were appointed a deputation to attend the Masonic elections in London. It was decided to recommend the Provincial Grand Lodge to make grants to the unsuccessful and accepted candidates for the Benevolent Institution. Afterwards a meeting was held of the General Committee of the East Lancashire Systematic, Masonic, Educational, and Benevolent Institution. It was reported that dramatic performances in aid of the funds had resulted at Rochdale in £54, and at Bolton in £53 being handed over to the charity. Bro. Kershaw was elected on the Finance Committee, in the room of Bro. Jaffery, the Treasurer, and Bro. Hunt's place on the relief and education boards was filled by the appointment of Bro. Thomas. With these alterations the boards and committee named were re-constituted as before.

Earl Amherst, the Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Freemasons of Kent, on Tuesday, 24th inst., consecrated the Military Jubilee Chapter, at Dover, being assisted on the occasion by his Grand Officers. The three Principals of the new Chapter are Surgeon G. F. A. Smythe, Army Medical Staff, Major-General T. Cumings, late Royal Artillery, and Major G. F. Guyon, Royal Fusiliers.

Those who take an interest in the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will be gratified to learn that the Executive have secured the services of Lord Carrington, Past Grand Master of the Freemasons of New South Wales, and now Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, to preside at the forthcoming Annual Festival. The Festival will be held at Freemasons' Hall, in May next.

Our readers will be sorry to hear that Bro. John Lane, of Torquay, is seriously ill, and was in a most dangerous state last Sunday. Our latest advice, however, says he is a shade better to-day, and his physician thinks he is out of danger.

At the last meeting of the Sykes Lodge, No. 1040, Driffeld, Bro. T. Dixon, of Beverley, was elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

Mr. Sidney Laska's Novel, entitled "As It was Written," will be presented gratis, as an Extra Supplement, with No. 390 of Cassell's Saturday Journal, published on the 18th inst. The same number will contain the opening chapters of a New Serial Story of To-day, entitled "Olga's Crime," by Frank Barrett, and the following, amongst other contributions:—"Political Leaders and their followers," with Fac-simile Letters from the Earl of Derby, the Marquis of Hartington, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Akers-Douglas, M.P.; Major Clay's Victim," complete sensational story by John K. Leys; "An Interview with Dr. Samuel Smiles"; "My Experiences with Graphologists"; "A Visit to the returned Parson's Office"; "Female Rogues of To-day"; "Blind Man's Buff on Horseback," complete Story of Adventure, by David Ker; &c.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE NAVAL BATTLE OF 1813 BETWEEN THE "SHANNON" AND THE "CHESAPEAKE," IN FIREWORKS.

THE Easter Monday Free Entertainments at the Crystal Palace will include a grand and early display of Fireworks by Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co. The greatest novelty will be a Naval Device representing the battle between the "Shannon" and "Chesapeake," which took place on 1st June 1813. A series of naval disasters sustained by British vessels in fights with those of the United States Navy determined Captain Broke, of the "Shannon" to attempt to avenge them. He accordingly challenged Captain Lawrence, commanding the American frigate "Chesapeake," then in Boston Harbour, to meet the "Shannon" in the open sea, and decide the superiority in a stand-up fight between the two vessels. The American captain, flushed with previous victories, accepted the challenge without hesitation, and the battle, fought about fifteen miles from Boston, in the presence of a large number of smaller craft, who had come out to witness yet another British defeat, resulted in the capture of the "Chesapeake" after a most desperate and sanguinary fight, which, though lasting only thirteen minutes, cost victor and vanquished no less than 252 men, killed and wounded. Amongst the former were the captain and first lieutenant of the "Chesapeake," and the first lieutenant of the "Shannon," while the British Captain was dangerously wounded. At the close of the fight, therefore, the command of the "Shannon" and the vanquished "Chesapeake" devolved on Lieutenant Wallis, who successfully discharged the task of bringing the two vessels, crowded with wounded and dying, safely to Halifax, after a six days' voyage close to an enemy's coast. After a long and distinguished naval career, Lieut. Wallis attained the rank of Admiral of the Fleet in 1875, and is now the senior officer on the Navy List. He will reach the age of 100 years next month. Two Fire Portraits will form part of the display, one of Lieutenant Wallis in 1813, the other of Admiral Sir Provo Wallis, G.C.B., 1891. The fire portrait at the earlier age is from a fine oil painting kindly lent to Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co. by Sir Provo Wallis himself for the purpose; the later fire portrait is from a recent photograph. Messrs. Brock's great novelty, "Whistling Fireworks," together with a sixfold device, "The True Lover's Knot," and the usual unequalled aerial display, will all be included on Easter Monday.

