

Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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PERPETUAL PRESENTATIONS.

FOR some years past we have from time to time urged the insufficiency of the amount charged by the Educational Institutions of Freemasonry for the right of perpetual presentation of a girl or boy to one or other of the Schools provided by the Craft, but so far as memory serves us no discussion has ever occurred at one of the formal meetings of the subscribers of the Institutions in regard to the subject until last week, when, a proposal having been made by the Province of Northumberland to purchase the right of continued nomination of a lad for the usual sum of one thousand guineas, there was not only a discussion as to the desirability or otherwise of accepting the amount, but sufficient opposition was shown to convince us that at no very distant date an alteration of the price to be paid for the privilege will be attempted, and if once brought forward we have little doubt it will be decided to considerably increase the charge. It must be manifest to the most casual observer that a thousand guineas was never sufficient, from a purely commercial standpoint, to charge for a perpetual presentation, but it has been urged that mere business considerations should not alone govern such matters, but that the Craft should be pleased to accept so large a contribution from an individual Province, and help them as far as possible in the good work they set themselves to perform. But why? A business basis is surely the correct one on which to work such a matter, and we think no credit attaches to the management of an Institution which accepts one price from one district for a given amount of work and requires a very much larger sum from another, the only difference in the two cases being the one pays the amount down *en bloc*, while the other contributes its quota by instalments. But arguments which might have held good years ago are not available now, when one of the principal considerations which makes an increase necessary is the reduced value of money. The thousand guineas just accepted from Northumberland cannot be safely invested so as to bring in as much interest as it would have earned a few years back, and on that score alone a revision of the scale would seem to be desirable. But the question may be asked: Is it desirable to altogether abolish these perpetual presentations, or merely increase the cost of them? There are many who object to presentations altogether, and there is much to be said in favour of their abolition, and little to be urged in favour of their continuation. They are certainly the means of swelling the income of the Institutions from time to time, but they remain a continual drain on the resources of the Charity concerned, and are in many ways objectionable, beyond the mere consideration of being unprofitable, which is the ground on which we imagine their ultimate abolition will be proposed, and carried into effect.

Before urging the abolition of these perpetual presentations we must, however, ask the question, whether it is wholly desirable to divert the amounts paid under this head from our two Educational Institutions? for we think it must be recognised that if the management of the Institutions decide to receive no more commutations of this character there is every probability the sums will be diverted into some other channel, the majority of the perpetual presentations being in the form of testimonials or memorials to some distinguished local Craftsman, for which an immediate cash expenditure is usually desirable, the usual course being for the sums to be raised by public subscription, for some specific public purpose. If there were no perpetual presentations to work for, some other object would probably be found suitable as a testimonial, and, as we have said, the Institutions of Freemasonry would lose the amount. The old argument then comes in again,—would the Schools be any poorer if they did lose these occasional payments of a thousand guineas; would they not rather reap a benefit from their abolition? for it is very evident they secure benefits far beyond their actual value, if we look at the position from a purely business point of view.

MASONIC OFFICE—ITS RESPONSIBILITY AND PLEASURE.

THE who consents to serve in any place or station in a Lodge, or other Masonic body, thereby assumes a responsibility of a weighty nature. He becomes a representative character, acting for and in the name of his Brethren. He promises that he will perform his duties with diligence, earnestness and skill. He voluntarily places himself where he becomes an official to be observed, to be criticised, to be praised for well-doing, or blamed for failure.

The lowest place or station has attached to it a responsibility which differs only in kind, not in degree, from that of the highest. Any Officer who belongs to the corps may, by his carelessness, or ignorance, or sometimes even by his presumption, mar the working of a degree.

Masonic work is a mosaic: to be perfect as a whole it must be perfect in all its parts.

Rising in the scale of official grade, we come to the Wardens. Their responsibility is peculiar. They must not only be Masters of their own proper work, but also of that of the higher stations to which at any time they are liable to be called. The Junior Warden cannot tell when he may be called to serve as either Senior Warden or Worshipful Master, and the Senior Warden is still more liable to have the highest duties devolve upon him. The responsibility of both of the Wardens is therefore peculiar, and they cannot too early be ready to perform all the functions referred to. A Warden is not only a possible, or probable, Master in a future year, but a possible Master at any meeting of a Lodge.

What are the responsibilities of a Master of a Lodge? Rather, what are they not? The brightest man you can find in the Craft is not too well prepared for the performance

of the duties of this exalted station. They are as weighty as they are various. They call into exercise the Mason's best intellectual parts—not only his memory, but his judgment, his learning, his tact, his common sense. He must act on the spur of the moment. He is a governor and a judge rolled into one. His decision is final in the Lodge, at the time. If he errs, the body of Masonry over which he presides, for the time being, suffers. He must be accurate and quick if he would rise to the demands of his station. And yet, how many Brethren look upon the Master's station as a figure head, a Masonic sinecure, a position of honour more than of responsibility. It is both, and in equal degree. But no one can derive honour from it if he be not equal to its responsibilities.

As an offset to the responsibilities of Masonic office, there are abounding pleasures. Who can measure them? Only he who has enjoyed them. The honour, dignity, and gratification which are incident to presiding over the "Sons of Light," are of the rarest quality. To have been selected as the *one* out of the many; to have been chosen by one's peers as worthy of ruling over them; to have been charged with the conservation of the usages, customs and Landmarks of Freemasonry—this is an honour and a dignity indeed. The greater the responsibility, if one is qualified to bear it, the greater the enjoyment. It is so with the Mastership. Every one looks up to you there. Every one has confidence in you, unless you forfeit that confidence by incapacity. Every one is proud of you, and of your occupancy of the chief station in the Lodge, and your pleasure is their pleasure also. This mutuality of pleasure increases its intensity. It is the pleasure of the entire Masonic family, the members of which love each other, and respect and revere him who alone among the Officers is *worshipful*—a time-honoured designation, having a significance which is understood by Freemasons.

The brother with no aspiration for office, has no conception of either the pleasure or the responsibility attached to Masonic station. He is cold, careless and forgetful of the Craft, as well as of himself. That is a healthy condition of affairs when numerous Brethren are qualified for, and ready to assume, the Wardenship of a Lodge. It proves that they have made a study of Freemasonry, and desire to continue to be students. It shows they do not believe that initiation, simply, makes the Mason. It recognizes the obligation resting upon all to spend and be spent in the cause of the Fraternity.

Every Officer reaps his reward. Every Brother who is qualified to be an Officer merits the enjoyment, which is the silver lining to the cloud of responsibility.—*Keystone*.

A MASONIC MARRIAGE.

ANOTHER step towards the organisation of civil marriages with semi-religious pomp and ceremony has been taken in Paris, this time by the Freemasons. The idea of borrowing a few hints from the Church in order to make matrimonial unions performed by mayors attractive and picturesque originated in the mind of a metropolitan tradesman, who found a genial civic functionary ready to carry out his suggestions. Accordingly, several weddings took place in the Temple District, the prosaic ceremonial of the code being set off by orchestral music, while ornamental adjuncts—such as flowers and lights—were not forgotten. Now there has taken place another marriage of the same kind in the Salle des Fêtes of the Grand Orient Lodge of France, in the Rue Cadet. The bride and bridegroom, after having been joined in matrimony by their Mayor, entered the Salle des Fêtes of the Masonic Lodge with their friends. There all sat down and listened patiently to three addresses, delivered by leading Freemasons. Then small bouquets were presented to the sisters, cousins, and other relatives of the husband and wife who were present, and the newly-married couple received their wedding rings from the presiding Mason, who in the name of his Craft imprinted a "kiss of peace" on the cheeks of the bride. The ceremony concluded, as it had begun, to the sounds of music, the orchestra playing a wedding march as the bridal party left the hall. Those who are opposed systematically to the Church are overjoyed at the success of the "Masonic Marriage," which they regard as another blow aimed at old fashioned traditions and routine.—*Daily Telegraph*.

BAZAAR AT HUDDERSFIELD.

ON the 6th inst. Mrs. H. F. Beaumont, of Whitley Beaumont, opened a three days' bazaar in the Masonic Hall, Fitzwilliam Street, Huddersfield, in aid of a fund to reduce the debt of £300 on the premises of the Beaumont Lodge, No. 2035, at Kirkburton. The stalls were very neatly arranged, and were laden with a large assortment of fancy and useful articles. There was a large company at the opening ceremony. Brother William Schofield stated that the Lodge had had to furnish the premises, and had had to borrow money therefor, which they desired to repay. The Lodge had taken the name of Beaumont from Bro. H. F. Beaumont, M.P., of Whitley Beaumont, the member for the Colne Valley Division. Mrs. H. F. Beaumont, who was very cordially received, said she had been president of the bazaar committee, and she had seen with very great pleasure the wonderful energy and activity which the ladies of the working party had displayed in working for the bazaar. The time had now come when they ought to meet with the reward of their labours, and she could hardly doubt that their hopes would be more than realised. She concluded by declaring the bazaar open. Bro. W. H. Jessop moved, and Bro. Fittan seconded, a resolution of thanks to Mrs. Beaumont; and it was heartily passed. Bro. H. R. Beaumont (who is a member of the Lodge, along with his father) responded on behalf of Mrs. Beaumont.

MARK MASONRY.

PROV. G. LODGE OF NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Province of Northumberland and Durham was held on Tuesday, the 6th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Stockton-on-Tees. The Right Worshipful P.G.M.M. Bro. Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., F.R.S., presided. He was strongly supported. The Report of the Committee of General Purposes was read by the P.G. Secretary (Bro. C. B. Ford). Its adoption was moved by Bro. R. B. Reed D.P.G.M.M., seconded by Bro. C. S. Lane P.P.G.S.W., and adopted. The report, after alluding to the satisfactory progress of Mark Masonry, expressed satisfaction at the presence of the R.W. Prov. Grand Mark Master Bro. Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., on his return from travels in other lands. The Prov. G.M.M. then addressed the brethren, and congratulated them upon the state of Mark Masonry throughout the Province. He appreciated their references to himself, and referred to several matters of Masonic detail. Though not an official visit, he announced that the Deputy Grand Master Bro. the Earl of Euston would visit the Tristram Lodge, at Newcastle, on the 15th December, when they would be pleased to see a large attendance of the brethren. He afterwards intimated that the Provincial Grand Lodge would meet next year at Sunderland, upon the invitation of the Union Lodge, No. 124, of which Bro. Singleton is the present W.M. The Prov. G.M.M. then invested Bro. R. B. Reed as D.P.G.M.M. on re-appointing him for the ensuing year. He invested the following as the Officers for the year:—

C. H. Backhouse	Senior Warden
W. F. Carmon	Junior Warden
G. F. Allan	M.O.
R. Weddell	S.O.
R. S. Benson	J.O.
Rev. Dr. Randell (re-appointed)	} Chaplains
Rev. J. J. Brown	
H. Lamb	} Registrars of Marks
Thomas Purvis	
J. S. B. Bell (re-elected)	Treasurer
C. B. Ford (re-appointed)	Secretary
Seymour Bell	Dir. of Cers.
R. Wilson	Inspector of Works
R. Singleton	Senior Deacon
C. H. Sutcliffe	Junior Deacon
J. Barker (re-appointed)	Organist
James Rose	I.G.
M. Armstrong	Sword Bearer
C. Allen	Standard Bearer
J. Curry (re-elected)	Tyler

It was next decided that Bros. G. Porteous, R. Singleton, C. H. Backhouse and W. F. Carmon be the Representatives on the Committee of General Purposes, and Bros. W. Brown and Seymour Bell Auditors. The Lodge was afterwards closed in due form. In the evening, a banquet was held in the hall, presided over by Canon Tristram P.G.M., supported by Bros. R. B. Reed D.P.G.M., Addison Potter, C.B., P.P.G.S.W., John Strachan P.P.G.S.W. and Bro. C. S. Lane P.P.G.S.W. Bro. Bell P.P.G.S.W. officiated as Vice-Chairman.

PROV. GRAND LODGE OF CHESHIRE.

THE annual meeting was held on Thursday, the 8th instant, at Stockport. The Provincial Grand Mark Lodge having been opened by Lord Egerton of Tatton, the roll of Lodges and roll of Provincial Grand Officers was called, and all were found to be represented. The P.G. Treasurer, Brother F. K. Stevenson, submitted his statement of accounts, showing a balance in hand of £25. Bro. Stevenson was re-elected Prov. Grand Treasurer, and Bros. Atkinson and P. Duff Auditors for the ensuing year. His Lordship then appointed and invested his Officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—

Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P.	D.P.G.M.M.
Lieut.-Col. S. W. Wilkinson	Senior Warden
John Ashton	Junior Warden
Rev. J. W. Newell-Tanner	Chaplain
F. K. Stevenson	Treasurer
W. Ramsden	Registrar
R. Newhouse	Secretary
John Morris	M.O.
P. Duff	S.O.
F. S. Moore	J.O.
J. Mantle	Senior Deacon
John Woolley	Junior Deacon
A. Atkinson	Dir. of Cers.
J. W. White	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
James Cookson	Sword Bearer
James Worsnup	Inspector of Works
J. G. Hallwood	Standard Bearer
H. Lomas	Pursuivant
S. Warren	} Stewards
T. E. Cairns	

His Lordship afterwards addressed the P.G. Lodge, after which the brethren unanimously resolved to vote ten guineas to the Mark Benevolent Fund. Birkenhead was selected as the next place of meeting.

HENNIKER LODGE, No. 315.

A MEETING of this flourishing Lodge took place on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at Mark Masons' Hall, there being present Bros. Barnett jun. P.P.G.M.O. Middlesex and Sarroy W.M., Crutah S.W., Lane J.W., Nicholls S.O., J. Terry P.G.A.D.C. Treasurer, Hogard P.G.St.B. Secretary, Moore Registrar of Marks, Warner S.D., Criok J.D., Gluckstein I.G., Col. Radcliffe, Cox P.M.'s, and Matier G. Secretary. Visitors: Driver G.I. of W., Maple W.M. Old Kent Lodge, Danford Thomas, and Ferguson. The Lodge being opened, ballots were taken for Bros. Moore, Kift, and Richardson, which were unanimously favourable. Bros. Culverwell, Gale, Moore and Kift were advanced to the degree of M.M., the ceremony being performed in a most perfect and impressive manner by the W.M. The W.M. then invested Bro. Kift as Honorary Organist of the Lodge. The brethren then repaired to the Holborn Restaurant, where Bro. Hamp had prepared one of those *récherché* little dinners he knows so well how to provide. The pleasure of the evening was much enhanced by the vocal abilities of Bros. Kift, Moore, and Lane.

We wish that Canon Tristram, or Mr. Strachan, or some other Masonic authority would enlighten us more about early Freemasonry. It would interest us all to know something about the men who built the old castles of Durham and Northumberland, and to know to what Lodge the builders of Durham Cathedral belonged. Probably the Masons were among the first to have a guild of their own. St. Alban, the first martyr for Christianity in this country, is said to have been a great patron of the Masons. There seems to have been a successful agitation among them for higher wages in his time, and only society men were permitted to work on any building with which the members of a Lodge were concerned. There was a Master and Warden connected with each Lodge, and the whole dwelt in an encampment near the building they were employed to erect. It is a noteworthy fact in connection with Mark Masonry in Northumberland and Durham that the north country furnishes the first record of Mark Masonry in the kingdom. Until recently the year 1777 was assigned as the earliest reference to the Mark Degree; but in looking over the minutes of the Marquess of Granby Lodge, Mr. Logan made the discovery that a Mark Master Masons' Lodge existed in the city of Durham four years anterior to that date. The reference to it is under date 21st December 1773, thus—"Bro. Barwirk was also made a Mark'd Mason, and Bro. Mackinlay raised to the Degree of a Master Mason, and also made a Mark Mason, and paid accordingly."—*Newcastle Journal*.

Canon Tristram is equally at home whether officiating at a function of Mark Masons or playing the roll of a "bakeem," or medicine man among the Bashi-Bazouks. In the investiture of his brother Masons he comports himself with as much grace and ease as he did one day when, travelling in the land of Moab, he unexpectedly found himself in the tent of a Bedouin woman, whose uncombed and unwashed piccanninies smothered him with kisses in the hope of getting backsheish. And this adaptability to circumstances does not desert him when the toils of the day are over, and the members of his Craft "proceed from labour to refreshment." The Canon has

banqueted on cold sheep's head and rice in the presence of naked Bedouins. He knows what it is to live on Arab flat barley damper for three weeks at a stretch, and he has satisfied his hunger while an accommodating sheikh has affectionally stroked the canonical stomach. He has been "hail! fellow, well met" with an ecclesiastical warrior, a ragged dervish, who boasted of having slain thirty men in fight with his own hands, and he has been in more than one Arab skirmish. It must have been a rare treat to see the veteran Canon of Durham on the war-path. While among the Arabs he had few equals as a diplomatist, and none knew better how to take a bull by the horns or brow-beat a bully. Happening on one occasion to fall into the hands of a board of thieves, he forced his way to the spot where they were sitting in solemn conclave, and presented himself before the chief in his boots and *puri*. The chief is said to have been as much astonished as the old Bedouin lady was after the Canon had administered to her, by accident, an overdose of croton oil.

On Monday, the 5th inst., a meeting of the Leicestershire and Rutland Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Lodge, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. There was a very large attendance. Worshipful Brother S. S. Partridge D.P.G.M. P.A.G.D. England presided, in the absence of Right Worshipful Brother the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers P.G.M. The business of the session included the installation of Officers for the ensuing year. Subsequently a banquet was held at the Queen's Hotel, when Brother Partridge again presided, supported by W. Bro. the Hon. Pauline Hastings.

Lieutenant-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., is going to Salisbury on the 31st inst., to instal the Earl of Radnor as Provincial Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. A good many Military Freemasons will accompany the Prince.

The installation of Bro. Edward S. White as W.M. of the Burgoyne Lodge, No. 902, will take place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Monday, the 26th October, at 4.45 p.m., Bro. Simson John Byng P.M. and Secretary will be the Installing Master.

There has been an extensive agitation in St. Louis in favour of Mrs. Maybrick, and the Freemasons there are about to start a petition for her release.

The Union Lodge, No. 127, was re-opened, after the summer recess, on Tuesday, 6th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, High Street, Margate. There was a good muster of the brethren, and the usual routine business connected with the Craft was gone through.

The Freemasons' parent lodge in the Borough of Tynemouth, St. George's, which now boasts a membership of 220, has been putting its Masonic Hall under extensive alteration. The work is now completed, and the Lodge is in possession of one of the most handsome and perfectly arranged buildings. The members re-assembled under the roof of their old building which had been renovated and beautified almost past recognition.

The Annesley Lodge, No. 1435, has arranged with Bro. James Stevens for the Delivery of his Lecture on Symbolic Ritual and Ceremonial, at the Masonic Hall, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham, on Friday, November 27th.

The South of India Observer, under date 27th June, makes the following comments:—

It was we think some time last year that the *Madras Masonic Review* threw out a suggestion that the July meeting of the District Grand Lodge should occasionally be held either here or at Bangalore. We have now a large number of the Fraternity amongst us, and surely the present District Grand Master will be able to carry out the suggestion. We are sorry to record that neither at the laying of the foundation stone or the opening of the Masonic Temple here, the ceremonies usual on such occasions were performed.

Quite a big muster of first-class shots turned up at Ilford Range on Saturday, 26th ult., for what is known as the Masonic Match. Some years since Major Lambert, whose standing in Freemasonry is indicated by the letters P.G.S.B., presented an article used by the members of the mystic tie, known as a "Gavel," to be competed for by teams from Lodges which have been formed in Metropolitan corps. The L.R.B. H.A.C. 1st Surrey, "The Vics," South Middlesex, and Queens' Westminster, were at first the only corps who were represented at the shoot. Latterly, however, the London Scottish, London Irish, and Bloomsburys have formed Lodges, and they therefore stand in. The arrangements were made by Q.M. Sergt. Bellerby of the Queen's, and Staff-Sergt. Harnell, of the same corps, acted a chief of the statistics.—*Citizen*.

A NEW MASONIC HISTORY.*

PART III. of this work comprises Divisions XVI. and XVII., in which "Concordant Orders, and the Chivalric Degrees" are discussed. For reasons already stated, we cannot consider ourselves qualified to criticise this portion of the "History" as we have done and shall do others; but there are many points which in the course of perusal we consider will have interest for the general Masonic reader. These we shall specify as we proceed. Division XVI., under the generic title of "Knights Templar and Allied Orders," consists of three Chapters, together occupying thirty-eight pages, and is written by Bro. Frederic Speed 33°, a Past R.E. Grand Commander, Mississippi. The first treats of the "Origin of American Templary, and Early Grand Encampments." Bro. Speed states that the first account of the conferring of the degree of Knight Templar that has been discovered, either in America or Great Britain, is the record of a meeting, 28th August 1769, of the St. Andrew's Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, of Boston, Massachusetts, then St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge, holding under the Grand Lodge of Scotland. He considers it a mere matter of conjecture as to whence the ceremony was obtained, or of what it consisted; and referring to the difficult task of discovering and bringing to light the true history and ancient work of the Masonic Fraternity, owing to the extreme reluctance with which Masons formerly committed to writing even the most trivial matters relating to the Craft, says:—"Even in this age, when new discoveries are being constantly brought to light, it is far too frequently held to be treason to the cause to expose to the eyes of the 'profane' the truth of history, so far as it relates to the Masonic Institution; but, regardless of the ignorant pretensions of those who still teach that the Master Mason's degree originated, and was formerly conferred in the *Sanctum Sanctorum* of King Solomon's Temple, and that the Templars of this year of grace are the lineal descendants of those who fought for the recovery of the Holy Sepulchre, one myth after another has vanished into thin air, until we no longer hesitate to commit to writing the averment that, with scarcely an exception, the ritual of every Masonic degree now produced in these United States originated, or was elaborated, since the American Revolution and by Americans. The admission of this fact does not, however, in the least degree detract from the dignity, high character, or claim to an ancient origin of the Institution itself." A further remark of the author's must, we should think, meet with general agreement:—"It is of course unfortunate that all Masonic instruction should not be given in chronological progression. The transposition of some of the degrees might have been made, at an early day, with advantage, but it must be apparent to all who observed the great struggle which took place quite recently over the proposed transfer of the Cryptic Degrees to the Capitular system, that the order in which the degrees are given has become, notwithstanding the grossest anachronisms, so firmly fixed that no change in the scale of degrees is practicable in this period of Masonic development." We extract the foregoing from what may be considered the introductory paragraphs of the Chapter. There are others which are agreeable to our opinions, and are also worth the attention of Craftsmen; but limit of space prevents quotation. The remainder of the Chapter more particularly interests American Knights Templars desirous of acquaintance with the organizations of the several Grand Encampments in the United States. No information is afforded in relation to those at present connected with the United Kingdom. The second Chapter is in continuation of the first, containing an abstract of the First Constitution of a "General Grand Encampment of Knights Templars, and the Appendant Orders, for the United States of America," the result of "a convention" held at Masons' Hall, New York, in June 1816. This "convention" was attended by four members of the Order only, who together were described as delegates from "eight councils and encampments." Their names, and the several encampments they were said to have represented, are given; and the record of this "immortal quartette's proceedings" seems to justify the expressed opinion that