The Exmouth Freemasons, who form a very large body, are determined not to be outdone by neighbouring towns in the matter of Lodge accommodation. A movement is now on foot to provide not only a Lodge-room, but also rooms for a Masonic Club, and the building will, in all probability, be completed before the close of the present year. The Hon. Mark Rolle has acted very generously in the matter, giving up some old houses for which he is receiving £27 a year in rent, is not asking any price for the old buildings, and is willing to grant the site at a ground rent of £2 a year for the first two years, and £4 for the remainder of a 99 years' lease. Messrs. Kerley and Ellis and Mr. Sherwin have offered to provide plans free of cost, and they have been asked to submit, as quickly as possible, drawings for the buildings. The successful architect will then be instructed to superintend the erection of the Club. The funds are being raised by members of the Fraternity taking up shares. Already £720 worth are subscribed for. The building, when completed, will most likely be a three storied one, will be an ornament to the neighbourhood in which it is to be built, and will certainly be of immense advantage to the Freemasons living in and around Exmouth.

Mr. R. D. M. Littler, Q.C., C.B., who has recently tilted lances in the lists with Mr. Hanbury and a Parliamentary Committee with reference to the privileges and duties of counsel, is now standing counsel to half the great English railway companies, besides having one of the most varied practices at the English Bar. He first became prominent from his successful advocacy in defence of the captive Confederate Commissioners in the days of the American Civil War, his efforts earning him the thanks of Mr. Jefferson Davis, the President of the Confederacy. Mr. Littler has a charming residence at Southgate. Tradition has it that James I. once hunted at "Broomfield" when the Jacksons owned it, and the ceilings of the old hall, which is the great feature of the house, were painted by Sir Jas. Thornhill. Here the eminent Q.C. has a delightful sanctum, with a rare collection of china, ivory tusks, inkstands formed from the hoofs of favourite horses, ancient bronzes, a choice library, and a billiard table. He is very fond of the cigar and the company of an aged coolie and a splendid dachshund. A considerable part of his leisure time—and despite the Bar, and the Middlesex County Council, and the Wood Green Local Board, he does find leisure—he devotes to Freemasonry. He was one of the Founders of the Northern Bar Lodge, and the Bank of England Lodge has known his Mastership.

GIVING A LODGER NOTICE TO QUIT.—Mr. Punch, Perpetual Universal Grand Past, Present and Future Master, congratulates H.R.H., Grand Master of English Freemasons, on his plucky and straightforward action with regard to the G.M. of Otago and Southland, New Zealand, who, having contravened the resolution of Grand Lodge, 6th March 1878, may now exclaim in bitterness of spirit, "O for a Lodge in some vast Wilderness!" "for," says in effect, H.R.H., G.M., as the once frequently quoted Somebody observed to a person whose name was not Dr. Ferguson, "you don't lodge here!"

On Sunday last a special musical service was held in St. Paul's Church, Heaton Moor, under the auspices of the Prince Edward Lodge of Freemasons, No. 2107. The brethren met at their Lodge-room, at the Heaton Moor Conservative Club, and, wearing their regalia, marched in procession to the church, where a sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. John Watson, rector of St. Jude's, Manchester, P.Prov. Grand Chaplain E.L., at the close of which a collection was taken in aid of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the offertory amounting to £20.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

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

Saturday, 28th March.