* The History of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, and Concordant Orders. Boston and New York, U.S.A.: The Fraternity Publishing Company. London, England: George Kenning, 16 Great Queen Street, European Publisher. 1891.

one of them might, then and there, "have appropriately said the old coloured man's prayer: 'God bless me and my wife, my son John and his wife, us four and no more. Amen!'" It does not appear, from what we read, that this section of Masonry, in America at any rate, has been throughout of the most harmonious character. Controversies and contentions have been numerous. "Disciplined obedience to the will of the superior" is a phrase in reference to a Masonic organization which, to our mind, attacks the principle of equality demonstrated by the level; and, if it really means the will of an individual autocrat—and not the supreme authority of a constitutional body of lawgivers,—as the recent, and we believe still continued battle for "prerogative" would lead one to imagine, why the sooner Knight Templary ceases to be in any way attached to the "system of morality," &c. the better for the Craft. It is all very well to be "emulators of the chivalric virtues, the charitable deeds, the unexampled bravery, Christian heroism, and ennobling self-sacrifice of the ancient Templars," but in spite of the great number of Americans (76,886) who profess to be such emulators, if harmonious equality is not objective amongst them no benefit to the world at large can accrue from their present organization. We speak as unprejudiced outsiders on this subject, and make bold to do so, believing that many Craftsmen hold the same views as to the necessity for concord and unanimity if progress and success are to be secured in any Masonic association, large or small. We question very much if Modern Knight Templary is in any way *Masonic*, except in so far as the requirements of its originators, that its novitiates shall have been previously members of the "pure and simple" Craft degrees, affords colour to the assumption of direct connection with Freemasonry. The third Chapter in this Division is remarkable for a finely written section on "The Ethics of Templary," which is equally applicable to Universal Freemasonry. It will be found at page 734 of the History, and being too lengthy for introduction in this review we shall probably take an early opportunity to reproduce it in the columns of this journal as a separate essay. Bro. Speed's contribution is altogether deserving of commendation.

A melancholy interest is attached to the succeeding Division (XVII.) as being the last literary labour of the late eminent and greatly esteemed brother Lieut.-Col. W. J. B. MacLeod Moore, Supreme Grand Master "ad vitam" of the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, United Orders of the Temple and Malta, &c., &c. A brief "In Memoriam," accompanied by a well-executed full page likeness and fac-simile autograph of this recognised authority in Masonic lore, fitly precedes the Introduction and seven Chapters, occupying fifty pages, comprised in this Division. Its subject is "British Templary," a History of the Modern or Masonic Templar Systems, with a concise account of the origin of Speculative Freemasonry, and its evolution since the Revival, A.D. 1717. The monograph is dedicated to Bro. T. B. Whytehead, of York, "whose matured views on the subject so entirely coincided with my own." In this preface the author now contends that it is a mistake to connect Templary with Freemasonry, although at one time he believed a union had existed between the ancient builders, "Stone-masons," and the chivalric orders. After most careful and exhaustive research he discovers this to be a mere delusion, devoid of all truth. He refers to former criticisms made by him in the course of a nearly sixty years' Masonic lifetime, of which about half a century was in connection with Templary, and "to the glaring discrepancies and inconsistencies existing, which prove the system to be not only false, but a perversion of the principles of the true Templar Order from which it derives its name—merely an imitation military *Masonic* degree,—a parody upon the pure doctrines of the ancient Templars." He remarks that "the Freemasonry of the 'revival' inculcates the doctrine of Theism; that of Templary is, and has always been, Trinitarian Christian." And again, "true modern Templary is a *Christian* society of the most orthodox kind, in no way forming a part of the *universal* system of Speculative Freemasonry," and he pertinently asks how can two such contradictory and antagonistic elements be transformed into degrees of the universal system of Freemasonry without destroying the vital characteristics of both? "There is no such thing as Masonic knighthood! Any such claim or usage is but a childish fable. The honours of knighthood can only be conferred by the Sovereign of the realm, or the representative of the Sovereign, duly authorised."

These are not *our* words, but they are most distinctly *our* views; and our greatest personal disrelish for what are denominated the "higher degrees,"—at any rate up to and inclusive of the eighteenth, of which we have cognizance,—arises from the fact that they are not, and cannot be, *universal*, and are made ridiculous by the high-sounding but mostly unmeaning titles borne by their officials and lay members. The sweet simplicity of "Brother," "Companion,"—"Fratr," if you will,—contrasts strongly with the morbid craving for distinction which impels many Craftsmen to expend money and time for the empty titles of "Sir Knight" this, "Sublime Prince" that, "Most Enlightened" the other, &c., &c., *ad nauseam*, unaccompanied by any useful knowledge or advantage beyond the satisfaction of an idle curiosity. We should have hesitated to say of our own accord as much as the late Bro. Moore has written, and there is yet more to the same purpose in this introduction, to which we now refer the reader. The first Chapter in Bro. Moore's "sketch," for so he calls it, treats of the "Origin of Speculative or Symbolic Freemasonry." From the several paragraphs in this Chapter we shall select brief extracts as the most forcible method of conveying the "views, convictions, deductions and stand-point" of the author, "so materially different from that usually adopted." In regard to the Templar System's connection with Freemasonry, we learn that "many of the discrepancies in Masonic history arise from not knowing or not distinguishing the wide difference between Ancient Christian Freemasonry and the Free and Accepted Masonry of the present day." This, of course, refers to the fact that Speculative Freemasonry was originally a Christian Institution, and not of the universal character, "*without regard to creed, clime or colour*," it now bears. "Our knowledge commences with the Christian era, passing over reference to the building of the Solomonian Temple and the usages of the workmen employed at that period,—a mere matter of conjecture of no account in the present investigation." Referring to the Ancient Mysteries our author says, "the whole course of history flatly contradicts the possibility of a perpetuation of their doctrines; the idea of a direct connection between them and Freemasonry is nothing more than an idle fancy," and he explains his views thereon at length. He also states that it is well authenticated that Lodges of Speculative Masonry for instruction were anciently held, presided over by Master builders; these taught the rude workmen the religious and moral principles for which the Fraternity was noted, as well as the laws of the Craft, and the *then* mystery of architecture which was carefully concealed from all who were not initiated into the Brotherhood. There are some concise particulars of the origin and evolution of Freemasonry:—"The name 'Freemason' appears for the first time in Statute 25 of Edward I., of England, A.D. 1350." The term signified a "Free-stone Mason," one who works in free-stone as distinguished from the rough Mason who merely built walls of rough stones. "It was not until the beginning of the seventeenth century that persons who were *not* Operative Masons began to unite with the Freemasons, and were distinguished from the regular working Masons by the denomination of 'Accepted.' By the year 1702, the Speculative Lodges in England began to decay, and became so degenerate as to be applied to purposes of gain and self-interest. "Masons made here for 12s" was then a frequent public announcement in the river-side streets of London and Liverpool; but 1717 saw a complete change when the so-called *revival*, of which we have spoken in the earlier part of this notice, was effected, and the true character of Freemasonry became only the history of the operative sodalities and successive ages of architects. It has become a beautiful system of morality:—"Undoubtedly there can be no more beautiful code, in its original proper sense, when divested of the numerous parasitical additions of fungus growth, since it is 'a system of morality developed and inculcated by symbols.' The idea intended to be conveyed is to draw men together in one great Brotherhood; but it has in the course of evolution, since it left its birth-place, the British Isles, been so altered, and so many degrees and rites have been added, as to obliterate almost entirely the original plan, which stands alone. As first conceived it stood above all others, unaided, unassisted. Could any plainer words than these, which are the "language of truth," be employed to induce Freemasons of the present day to devote their energies to the promulgation and performance of the duties of Craft Masonry "pure and simple," leaving out of all

consideration attachment to those "parasitical additions" which tend to destroy the purity and simplicity of the original and all-sufficient system? To men of mind and intelligence there must be a feeling of being engaged in something puerile and ridiculous, when associated with manufactured "rites," unmeaning titles, and gaudy "frippery," which form the sole *raison d'être* of the so-called "high" degrees. We have here the experience of a great authority on such matters,—and his condemnation of these "fungus growths" is unmistakable. With these remarks we thought to close our notice of this instructive and most interesting Chapter, but its final paragraph arrests our attention, and it must not pass unheeded. What earnest Craftsman will gainsay the truth of these, nearly the last words of this venerable Nestor in Freemasonry? "It is to be regretted that Speculative Freemasonry is not more studied and its teachings, as emblemized by its symbols, better explained and more largely ventilated throughout the Fraternity. If its tenets and principles were more fully known, a better spirit of Brotherly union would exist; but, of late years, a race of Masonic writers has sprung up, of the 'sheep-walk' school, who 'follow the beaten track, and seldom turn aside to the by-paths;' and, in their anxiety to prove the antiquity of Freemasonry, they have indulged in a mere repetition of unreliable legends, perpetuating what is vague and childish, creating scepticism, casting doubt upon the source of all. It should be clearly understood that the frequent allusion to the *great antiquity* of Freemasonry refers to the ancient architects,—stone builders,—not to the Free and Accepted Masonry of modern times, which is an entirely new departure."

A cursory glance through the next six Chapters in this Division admonishes us that we should not hastily bring our comments on Templary and the *quasi* 'Higher' degrees to a close; and these must next have our consideration.

(To be continued.)

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their monthly meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg P.G.D. occupied the chair, and there were present Bros. Hubbert, Cottebrune P.G.P., Brett P.G.P., Vallentine G.P., Fairchild, Stevens, Belchamber, Haslip, Mead P.G.S.B., Kempton, Hogard P.G. Standard Bearer, Richards, Lacey, Murlis, Cotter, Forsyth, Robbins G.D., Durrant, Tattershall, Webb, Bullen P.G.S.B., Making, Fisher, Mullord, Fitzgerald, Walker, and Terry P.G.S.B. (Secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, the Secretary reported the death of six annuitants (four men and two widows). The Warden's report for the past month, and the report of the Finance Committee, were read. The latter was adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Five petitions (four male and one widow) were considered, with the result that one was deferred, and four accepted; the names were ordered to be entered on the lists of candidates for the Election in May 1892. A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

THE RITUAL IN STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE fourth and last of a series of meetings of Preceptors and Lodge representatives in furtherance of the scheme of the R.W. P.G.M. Col. Foster Gough, for assimilating the ceremonies to those of the Emulation Lodge, was held at the Swan Hotel, Stafford, on Tuesday afternoon, Bro. Sudlow Past Grand Standard Bearer England, and member of the Emulation Improvement Committee, attending for the purpose of acting as Preceptor on the occasion. The Lodge Preceptors were entertained at luncheon by Col. Gough prior to the commencement of the business. At the meeting of the Preceptors and Lodge representatives there were present, in addition to the R.W. P.G.M. Col. Gough and Bro. Sudlow, Bros. J. B. Piercy, W. J. Gothard, G. H. Stanger, the Rev. W. F. Bradley, A. S. Townsend, John Mossop, J. Woolridge, G. W. Walker, E. W. Taylor, E. Peake, J. Stevenson, T. R. Arter, G. Platt, W. H. Howson, G. W. Bradford, S. Keeling, W. Garnham, A. Smith, E. J. Mousley, F. S. Pepper, G. Ashmall, English Pearson, F. Thompson, W. Brickel, J. Williams, R. Gibson, Fred W. Gribble, W. E. Marples, F. G. Warburton, E. Penn, George Haynes, T. J. Barnett, J. B. Ashwell, H. Finch, J. M. Willdig, J. W. Abbott, John Chadwick, W. H. Newby, F. Skerret, James Wearing, W. R. Woolridge, E. Hallam, J. Stevenson, J. White, E. B. Jackson, J. Webberley, W. Twist, &c. In the

course of the proceedings Col. Gough tendered a very hearty welcome to the assembled brethren and bore his testimony to the greatly increased interest which was now taken in the working of the Emulation ritual. They commenced their meetings in association with Warwickshire alone, but at the present time there were no less than six different Provinces more or less in alliance with them. Worshipful Bro. Beaumont Pieroy having taken the chair by request of the P.G.M., several ceremonies in Craft Masonry were gone through, and in various matters of usage the meeting had the advantage of the instructions of Bro. Sudlow. At the conclusion of the business, Col. Gough presented Bro. Sudlow with a handsome black marble timepiece, with bronze ornaments. The timepiece bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Worshipful Brother Robert Clay Sudlow P.M., Past Grand Standard Bearer Eng., in recognition of his very eminent services to the Lodges of Instruction and brethren in the Province of Staffordshire and adjacent Provinces in promulgating amongst them uniformity of ritual and procedure in Craft Masonry. Subscribed for by many grateful brethren, and presented to Worshipful Bro. Sudlow, on their behalf, by the Right Worshipful Bro. Col. Foster Gough, LL.D., Past Grand Standard Bearer Eng., P.G.M. Staffordshire, at Stafford, on the 6th day of October, A.D. 1891, A.L. 5891." Col. Gough, in making the presentation, spoke in high terms of praise of Bro. Sudlow's wonderful knowledge of the science of Masonry, and of the business talents which had gained for him the high position of general manager of one of the largest and most important manufacturing industries in the kingdom. Bro. Sudlow very feelingly acknowledged the gift. After the Lodge had been closed, the brethren sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by Miss Parke. Owing to the pressure of time, the toast-list following the repast was curtailed. Col. Gough proposed the health of Bro. Sudlow, exciting hearty plaudits by remarking that he had every reason to believe that he was likely to become a Staffordshire brother. Bro. Sudlow replied, and proposed the health of Col. Gough, which was drunk with Masonic honours. The P.G.M. expressed himself highly gratified with the proceedings of the day.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 104 (STOCKPORT).

A MEETING was held at the White Lion Hotel, Stockport, on Monday, the 12th inst., when there were present Bros. Knin W.M., Gaskill I.P.M., Harrison S.W., Atherton Treas., Bell Secretary. Haslam S.D., Booth P.M. Director of Ceremonies, Lomas I.G., Scott Tyler; Past Master's Johnson, Morris and Clarkson; Bros. Barrington, Fox P.P.G.S., Barlow and Hayes. Visitors—Bros. Hulme P.M. 322, Clarke 322, McGregor 654, Derbyshire P.G.J.D., and R. R. Lisenden (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE) P.M. 317. The brethren met at 6.30, and the Lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Atherton was unanimously re-elected Treasurer and Bro. Gaskill Charity Representative. There being no ceremonies to perform the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 7.45. The brethren afterwards sat down to supper, and here, be it observed, that these Cheshire suppers are a real treat, and consist of good substantial viands, the chief item usually being a huge piece of roast beef, beautifully cooked and properly basted, and when placed upon the table is calculated to make the heart of the most fastidious epicure leap for joy. The genial, kind-hearted hostess (Mrs. Robertson) personally superintends the serving of these suppers, and assisted by two or three young ladies, does her utmost to make every one comfortable. After supper the health of the W.M. was proposed and drank, as was that of Bro. Gaskill. The health of Bro. Finch P.G. Registrar was proposed in eulogistic terms by the acting W.M., who referred to the additional honour he had recently received at the P.G. meeting by being re-appointed P.G. Registrar. Such services as Bro. Finch had given on behalf of Freemasonry had been deservedly recognised and rewarded, both by the late P.G. Master (Lord De Tabley) and by the present (Lord Egerton). Under the former late Provincial Grand Master's reign Bro. Finch served five years as Director of Ceremonies, and his complete mastery over all the details connected with that most important office won for him the admiration and respect of all who knew him. At Provincial Grand meetings and foundation-stone layings, after having mastered all the detail, it was a treat to see him marshalling his forces with a coolness and correctness worthy of a general. Added to these qualifications Bro. Finch possesses as good a knowledge of Masonic law and ritual as any one outside Grand Lodge, and is always ready and willing to give those who seek it the benefit of his advice and knowledge. A sincere wish was expressed by the proposer of the toast that he may long be spared to give the Province the benefit of his valuable services. The toast was heartily drunk, and Bro. Finch responded in his usual modest manner, remarking that all he had done for the good of Freemasonry and the Province of Cheshire was, and would be, a source of great pleasure to him, because he took a great interest and delight in the work. The health of the visitors was proposed by Bro. Finch, and responded to by Bro. R. R. Lisenden. Other toasts were honoured, and a very pleasant evening spent.

ST. MICHAEL'S LODGE, No. 211.

THE winter session at this prosperous Lodge opened on Tuesday, when the brethren assembled at the Albion, Aldersgate Street, E.C., under the presidency of Bro. P. J. Kinz, who was supported by several of his Past Masters and all the Officers. There was no ceremonial work, but reference was made to the success that had attended the candidature of a daughter of a deceased member of the Lodge, who secured the highest place on the poll at the last Election for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The W.M. announced his

intention of acting as Steward at the Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and notice of motion was given that the Lodge vote ten guineas in support of his list. A banquet followed. The following were present as visitors:—Bros. Hamsou 2312, W. J. Lyons S.W. 946, J. A. Oliver 946, J. A. Collings Organist 1693, C. Collette 93, F. Kent, C.C., P.M. 177, A. R. Fowler 1902 (Selwyn). The after proceedings were of a very agreeable character.

PELHAM PILLAR LODGE, No. 792.

THE annual Festival of this ancient and important Lodge, whose members number some 174, took place at the Masonic Hall, Grimsby, on the 8th inst., when a considerable number of the Local and Provincial brethren assembled to witness the proceedings. The W.M. (Bro. Reddish) P.G. Steward presided, and was supported by Bros. Hewson P.P.S.D., Goodwin P.P.G.J.W., Anderson Bates P.P.A.D.C., Morton P.P.G.J.W., Cooke P.P. Sword Br., Duke P.M., Marshall P.M., Barker P.M., Haddelsey P.P.G.S.W., Middleton P.M., Louth P.M., Forman W.M. 712, Wykes W.M. 2284, Morton S.W., Hurst J.W., Barrett Secretary, Tonge S.D., Waldram J.D., Coulbeck Dir. of Cers., Overton Organist, Maddison I.G., Stout, Sheppard, Hill, Forge, Thacker, Carter, Hurst, Curry, Jennison, Robinson, Orton Cooper, &c. The R.W. Prov. G.M. (Major Smythe) and Deputy Bro. Fowler sent letters regretting inability to attend, the latter promising to visit the Lodge during the year. The only business before the meeting was the installation of the W.M. elect Bro. Morton, who was brought before the Lodge and assented to the usual conditions. The ceremony of installation was admirably rendered by Bro. Hewson, the various addresses being forcibly delivered and fully merited the vote of thanks subsequently given. The new Master, having been saluted by the brethren in the three degrees, then proceeded to appoint and invest his Officers, viz.: Bro. Reddish I.P.M., Hurst S.W., Barrett J.W., Waldram P.M. Treasurer, Carr Secretary, Middleton Chaplain, Duke Lecture Master, Coulbeck Dir. of Cers., W. Waldram S.D., Maddison J.D., Stout I.G., Tonge Asst. Secretary, Overton Organist, Abrahams Almoner, Bridge, Atkinson, Green Stewards, Martin Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was awarded to Bro. Reddish as a mark of regard and esteem on his retirement from the chair. Brother Reddish suitably returned thanks, remarking that the jewel would always remind him of a very happy year of office. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony. The dinner, which was held at the Royal Hotel, took the form of a complimentary banquet to Bro. Reddish I.P.M., and was admirably served by the host, Bro. Robinson. Bro. Morton W.M. presided, the above mentioned gentlemen and several other brethren being also present. After grace, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. and received with enthusiasm, Brother Bates P.P.A.D.C. responding for the Provincial Grand Officers. In proposing the health of the guest of the evening, the W.M. said that Bro. Reddish richly deserved the compliment paid him by the brethren. He did not wish to make the other Past Masters jealous, but he could safely say that the Pelham Pillar Lodge never had a better Master. He was ever ready to give consideration to any matters that concerned the Lodge, his delivery of the ritual was most excellent, and might be commended for the emulation of the junior Officers and brethren, whilst his business-like abilities had proved of great usefulness to the Lodge. He, the speaker, trusted that he might be spared for many years to come, and hoped that the jewel with which he had that day been presented would bring back to his recollection his successful year of office. Bro. Reddish, in returning thanks, said that he had only done his duty to the Lodge, as far as he could; he had been most efficiently supported by his Officers, so that it was a real pleasure to occupy the chair. He regretted the loss of three noble brethren during the year, which reminded them how uncertain life was. It was a Mason's duty to help a brother when and where he could, so it was some satisfaction to know that they had liberally responded to the Masonic Charities. In conclusion, he again thanked the brethren for the P.M.'s jewel, and said he should ever remember his year of office as the happiest twelve months of his life. Bro. Reddish, in proposing the Worshipful Master, thought the brethren could not have found a better man for the post. He had watched his working, and the great pains he took to perfect himself in the ritual, and trusted he would receive the loyal support of the Lodge. Bro. Morton expressed the pride he felt in being placed in the chair of the largest Lodge in the Province. The responsibility of electing him fell upon the brethren, but he would try to fulfil the duties of his office with credit to himself and the Lodge. He trusted he should receive their hearty support, so that nothing would be wanting to make the forthcoming year the most successful they had ever known. He hoped that if any brother had any private pique or annoyance, he would come to him to settle it, so that they might all work together in love and harmony, and make their Lodge an example for others to follow. Bro. Carr Secretary said it gave him great pleasure to propose the Board of Installed Masters, of whom they had a noble array. He thought that the grand manner in which Bro. Hewson had performed that day's ceremonial portrayed the perfection of Freemasonry. They looked with pride upon their P.M.'s, who were the back-bone of the Lodge, and they had that day added another to the list, who had gained their respect in the past, and would doubtless help them in the future. Bro. Hewson acknowledged the compliment, and said that business matters had alone prevented him from attending the Lodge, and sometimes he had come a distance of 100 miles and back when he was W.M. Fortunately his circumstances were now altered, and he hoped to attend the Lodge regularly. He had performed the ceremony of installation to the best of his ability, and was pleased the brethren were satisfied. Masonry was as dear to him now as ever it was, and if T.G.A.O.T.U. spared his life, they would ever find him ready to be of service to the Lodge. Bro. Marshall in proposing the Masonic Charities, said the subject could never be too strongly commented upon, or responded to. When he was W.M. of the Lodge, some