1297 West Kent, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
1871 Gosling-Murray, Town Hall, Hounslow

149 Peace, New Masonic Hall, Meltham
1462 Wharfedale, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone
1777 Royal Hanover, Albany Hotel, Twickenham
M.M. 14 Prince Edward, Station Hotel, Todmorden

Monday, 30th March.

79 Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Greenwich
1745 Farrington, Holborn Viaduct Hotel
R.A. 1201 Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

62 Social, Queen's Hotel, Manchester
148 Lights, Masonic Rooms, Warrington
1177 Tenby, Tenby, Pembroke
M.M. 146 Moore, Athenaeum, Lancaster

Tuesday, 31st March.

141 Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
299 Emulation, Bull Hotel, Dartford
310 Unions, Freemasons' Hall, Carlisle
449 St. James, Freemasons' Hall, Halifax
510 St. Martin, Masonic Hall, Liskeard
573 Perseverance, Shenstone Hotel, Halesowen
1359 Torbay, Town Hall, Paignton
1479 Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans
1586 Ellington, Town Hall, Maidenhead
1636 St. Cecilia, Royal Pavilion, Brighton
1823 Royal Clarence, Masonic Hall, Clare, Suffolk
R.A. 124 Concord, F.M.H., Old Elvet, Durham
R.A. 721 Grosvenor, Masonic Chambers, Chester
K.T. 8 Plains of Mamre, Bull Hotel, Burnley

Wednesday, 1st April.

Grand Mark Masters, 8a Red Lion Square, W.C.
311 Zetland, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
1298 Royal Standard, Cock Hotel, Highbury, N.
1491 Athenaeum, Athenaeum, Camden Road, N.
1842 St. Leonard, Concert Rooms, St. Leonard
R.A. 55 Constitutional, Private Rooms, Leytonstone
R.A. 1338 Granite, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
R.A. 1471 Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury
R.A. 1589 St. Dunstan's, Anderton's Hotel, E.C.
K.T. 129 Holy Palest, 33 Golden Square, W.

74 Athol, Masonic Hall, Birmingham
137 Amity, M.H., Market Place, Poole
298 Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale
326 Moira, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol
327 Wigton St. John, Lion and Lamb, Wigton
406 Northern Counties, Masonic Hall, Newcastle
417 Faith and Unanimity, M.H., Dorchester
471 Silurian, F.M.H., Newport, Mon.
611 Lodge of the Marches, Masonic Hall, Ludlow
645 Humphrey Chetham, F.M.H., Manchester
678 E. Elmsmere, Church Hot. Kersley, Farnworth
838 Franklin, Peacock and Royal Hotel, Boston
992 St. Thomas, Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton
1013 Royal Victoria, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
1010 Kingston, Masonic Hall, Worship Street, Hull
1085 Hartington, Masonic Hall, Gower St., Derby
1091 Erme, Erme House, Ivybridge, Devon
1107 Cornwallis, Lullingstone Castle, Swanley
1167 Alnwick, M.H., Clayport Street, Alnwick
1206 Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
1274 Earl of Durham, F.M.H., Chester-le-Street
1323 Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind St., Swansea
1335 Lindsay, 20 King Street, Wigan
1354 Marquis of Lorne, Masonic Rooms, Leigh
1361 Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury, Glos.
1431 St. Alphege, George Hotel, Solihull
1620 Marlborough, Derby Hall, Tue Brook, L'pool
1736 St. John's, St. John's Rooms, Halifax
1842 St. Leonards, Concert Rooms, St. Leonards-on-Sea

1903 Pr Edward of Saxa Weimar, M.H., Portsmouth
2042 Apollo, 22 Hope Street, Liverpool
R.A. 54 Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale
R.A. 86 Lebanon, Masonic Hall, Prescott
R.A. 300 Perseverance, Pitt & Nelson, Ashton-u-Lyne
R.A. 304 Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Leeds
R.A. 342 Royal Sussex, 79 Commercial Rd., Portsea
R.A. 477 Fidelity, 55 Argyle Street, Birkenhead
R.A. 1125 St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Tiverton
M.M. 36 Furness, Hartington, Barrow-in-Furness

Thursday, 2nd April.