17 years ago, he had taken great interest in the Charities; this had never been relaxed. The Masonic Charities had their deep rooted sympathy and ought to be well supported, and he hoped every Mason would assist them to the best of his ability. The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Goodwin P.P.G.J.W., who mentioned that he had been Steward when the large amount of £50,000 was collected for the Girls' School, and also when £30,000 was subscribed for that of the Boys'. He considered that the Masonic Charities were the great honour of Freemasonry and were an example to the whole world. He trusted the brethren would respond to the demands made upon them, and it would be a great satisfaction to them to look back in after years and reflect that they had done their duty. Bros. Huddellsey, James, Wykes, Forman, Dr. Allan, and Cooper having responded for the visitors, the W.M. proposed the Masters and Officers of Lodges in the Province, which was acknowledged by Bro. Dr. Allan of St. Albans and Bro. Wykes of the Smyth Lodge. Bro. Cooke then gave the Officers of the Pelham Pillar Lodge, and stated the opinion of the brethren that the W.M. had chosen very capable men, who would be a credit to the Lodge, and who would rally round him to make it successful. Bro. Hurst S.W. responded in a neat little speech that was much applauded; and other toasts were subsequently given, the company separating at a late hour. The proceedings were considerably enlivened by the singing of Bros. Forge, Thacker, Carter, Hurst, Duke and Hewson, while recitations, humorous and otherwise were given by Bros Curry, Oculbeck, Barret, &c.

BLAIR LODGE, No. 815 (HULME).

THE installation of Bro. Walter Waine took place, and the St. John's Festival celebrated at the Hulme Town Hall on Friday, the 9th inst. Present Bros. Lowe W.M., Wrigley I.P.M., Waine S.W., White J.W., Sowter P.M. Treasurer, Peel Secretary, Harrison J.D., Wademan I.G., Past Masters Rocca P.P.G.S.D., Harris, Sheldrick, Brice, Blair, Riley, and Davies P.P.G. Sword Bearer West Lancashire; Herring, Withington, and Chodlaston; Visitors—Bros. Barker P.M. 1134 P.P.G. Treas., Sinclair P.M. 163 P.P.G.D., Studd P.M. 163 P.P.G.D.C., Damville P.M. 2156, Turvey 1633, Hunter J.D. 1147, Driver 1633, and Merry P.M. 288. The brethren assembled at 3 o'clock, and at 3:30 the Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The installing Master was Bro. Harris, who performs the ceremony with a smoothness and ease that is quite refreshing. In the second degree, the W.M.-elect Bro. Waine was presented to the Installing Master, Bro. Rocca P.P.G.D., and after the usual preliminaries, and with all due rite and ceremony inducted into the chair of K.S. On the re-admission of the M.M.'s Bro. Waine was proclaimed Worshipful Master of the Blair Lodge, No. 815, for the ensuing 12 months and saluted in the customary manner. Bro. Rocca then invested the following brethren as Officers for the year, viz.: White S.W., Peel J.W., Sowter P.M. Treasurer, Ward Secretary, Harrison S.D., Marlennan J.D., Cox I.G., Sohlesfield and Spencer Stewards, Sly Tyler. Bro. Harris P.M. delivered the three addresses. A Past Master's jewel should have been presented to the retiring W.M. who was unfortunately absent through a family bereavement. There being no farther business, hearty good wishes were expressed by the visiting brethren, and the Lodge was closed in peace and harmony. The brethren subsequently celebrated the Festival of St. John and the health of the newly installed W.M., the I.P.M., the Installing Master and P.M.'s, the Visitors, Officers, &c., were proposed and responded to.

ST. THOMAS LODGE, No. 992 (MANCHESTER).

A REGULAR meeting was held on Wednesday, the 7th inst., at the Griffin Hotel, Lower Broughton. Present—Bros. Latab W.M., Southern S.W., Hawkins J.W., Millward P.M. Secretary, Royle S.D., McGill J.D., Kell I.G., Rutter P.M., Kellert, Thomas Southern P.M. P.P.G.D.C., and Rothwell; Visitors—Bros. Jenkins, J.P., W.M. 64 P.G.S.D., Townson 1773, Lambert 1773, Kearsley 581, Martin 852, Bradbury 852, Malkin P.M. 935, and Hasselgret of Gothenburg. The Lodge was opened in due form, at six o'clock, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Two candidates for initiation not having put in an appearance, the Lodge was closed in the usual form.

GROSVENOR LODGE, No. 1257.

THE October meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., Bro. Charles James Morse Worshipful Master presiding. The W.M. accepted the office of Steward for the approaching Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the Lodge agreeing to head the list with a substantial sum. Other business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed, after which the majority of the brethren adjourned to the Covent Garden Promenade Concert, by the kind invitation of Bro. Sir Augustus Harris, Past Grand Treasurer.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT' LODGE, No. 1558.

THE installation meeting was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Thursday, the 8th inst., when over 70 members and Visitors attended to witness the installation of Bro. Blenkarn as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The popularity of the W.M. in South London was evinced by the presence of a very large number of Masons hailing from this portion of the metropolis. The Lodge having been opened and routine business transacted, Bro. Catt the retiring Master installed Bro. Blenkarn in a very able manner. The W.M. then invested the following Officers:—Bros. Hargroves S.W., Clark J.W., Taylor P.M. Treasurer, Stokes P.M. Secretary, Rice S.D., Visgar J.D., Shelton I.G., Smith P.M. D.C., King and Drake Stewards, Kingsbury Organist, Thomas Tyler. The newly installed Master then initiated Messrs. Green, Ball, and Hogg in a very impressive manner, and presented Bro. Catt with a handsome Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services during the past year.

Lodge was closed, and a sumptuous banquet was served in the large hall, in excellent style, under the superintendence of Mrs. Venables. The usual toasts followed, the new W.M.'s being received most heartily. Bro. James Tetry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, advocated the claims of the Masonic Institutions, and the W.M. undertook to represent the Lodge at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr. Stuart Lane, assisted by Madame E. Fuller, Madame Wyborg, Miss Alice Fuller, and Messrs. E. Pownall and J. B. Hardwick.

TENNANT LODGE, No. 1992.

THE annual festival was held at the Masonic Hall, Working Street, Cardiff, on Wednesday, the 7th inst., when Bro. W. E. Miles P.G.R. was installed for the second time as Worshipful Master. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Eastern Division of South Wales, Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, attended, supported by a large number of Provincial Grand Officers. Bro. Miles was installed according to ancient custom by Bro. Thomas Evans I.P.M., with grace and dignity befitting a Past Master of the Tennant Lodge. The Worshipful Master then proceeded to invest his Officers:—Bros. Evans I.P.M., Hogg S.W., Ferris Bailey J.W., Williams P.M. P.P.G.A.P. Treasurer, Sheridan Secretary, Paine Kerman Assistant Secretary, Hellier S.D., Davis J.D., B. D. Jenkins I.G., Cole Organist, O'Neill and Fownes Stewards, Amos Jenkins Tyler. The brethren, having completed their business, proceeded to the Royal Hotel, where Brother Harman had prepared a banquet of the highest excellence. A new departure in local Freemasonry, and one which cannot be too highly commended, was the introduction of lady visitors after the banquet. This pleasing circumstance was referred to by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Tennant, who in proposing the health of the Worshipful Master remarked that he saw no reason why the wives, daughters, and lady friends of Freemasons should not share in the benefits to be derived from Freemasonry. He hailed with delight the innovation, and hoped it would be but the forerunner of a general custom. The Worshipful Master also expressed his delight at the new departure, and said that if the ladies understood Freemasonry more thoroughly they would have for it a better appreciation, for they would discover that there was in it nothing to which they could take the slightest exception. He presented a splendid bouquet, made specially for the occasion by Messrs. Phelps and Co., of Queen Street, to Miss Tennant, who was one of the lady visitors. An unusually attractive programme of vocal and instrumental music had been arranged by Bros. Kerman Jenkins, and Sheridan, one of its chief features being the efforts of Miss Marion Grahame, who sang the "Children's Home" and many of her choicest songs. Bro. Sheridan, in his characteristic style, gave several well appreciated recitations. In fact, all who took part acquitted themselves well.

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A T A QUARTERLY COURT OF THE GOVERNORS AND SUBSCRIBERS, held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Friday, 9th day of October 1891,

The V. Wor. Bro. RICHARD EVE, Patron and Trustee, Past Grand Treasurer, in the Chair,

A Ballot took place for the ELECTION OF TWENTY-FOUR BOYS, from an approved List of thirty-six Candidates (one—Ferguson, No. 8—withdrawn), the following being declared

SUCCESSFUL.

No. on Poll.	Name.	No. of Votes.	No. on Poll.	Name.	No. of Votes.
1	Consterdine-Chadwick, R. T.	3171	13	Earl, H. B. ...	2518
2	Youens, H. T. ...	3144	14	Perkins, A. E. ...	2499
3	Evans, R. H. ...	3002	15	Robinson, L. H. ...	2495
4	Corner, H. R. ...	2780	16	Robson, F. J. T. ...	2495
5	Golightly, M. ...	2748	17	Richardson, E. ...	2493
6	Garner, G. M. ...	2671	18	Webster, R. J. G. ...	2480
7	Blair, T. ...	2659	19	Harwood, G. J. K. ...	2412
8	Callander, C. J. ...	2614	20	Long, H. W. A. ...	2352
9	Poulton, F. C. ...	2595	21	Seabrook, H. H. ...	2371
10	Midgley, H. P. ...	2568	22	Mills, D. R. ...	2128
11	Greenwood, D. E. ...	2564	23	Sampson, G. ...	2101
12	Morris, R. W. H. ...	2560	24	Brightwell, W. B. G. ...	1573

Full particulars of the Poll may be had on application at the Office, 6 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

J. MORRISON McLEOD, Secretary

9th October 1891.

THE NINETY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held on the 29th June 1892, under the distinguished presidency of the Right Hon. Sir MICHAEL E. HICKS-BRACH, Bart., M.P., Prov. G.M. Gloucestershire. The services of Brethren as Stewards representing Lodges or Provinces are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

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LETTERS.—Professor H. Frank Heath, B.A., Ph.D., Miss E. Fogerty, Mortimer de Larmoy, Dr. N. Heinemann, F.R.G.S., Luigi Ricci, B.A., J. H. Rose, M.A., F.R. Hist.S., H. E. Malden, M.A., F.R. Hist.S., W. B. Kemshead, M.A., Ph.D.

MUSIC.—Herr Gustav Ernest, Frederick Cliffe, Arthur O'Leary, John Francis Barnett, A. J. Eyre, Mme. Pereira, Miss E. Tedder, Otto Manns, Robert Reed, Mme. St. Germaine, Henry Blower, Gustave Garcia, A. Romili, W. A. B. Russell, Mus. Bac. Oxon., Professor J. F. Bridge, Mus. Doc., Ebenezer Prout, B.A. **Dancing.**—M. Louis d'Egville, Miss L. Pear.

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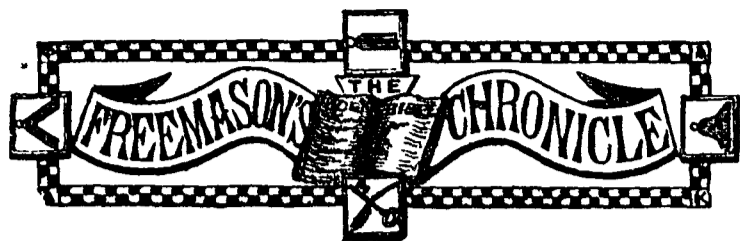
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SATURDAY, 17TH OCTOBER 1891.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

THE October Quarterly Court of the Subscribers was held on the 9th inst., in the Hall of Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. Richard Eve, Patron and Trustee, Past Grand Treasurer, and Chairman of the Board of Management, presided, and there was a large attendance of brethren.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes the Chairman moved—

That in consideration of the eminent services rendered to the Institution in connection with the late Festival, by Worshipful Bro. Goodacre P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec. of West Lancashire, when the donations from that Province reached the unprecedented sum of £6025 10s, the Board of Management recommends that the distinction of an Honorary Vice-Presidency be conferred on the said brother, under Law XI.

Having read the law, he said the brethren all recognised the eminent services of Bro. Goodacre, which resulted in the immense amount of £6,025 10s being contributed by West Lancashire at the last Festival. Bro. Benson, North Wales, seconded the motion, which was put by the Chairman, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman next moved, in pursuance of the following recommendations of the Council, at a meeting holden Saturday, 3rd October 1891—

That in consideration of the signal success of the late Festival, it be a recommendation to the Quarterly Court, on Friday, 9th October 1891, that five additional boys be elected to the benefits of the Institution, making the total number to be elected 24, from an approved list of 37 candidates, reduced to 36 by the withdrawal of (No. 8 on list) Dudley Ward Ferguson.

Bro. Henry Smith P.G.D., Deputy Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire, seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman further moved :

That the proposal from the Province of Northumberland, for the right to a perpetual presentation, to be called the "Hubert Laws Memorial," to be purchased by payment of 1000 guineas, on the same terms as previous agreements of a like nature, be accepted, subject to the condition that the presentation shall be available only for sons of Northumberland Masons, and that each boy presented under same shall in every case be qualified under the then existing laws of the Institution.

He said he moved it *pro formâ*, but he was afraid it would not pass with the same amount of unanimity as the former motions. He would, however, call attention to the fact that the Institution had already several of these presentations. Five Provinces had at the present time the right of presentation to the Institution on the same terms. It was thought by the Council a desirable thing to accept the present offer, with the further stipulation that the father of the boy presented should be a Northumberland Freemason, and also that the boy should be qualified according to the laws of the Institution. Those conditions were put in simply for this purpose: the Province having the right of presentation might not have a boy ready, and so far the Institution would gain by not having him in until he was qualified; the stipulation was made that other than a Northumberland boy should not be presented by that Province. He had heard that the ground of the opposition to the present motion was that the sum of a thousand guineas was not enough; but in answer to that objection he might say that other Provinces were enjoying the privilege of presentation after having paid the same amount.

Bro. Capt. S. G. Homfray, P.A.G.D.C., Deputy Grand Master Monmouth, seconded the motion, being of opinion that it was for the benefit of the Institution. Bro. W. H. Saunders wished to know what was the amount of the invested funds of the Institution. The Chairman said £25,000, and that amount had lately been increased.

When they were to invest this thousand guineas he did not know. However, he might confidently say that the Council would invest as much as they considered should be invested. Bro. A. C. Spaul desired to know when, if the Province had a boy in the Institution by presentation, it could present another. He thought there was some misconception on that point. Some thought that a Province having a presentation could nominate every year. This was not intended. The Chairman said a Province with a presentation could have only one presented boy in the Institution at the same time. Brother C. H. Webb inquired how much each boy in the School cost at the present time every year? Bro. McLeod said £41. Bro. Webb contended that 1000 guineas invested at the present price of Consols was not sufficient for a perpetual presentation. He would recommend a better investment than Consols, and by this means the Institution would be relieved. They were now giving increased benefits and more votes.

The Chairman—cries of "Time" being raised—said the question was not the investment of the money, but whether the proposal to give 1000 guineas for a presentation should or should not be accepted. Bro. W. F. Smithson P.G.D. said he felt rather strongly on this matter after giving it very earnest consideration. He advised the brethren to accept this thousand guineas. By so doing they would associate the Province of Northumberland permanently with the Institution. The Province wanted to be so associated by naming this presentation after a worthy brother of Northumberland who had been a most active and energetic Mason, and whom they delighted to honour. Brother Webb had mentioned increased benefits. The Institution was giving increased benefits and also more votes. That was true, but the Subscribers were paying for the benefits and votes, and why should they not use them? But what he wished to impress upon the brethren was, that there were already six Provinces which were enjoying the privilege of presentation for which they had each paid a thousand guineas. That money had been accepted at a time when the cost per boy was from £45 to £47. The boys now had a better education, and were better provided for at £41 per head. Bro. Goodacre pointed out that that cost was the total cost; it included office and management expenses, cost of the staff of the Institution, and everything, not merely the expense of keeping one particular boy. Bro. Brett P.G.P., Senior Vice-President Board of Benevolence, begged the brethren not to be carried away by the eloquent speech of Bro. Smithson, who was one of the Yorkshire brethren who were pushing forward this motion. West Yorkshire had presentations, and the brethren of West Yorkshire were in a good position—he would not say an unfair position—through these presentations. They had done their share; they had paid their thousand guineas each for two presentations. Each thousand guineas had brought in only £35 a year, and each boy had cost the Institution about £47, the Institution thus losing £10 or £12 a year on each boy presented. Yorkshire said they would have another if they could. Bro. J. S. Cumberland, interrupting, said they were not now discussing Yorkshire, but Northumberland. Bro. Brett observed that he had not heard any one from Northumberland supporting this proposition. The brethren knew the benefits West Yorkshire had received from the Institution; they had done a great deal, but they got full value for their money. The brethren had been told this was a gift of a thousand guineas, but it was a Yorkshire gift. Northumberland wanted to perpetuate the name of a good old brother who had just died. Probably there would be more such proposal.—(A Brother; The more the better.)—It was not fair to the other Provinces that five should have presentations and that the others should be called upon to make up the deficiency. If the brethren passed this they would have smaller Provinces coming forward asking to be allowed to make these perpetual presentations. They were putting a millstone round the neck of the Institution. The amount ought to be £1500. No sooner was one boy out than another was put in. The door never ought to have been opened for these presentations.

Bro. Charles Pulman P.P.G.S.D. Northumberland remarked that Bro. Brett really did not know what he was talking about. He was on the subject of Northumberland, and he talked about Yorkshire. As far as Northumberland went, it had always done its best for the cause of Charity, and for all the Masonic Charities. If

1000 guineas had hitherto been considered sufficient price for these presentations, Northumberland ought to have the benefit of it until the laws were altered. If the money was not enough, let the by-laws be altered, and make it £1500 or £2000 if they liked. But do not let it go back to Northumberland that the Institution refused the 1000 guineas, for it would place them in an awkward position. The memorial to Bro. Hubert Laws was well deserved, as he had worked hard and long, as he (Bro. Pulman) knew. The motion was put and carried. Scrutineers of votes were chosen, and the brethren proceeded to elect 21 boys out of an approved list of 36. A list of the successful candidates will be found in our Advertisement columns. We append the names of the unsuccessful candidates, with particulars of the votes polled by each.

UNSUCCESSFUL.

No. on List.	Name.	Forward.	Polled.	Total.
23	Francke, Roland George	—	800	800
20	Budibent, Leonard	—	827	827
1	Campbell, Archibald Wallace (last)	347	325	672
28	Austin, Herbert William	—	620	620
19	Foster, George William	—	551	551
25	Brown, Charles Richard	—	531	531
22	Prinn, Hubert Stanley	—	269	269
4	Seward, William Renell (last)	81	33	114
7	Bennett, Sampson Taylor	40	1	41
3	Howell, Bernard Brookas	27	20	47
10	Callis, William	2	9	11
11	MoLeece, Richard John	2	7	9

THE SANHEDRIN AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—Generally speaking the Sanhedrin were not a sanguinary tribunal. They shuddered at the necessity of bloodshed, and tried to obviate its necessity by innumerable regulations. So great was their horror at putting an Israelite to death, that any means of avoiding it seemed desirable. Simeon Ben Shatach is the only conspicuous Rabbi who, for his cruelty in deciding causes, is said "to have had hot hands." Josephus expressly marks it as disgraceful to the Sadducees that, unlike the rest of their nation, they were savage in their punishments. We are told that if even once in seven years—Rabbi Eleazar Ben Azariah went so far as to say that if once in seventy years—a Sanhedrin inflicted capital punishment it deserved the opprobrious title of "sanguinary." The migration of the Sanhedrin forty years before the destruction of Jerusalem, from their "Hall of Squares," which was beside the great Court of the Temple, to the Chanujoth or "shops," which were under two cedars on the Mount of Olives, is expressly stated to have been due to their desire to get to a greater distance from the sacred precincts, in order that they might not feel it so sternly incumbent upon them to inflict the strict punishments of the Law. But if, after strict and solemn voting, a man was condemned to any of the four capital punishments, the utmost care was taken to remove from the punishment all semblance of vindictive haste. In the case of a convicted blasphemer the death assigned by the law was stoning, and in Leviticus it is ordained that the witnesses should lay their hands upon his head, and all the congregation should stone him. In Deuteronomy we read the further regulation that the hand of the witnesses was first to be upon him—and this horrible duty was one of the deterrents from false or frivolous accusation. But if we may accept the authority of the *Mishna*, the process was an elaborate one. On pronouncement of the sentence the condemned was handed over to the *Shoterim* or Lictors of the Sanhedrin, and led to the place of execution. An official stood at the door of the judgment hall, holding in his hand a handkerchief; a second, on horseback, was stationed just in sight of the first, and if, even at the last moment, any witness could testify to the innocence of the condemned, the first shook his handkerchief, and the second galloped at full speed to bring back the accused, who was himself allowed to be led back as many as four or five times if he could adduce a single solid proof in his own favour. Failing this he was led on, with a herald preceding him, who proclaimed his name, his crime, and the witnesses on whose testimony he had been condemned. At ten paces distance from the place of death he was bidden to confess, because Jewish no less than Roman law valued the certainty derived from the "confitentem reum," and the Jews deduced from the story of Achan that his punishment would be, as regards the future world, a sufficiently complete expiation of his crime. A bitter draught containing a grain of frankincense was then given to him to stupefy his senses and take away the edge of terror. At four cubits distance from the fatal spot he was stripped bare of his upper garments, and according to the older and simpler plan of procedure was then stoned, the witnesses simultaneously hurling the first stones. But the later custom seems to have been more elaborate. The place of execution was twelve feet high, and one of the witnesses flung the criminal down, back foremost, from the top, the other immediately hurling a heavy stone upon his chest. If this failed to produce death, all who were present joined in stoning him, and his body was subsequently hung by the hands on a tree until the fall of evening. We may be quite sure that none of these elaborate prescriptions were followed in the martyrdom of Stephen. He was murdered in one of those sudden outbursts of fury to which on more than one occasion the life of our Lord had been nearly sacrificed.