10 Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall
27 Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street
45 Strong Man, Masons' Hall Tavern, E.C.
221 Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
231 St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
554 Yarrowburgh, Green Dragon, Stepney
742 Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace, Sydenham
823 Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1155 Excelsior, Sidney Arms, Lewisham Road
1672 Mornington, London Tavern, Fenchurch St.
1178 Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, S.E.
1772 Pimlico, Morpeth Arms Tavern, Milbank
1790 Old England, M.H., New Thornton Heath
2271 St. Pancras, Midland Hotel, St. Pancras, N.W.
R.A. 2 St. James's, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
R.A. 1361 Kennington, Surrey Club, Kennington
M.M. 197 Studholme, 33 Golden Square, W.
M.M. 244 Trinity College, 13 Mandeville Place, W.

21 Newcastle-on-Tyne, F.M.H., Newcastle, 30
31 United Industralists, Mas. Rooms, Canterbury
33 Union, Council Chamber, Chichester
41 Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Bath
50 Knights of Malta, George Hotel, Hinckley
249 Mariners, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
254 Trinity, Craven Arms Hotel, Coventry
266 Napthali, Masonic Hall, Heywood
269 Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn
289 Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Leeds
294 Constitutional, Assembly Rooms, Beverley

295 Combermere, Union Arms, Macclesfield
309 Minerva, Pitt and Nelson, Ashton-under-Lyne
349 Harmony, Red Lion, Fareham
317 Affability, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
360 Pomfret, Abington Street, Northampton
419 St. Peter, Star and Garter, Wolverhampton
425 Cestrian, Grosvenor Hotel, Chester
446 Benevolent, Town Hall, Wells, Somersetshire
463 East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound Hotel,
509 Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Stockton, Durham
539 St. Matthew, Dragon Hotel, Walsall
637 Portland, Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent
792 Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Great Grimsby
913 Pattison, Lord Raglan Tavern, Plumstead
976 Royal Clarence, Blue Ball, Bruton, Somerset
1012 Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury Lane
1304 Olive Union, M.H., Horncastle, Lincolnshire
1379 Marquess of Ripon, Masonic Hall, Darlington
1384 Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes
1473 Bootle, Town Hall, Bootle, Lancashire
1500 Walpole, Bell Hotel, Norwich
1504 Red Rose of Lanc., Starkie's Arms, Padiham
1513 Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley
1639 Watling Street, Cock Hotel, Stoney Stratford
1770 Vale of White Horse, Savings Bank, Faringdon
1807 Loyal Wye, Builth, Breconshire
1829 Burrell, George Hotel, Shoreham
2050 St. Trinians, M.H., Loch Parade, Douglas
2350 Corinthian, Bird-in-the-Hand Hotel, Hindley
R.A. 187 Charity, Freemasons' Hall, Bristol
R.A. 302 Charity, New Masonic Hall, Bradford
R.A. 758 Bridgewater, Freemasons' Hall, Runcorn
R.A. 1074 Beccive, Masonic Rooms, Kirkby
M.M. 53 Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield
M.M. 158 Rose and Thistle, 20 King Street, Wigan

Friday, 3rd April.

706 Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich
890 Hornsey, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1489 M. of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies Asylum, N.
1627 Royal Kensington, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
1815 Penge, Thicket Hotel, Anerley
M.M. 8 Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.