—From "The Life and Work of St. Paul," for July.

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ELDON LODGE, No. 1755.

LAST Saturday was a red letter day in the annals of the Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, and, notwithstanding the inclement weather, a goodly number of brethren assembled at the Royal Hotel, Portishead, to support the Worshipful Master, Brother Davey, upon the occasion of the Right Worshipful Grand Master of Somerset, the Right Hon. Viscount Dungarvan, paying the Lodge a fraternal visit. The brethren were called for four o'clock in the afternoon, and the following were amongst those present:—Bros. Davey W.M., Shapland I.P.M., W. K. Thomas P.M. S.W. *pro tem*, Billing J.W., Thebridge P.M. Treasurer, C. L. Thomas P.M. Secretary, Tonkin S.D., Hazell J.D., Harvey I.G., Hall Organist, Appleton P.M. D.C., Stafford and Jeffreys Stewards, Simpkins Tyler; Dimery P.M. and of 2069, West Yorkshire, Glasspole P.M., Rice P.M. P.P.G.J.D., and Southwood. The Visitors, besides the Prov. Grand Master, included Bros. Grubb P.M. 68 P.P.G.P., Pike P.M. 103 P.G.S.B., Spencer 1388, Fulford 686, Carrington J.D. 686, D. E. de Villiers 1706, and Leveritt 68. Apologies, regretting inability to attend, were received from the Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Bristol Bro. Bramble, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Somerset Brother Else, Dr. Lionel Weatherley P.M., &c. After the Lodge had been opened, the P.G.M. the Right Hon. Viscount Dungarvan was received in due form, and in the name of the Lodge cordially welcomed by the Worshipful Master. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, in reply, expressed regret that circumstances prevented him being with them at the installation meeting last month. Nothing would have afforded him greater enjoyment than to have seen the working of the beautiful Masonic ritual in the Eldon Lodge. Some business of a formal and charitable nature having been disposed of, the Lodge was closed, after which the brethren dined together under the presidency of Brother Davey Worshipful Master. On the removal of the cloth the W.M. proposed the Queen and the Craft, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. of England. In proposing the next toast the W.M. said, I rise to submit to you the health of the R.W. P.G.M. Lord Dungarvan, and must tell you that it is impossible for me to give full expression to my feelings in requesting you to join me in drinking to his health. I am sure the whole of the brethren unite with me in the joy we feel at having the P.G.M. amongst us to day, and to learn from him that he intends to visit our Lodge again. I may tell you that the P.G.M. has already visited twelve Lodges in the Province, besides performing various Masonic duties in and outside the Province of Somersetshire, which lively interest augurs well for the future of Freemasonry in our district. Speaking personally, I shall never forget his visit to our Lodge during my year of office, and shall ever look back upon this event of my life with great pleasure and pride, and I feel confident the important incident will live long in the memories of the brethren of the Eldon Lodge. The P.G.M. on rising to reply was received with enthusiasm. He said, Worshipful Master and Brethren, it is with feelings that I can hardly express that I thank you for the very hearty reception you have given me to-night. I must say I was disappointed, as I know your W.M. was, that we had no ceremony, as whenever I attend a Lodge I always like to find one more Englishman added to our ranks. I am a young Mason, but a very keen one, and like all work to be properly done. There is one thing worthy of note about Freemasonry and that is that it distributes, in an unostentatious way, and without wanting praise, £50,000 a year in modest charity. Do you realize what Freemasonry means to the future of these children that our subscriptions go to support and educate? Do you think of the comfort they live in, thanks to our Institutions; and sometimes reflect that these boys may some day themselves become Masons and supporters of these Institutions? There is one thing I may tell you, I am a keen sportsman, and an Irishman. In the hunting field people of all classes meet together. They come out to enjoy themselves, and Freemasonry reminds me of this simile. We meet in the Lodge room and at the dinner table in one common brotherhood; and at the same time we help those who want help, and those who are in distress, and we stick up for our friends and brethren in trouble to the utmost of our ability. In a few days I have to perform the ceremony of dedicating a new Masonic hall, and am happy to learn that many of you are coming to that important gathering, and any brother here this evening I shall be delighted to receive and welcome upon that occasion as my own guest. At the dedication of the new building I trust you will find your P.G.M. will do his work as he ought to do it. Before sitting down I have a very pleasing duty, to propose a toast that is very properly honoured at all Masonic meetings. I submit to you the health of your W.M., and regret I cannot express my feelings so well as I should like, as for the last few days I have been out with the Yeomanry, and if we have not been fighting the foes, we have at least been fighting the elements. I look forward with pleasure to coming here again, and to the additional pleasure of hearing your W.M.—whose health I ask you to drink—go through that ceremony which I am sure he would have done so excellently this evening had opportunity offered. The W.M., in reply, said although he always had a strong love for Freemasonry, that evening and the many kind things said of him had magnified his affection. He regretted the absence of the candidate for Freemasonry, as the Lodge was always ready to do its work, and he thought it would have been done to the satisfaction of the P.G.M. He returned thanks for the kind way they had received his name. In proposing the toast of the Past Masters, the W.M. paid a high tribute to them for the way they had done their work. The sentiment was appropriately acknowledged by the I.P.M. The W.M. submitted the Visitors, the Eldon Lodge was always glad to welcome them. This was replied to in terse terms by Bros. Pike and Grubb. The Hostess, and the Musical Brethren were duly honoured, and the Tyler's toast brought the list to a close. The afternoon was rendered additionally attractive by the performance of a good musical programme. Bro. Fulford kindly presided at the piano with his usual ability.

Bro. Carrington contributed two solos on the violin with that skill for which he is renowned. Bro. Leveritt was in good voice in singing Bro. Godfrey Marks' song "The Demon King." The other brethren who added to the harmony, either with song or recitation, were W. K. Thomas, Rice, Diney, Shupland, Hazell, Tonkin and Spencer.

PRUDENCE LODGE, No. 2069.

ON Saturday, 10th October, the usual meeting of this Lodge was held at Leeds, and was very largely attended, it being the morning after. The W.M. Brother Fretwell was supported by Bro. Middleton I.P.M., Rev. Dr. Smyth Past Grand Chaplain Trevor P.M. Dir. of Cera., Mason Prov. P.P.G. Treasurer, Atkinson S.W., Abbott J.W., Butterworth Secretary, Bailey S.D., Smithson J.D., B. Abbott I.G., Rev. W. Wilkinson Chaplain, Jones and Ellis Stewards. The visiting brethren included Bros. Binney P.M. P.P.G. Registrar, of Britannia Lodge, Sheffield, and Smith J.D. 1042. The first business was the taking of the votes for W.M. for the ensuing year, and the choice of the brethren fell unanimously upon Brother Atkinson S.W. The W.M., on behalf of the Lodge, heartily felicitated Bro. Atkinson upon the honour conferred upon him. Whilst the brethren had honoured Bro. Atkinson, they had also honoured themselves, for no more suitable candidate had a seat in that Lodge. He was convinced that Bro. Atkinson would continue to carry on the Lodge on those lines which had hitherto so fully conducted to its prosperity, and he assured their esteemed brother of the cordial support of his colleagues in the important duties he had undertaken. Bro. Atkinson heartily reciprocated the good wishes of the brethren, and assured them that he accepted the honour conferred upon him with a full sense of his responsibility. The election of Treasurer was the next business, and Brother Mason was unanimously selected for that post, an honour which he suitably acknowledged. Bro. Trevor then proposed the presentation to the retiring W.M. Bro. Fretwell of a Past Master's jewel, as a token of their regard, and as an acknowledgment of the admirable manner in which he had carried out the duties of the Lodge. This was seconded in eulogistic terms by Bro. Middleton I.P.M., supported by several brethren, and carried unanimously. The remaining business, being of a routine character, was quickly despatched, and the brethren partook of high tea. The rest of the day was spent in social communion, several complimentary toasts being interspersed with songs and recitations.

Langton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1673.—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 8th inst., at the White Hart, Abchurch Lane, E.C. Present: Bros. Hobbs Preceptor, Grant W.M., Smith S.W., Dr. Green J.W., Fraser Treasurer, Mapleton Secretary, Danbery S.D., Stenning J.D., Hall I.G.; Bros. Morris, Marshall, Slaughter, Brewer, Smiles, Southwell, Francis, Ivey, Bull, Morris, Coates, Gates, White jun., and Jupe. Visitors—Bros. Clark, Soltan, Wright, and Turle. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The Lodge was advanced, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, brother Southwell candidate. The Lodge was resumed in the first degree.

The permanent Officers for the ensuing year were elected, viz.:—Bros. Fraser P.G.S.D. Surrey Treasurer, Hobbs P.P.G.J.W. Surrey, Marshall P.M. 69, and Slaughter P.P.G.J.W. Herts, Preceptors; Barne P.M. 162, Dr. W. H. Canston P.P.G.S.D. Sussex, Grant W.M. 869, Committee; Knight 1185 and Smith W.M. 1159 Auditors; Mapleton W.M. 256 Secretary. Bro. S.W. was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and he gave notice that the ceremony of raising would be rehearsed. A vote of thanks to the W.M. for the excellent manner he had filled the chair, for the first time in the Lodge, was carried unanimously, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Brothers Ashburner, Clark, Phillips, Soltan, Turle, and Wright were unanimously elected members. The Lodge was then closed.

THE THEATRES, &c.

St. James's.—After a highly prosperous run through the country, Mr. Alexander has returned to town with Mr. Haddon Chambers' interesting play "The Idler," which still continues to attract large audiences, and promises to achieve a further successful career. This result is doubtless due to the admirable acting of all concerned, as well as to the striking story so well told by the young author, for time has naturally improved the conceptions of the actors, and caused them to present an easy and finished performance. Mr. Alexander's representation of the hero, Mark Cross, is a fine psychological study, the inner working of the man's mind being most artistically portrayed. Miss Marion Terry gives a pleasing rendering of the sorely tried but devoted wife, and Mr. Wilton Lackaye presents a forcible picture of the American, Simeon Strong. The Sir John Harding of Mr. Herbert Waring is also a most praiseworthy performance, while Miss Gertrude Kingdon, Mr. Natcombe Gould, and Miss Lily Hanbury cause considerable amusement in the lighter characters. The three rooms in which the action takes place are exhibitions of artistic furnishing, and reflect the highest credit both upon the designers, Messrs. Frank Giles and Co., of Kensington, and the scenic artists, Messrs. Hann, Johnstone, and Harker.