81 Doric, Private Rooms, Woodbridge, Suffolk
219 Prudence, Masonic Hall, Todmorden
242 St. George, Guildhall, Doncaster
306 Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall Street, Leeds
442 St. Peter, Masonic Hall, Peterborough
521 Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield
574 Loyal Berkshire of Hope, White Hart, Newbury
691 St. John, Wrekin Hotel, Wellington, Salop
680 Sefton, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
709 Invicta, Bank Street Hall, Ashford
837 De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon
839 Royal Gloucestershire, Bell Hotel, Gloucester
1096 Lord Warden, Wellington Hall, Deal
1333 Atholstan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick
1387 Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1528 Fort, M.H., Newquay, Cornwall
1557 Albert Edward, Bush Hotel, Hexham
1561 Morecambe, Masonic Hall, Morecambe
1648 Prince of Wales, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford
1664 Gosforth, Freemasons' Hall, Gosforth
R.A. 170 All Souls', Masonic Hall, Weymouth
R.A. 359 Peace, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton

Saturday, 4th April.

General Com. Boys' School, F.M.H., 3
1672 Carnarvon, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street
1919 Brixton, Jolly Farmers' Tav, Southgate Rd., N.8
1243 Amherst, Amherst Arms Hotel, Rivorhead
1458 Truth, Wheatsheaf Hotel, Manchester
1466 Nova Ecclesia, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton
1929 Mozart, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon

INSTRUCTION.

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Saturday, 28th March.

87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's
Park, near Nunhead Junction, 730
179 Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C. 8
198 Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tav, Southgate Rd., N.8
1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E. 7
1238 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, 730
2192 Warner, Bridge Chambers, Hoe Street, Walthamstow, 8
R.A. Sinai, Union Tavern, Air Street, W. 8

Monday, 30th March.

22 Loughborough, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, 730
27 Egyptian, Atlantic Tavern, Brixton, S.W., 8
45 Strong Man, Bell and Bush, Rope-maker St., 7
174 Sincerity, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch St., 7
180 St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant, 8
248 True Love & Unity, F.M.H., Brixham, Devon, 7
332 Royal Union, Chequers' Hotel, Uxbridge
543 Wellington, White Swan, High St., Deptford, 8
823 Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 730
933 Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel Road, 8
975 Rose of Denmark, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, 73
1227 Upton, Three Nuns, Aldgate, E., 8
1349 Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 830
1425 Hyde Park, Porchester Hot. Cleveland Gdns., 8
1445 Prince Leopold, 212 Whitechapel Road, E., 7
1419 Royal Military, Masonic Hall Canterbury, 8
1489 M. of Ripon, Queen's Hot, Victoria Park, 730
1577 Metropolitan, The Moorgate, E.C., 730
1585 Royal Commemoration, Railway Ho, Putney
1609 Kilburn, 46 South Molton Street, W., 8
1623 West Smithfield, Manchester Hotel, E.C., 7
1693 Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., 830
1707 Eleanor, Rose and Crown, Tottenham, 8
1743 Perseverance, Deacons' Tavern, Walbrook, 7
1891 St. Ambrose, Baron's Ct. Hot, W. Kensington, 9
1901 Selwyn, East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich, 8
2021 Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, The
Criterion, W., 8

Tuesday, 31st March.

25 Robert Burns, 8 Tottenham Court Road, 8
55 Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Holborn, 7
141 Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, S.W.
177 Domatic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 730
188 Joppa, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street, 8
212 Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, Camden Town, 8
241 Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
463 East Surrey of Concord, Greyhound Hotel,
Croydon, 8
554 Yarrowburgh, Green Dragon, Stepney, 8
700 Nelson, Star and Garter, Woolwich, 730
753 Prince Fred. William, Eagle Tav., Maida Hill,
820 Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, 730
829 Sydney, Black Horse Hotel, Sidcup, 7
360 Dalhousie, Middleton Arms, Dalston, 8
861 Finsbury, King's Head, Threadneedle St., 7
1041 Wandsworth, East Hill Hotel, Wandsworth, 8
1321 Emblematic, Mona Hotel, Henrietta St., W.C., 8
1343 St. John, Masonic Hall, Grays, Essex
1349 Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, 730
1446 Mount Edgcombe, Three Stags, Lambeth Rd., 8
1471 Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., 730, 8
1472 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich
1473 Bootle, 146 Berry Street, Bootle, 8
1540 Chaucer, Old White Hart, Borough High St.
1638 Brownrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Norbiton, 8
1695 New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav, N., 8
1819 Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, E.C., 7
1949 Brixton, Prince Regent East Brixton, 8
2148 Surbiton, Maple Hall, Surbiton
Metropolitan Chapter, White Hart, Cannon St., 630
R.A. 704 Camden, 15 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., 8
R.A. 1365 Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 8
R.A. 1642 E. of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting
Hill, 8

Wednesday, 1st April.

3 Fidelity, Alfred, Roman Road, Barnsbury, 8
30 United Mariners', Lugard, Peckham, 730
65 Prosperity, 2 St. Mary Axe, E.C., 7
72 Royal Jubilee, Mire, Chancery Lane, W.C., 8
73 Mount Lebanon, George Inn, Borough, 8
193 Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall St.,
228 United Strength, Hope, Regent's Park, 8
538 La Tolerance, Portland Hot, Gt. Portland St., 8
594 Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 7
673 St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, 8
720 Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, 7
781 Merchant Navy, Silver Tav, Burdett Rd., 730
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, 830
1037 Portland, Portland Hall, Portland
1269 Stanhope, Fox and Hounds, Putney
1356 Toxteth, 140 North Hill Street, Liverpool, 730
1475 Peckham, 516 Old Kent Road, 8
1511 Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull
1601 Ravensbourne, George, Lewisham, 8
1604 Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant,
S.W., 730
1662 Beaconsfield, Chequers, Walthamstow, 730
1681 Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, May Fair, 8
1693 Hervey, White Hart Hotel, Bromley, Kent, 830
1791 Creaton, Wheatsheaf, Shepherd's Bush, 8
1922 Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell
New Road, 8
1963 Duke of Albany, 153 B. Mersa Park Road, 730
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. 833 Doric, 202 Whitechapel Road, E., 730
M.M. Grand Masters, 8a Red Lion Square, 7
M.M. Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C., 8

Thursday, 2nd April.

144 St. Luke, White Hart, Chelsea, 730
147 Justice, Brown Bear, Deptford, 8
263 Clarence, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.C.
435 Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air Street, W., 8
754 High Cross, Coach and Horses, Tottenham, 8
879 Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Rotherhithe
New Road
890 Camden, Masonic Room, Lewisham, at 8
1017 Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8
1158 Southern Star, Sir Syd. Smith, Kennington, 8
1182 Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool, 730
1278 Burdett Coutts, Swan, Bethnal Green Road, 8
1306 St. John, Three Crowns, Mile End Road, 8
1360 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales, Wimbledon, 730
1426 The Great City, Masons' Hall Avenue, 630
1558 D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Camberwell, 8
1671 Leopold, City Arms Tavern, E.C., 7
1580 Cranbourne, Red Lion, Hatfield, 8
1602 Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse, Liverpool
Road, N., 8
1612 West Middlesex, Bell, Ealing Dean, 745
1614 Coven Garden, Criterion, W., 8
1625 Tredegar, Wellington, Bow, E., 730
1673 Langton, White Hart, Abchurch Lane, 530
1677 Crusaders, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Gate,
Clerkenwell, 9
M.M. Old Kent, Crown and Cushion, London Wall

Friday, 3rd April.

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, 730
507 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 730
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
786 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, 730
1228 Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone, 8
1294 Royal Standard, Builders' Arms, Canonbury
1365 Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, 730
1391 Kennington, The Thorns, Kennington, 8
1437 Bagshaw, Public Hall, Loughton, Essex, 730
1642 E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, 8
1901 Selwyn, Montpelier, Choumont Rd., Peckham, 8
2030 Abbey Westminster, King's Arms, S.W., 730
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, 7.30
 1998 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

Saturday, 4th April.

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 7.30
 R.A. Sinai, Union Tavern, Air Street, W., 8



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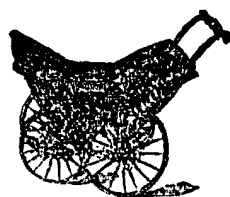


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