A fund has just been started for the purpose of raising a memorial to the late Barry Sullivan, and is receiving steady support. Mr. Gunn, of the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, is the Treasurer.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones announces that the Avenue Theatre will be opened under his management about the end of the month, with his new play, entitled "The Crusaders." It will be a story of modern times, and has nothing to do with the days of Peter the Hermit.

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The ceremony of launching a new lifeboat at Johnshaven, on the rocky, wild coast of Kincardineshire, N.B., was recently performed by Miss Scott of Brotherton, the eldest daughter of the Laird, with considerable pomp. The little harbour was gaily decorated with bunting, and the fisherfolk, for many miles round, mustered in great force. There were also local Volunteers, members of Masonic Lodges, school children, and men of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. After excellent addresses from Mr. Hercules Scott of Brotherton and Mr. Badenoch Nicolson of Glenberrie, Miss Scott stepped forward, and, dashing a gaily decorated bottle at the lifeboat, named it the *Meanwell* of Drumlithie, amidst loud applause. The lifeboat has been built at considerable cost with money left for the purpose by the late Mr. Alexander Davidson of Glenberrie. It was launched into the outer harbour amid continued cheering, with its full crew of brave men, in their scarlet jerseys and cork jackets. After the launch Miss Scott was presented with a silver card case, on which was engraved "Presented to Miss Scott of Brotherton by her many friends in Johnshaven, on the occasion of the lifeboat launch, as a token of the esteem in which she is held by them. 3rd October 1891." Mr. and Mrs. Scott afterwards entertained their friends at luncheon, and there was a dance and firework display in the evening.

In a report drawn up by Grand Secretary Brother D. Murray Lyon, and submitted at the last meeting of Grand Committee, it is stated that the office of Provincial Grand Master was created in 1738, the appointments then being held during the pleasure of Grand Lodge. In February 1885 it was enacted that commissions to Provincial Grand Masters shall lapse at the expiry of five years from date of issue. At the May Communication of Grand Lodge in the same year it was decided that the new rule should not have a retrospective application, so that all commissions granted prior to 1885 do not come under the terms of the rule which was then passed. "The resolution," says the report, "of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumfriesshire, recommending the renewal of its Provincial Grand Master's commission, issued in 1882, is incompetent." The report contains a list of the Provincial Grand Masters and the date of their appointments, from which it appears that there is an equal number of commissions held under the old and new rule; while the "Master of Mother Kilwinning, *ipso facto* Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire, conforms to minute of agreement of date 2nd November 1887."

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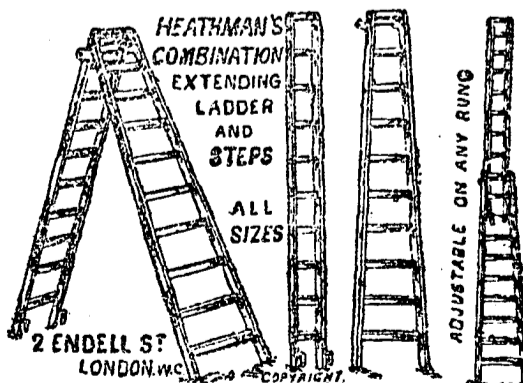
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 1923 Earl of Lathom, Station Hotel, Camberwell New Road, 8
 1983 Duke of Albany, 153 Battersea Park Road, 7'30
 2206 Hendon, Welsh Harp, Hendon, 8
 R.A. 177 Domatic, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8
 R.A. 720 Panmure, Goose and Gridiron, E.C., 7
 R.A. 933 Doric, 203 Whitechapel Road, E., 7'30
 M.M. Grand Masters, 8a Red Lion Square, 7

Thursday, 22nd October.

144 St. Luke, White Hart, Chelsea, 7'30
 147 Justice, Brown Bear, Deptford, 8
 263 Clarence, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.O.
 754 High Cross, Coach and Horses, Tottenham, 8
 870 Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Rotherhithe New Road
 890 Hornsey, Masonic Room, Lewisham, at 8
 1017 Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, W., 8
 1158 Southern Star, Sir Syd. Smith, Kennington
 1182 Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool, 7'30
 1278 Burdett Coutts, Swan, Bethnal Green Road, 8
 1306 St. John, Three Crowns, Mile End Road, 8
 1360 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales, Wimbledon, 7'30

1426 The Great City, Masons' Hall Avenue, 6'30
 1568 D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Camberwell, 8
 1571 Leopold, City Arms Tavern, E.C., 7
 1580 Cranbourne, Red Lion, Hatfield, 8
 1603 Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse, Liverpool Road, N., 8
 1612 West Middlesex, Bell, Ealing Dean, 7'45
 1614 Coven Garden, Criterion, W., 8
 1623 Rose, Stirling Castle, Camberwell, 8
 1625 Tredegar, Wellington, Bow, E., 7'30
 1711 Royal Savoy, Blue Posts, Charlotte Street, 8
 1950 Southgate, Railway Hot, New Southgate, 7'30
 1677 Crusaders, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Road, Clerkenwell, 9
 1996 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

Friday, 23rd October.

Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, 8
 General Lodge, Masonic Hall, Birmingham, 8
 167 St. John's, York and Albany, Regent's Park, 8
 507 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell, 7'30
 733 Westbourne, Swiss Cottage Tavern, Finchley Road, N.W., 8
 765 St. James, Princess Victoria, Rotherhithe, 8
 R.A. 820 Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, 8
 R.A. 890 Hornsey, Prince of Wales's Hotel, corner of Eastbourne Terrace, and Bishop's Road, W. 8
 R.A. 1275 Star, Stirling Castle, Church Street, Camberwell, 7

780 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, 8
 834 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith
 1056 Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, Fleet Street, 7
 1185 Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, Wood Green, 7'30
 1223 Beacontree, Green Man, Leytonstone, 8
 1298 Royal Standard, Builders' Arms, Canonbury, 8
 1365 Clapton, Navarino Tavern, Hackney, 8
 1381 Kennington, The Horns, Kennington, 8
 1457 Bagshaw, Public Hall, Loughton, Essex, 7'30
 1642 E. Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, 8
 1901 Selwyn, Montpelier, Choumont Rd., Peckham, 8
 2021 Queen's (Westminster) and Marylebone, The Criterion, W., 8
 2030 Abbey Westminster, King's Arms, S.W., 7'30
 R.A. 95 Eastern Star, Hercules Tavern, E.C.
 R.A. 1275 Star, Stirling Castle, Camberwell, 8

Saturday, 24th October.

87 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany, St. Catherine's Park, near Nunhead Junction, 7'30
 179 Manchester, 8 Tottenham Court Road, W.O., 8
 193 Percy, Jolly Farmers', Southgate Road, N., 8
 1275 Star, Dover Castle, Deptford Causeway, S.E., 8
 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, Finsbury, 7
 2012 Chiswick, Windsor Castle, Hammersmith, 7'30
 R.A. Sinai, Red Lion, King Street, Regent, St. W

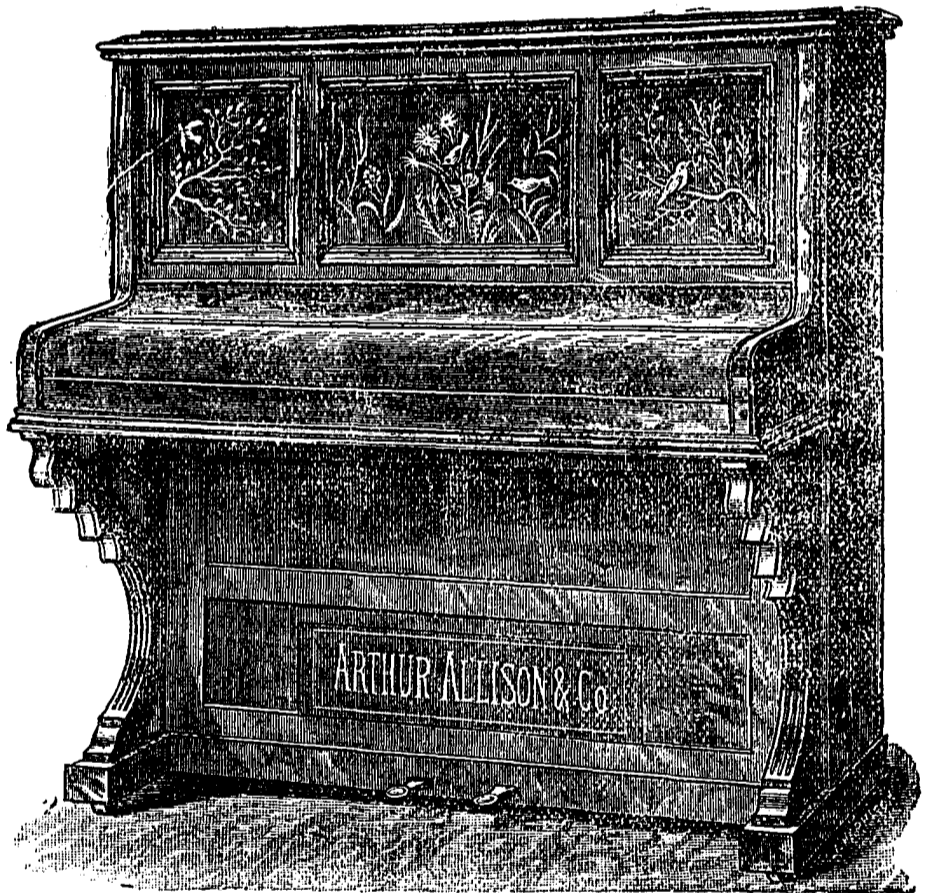


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| 501 The Constitutions of the Freemasons. Containing the History, Charges, Regulations, &c., of that Most Ancient and Right Worshipful Fraternity. For the use of the Lodges. London: Printed by William Hunter, for John Senex at the Globe, and John Hooke, at the Flower-de-Luce over-against St. Dunstan’s Church, in Fleet-street, in the year of Masonry, 5723. Anno Domini, 1723.
<small>This was the first Edition of the Constitutions published. It is now very difficult to procure a copy; in fact, we know of no other in the market. As much as £20 has recently been paid for this edition.</small> | 10 10 0 | 531 History of the Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65. London, 1884. † Scarce. | 0 12 6 |
| 503 Reprint of The Old Constitutions [1722] belonging to the Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons. Taken from a manuscript wrote above five hundred years since. London, 1870. † | 0 15 0 | 532 History of the Lodge of Sincerity, No. 174. By Bro. John Newton. 1888. † | 0 10 0 |
| 504 The Old Constitutions belonging to the Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of England and Ireland. Edited by the Rev. John Edmund Cox, D.D., F.S.A. London, 1871. † | 0 10 0 | 534 History of Freemasonry in the Province of Sussex. 1883. † | 0 7 6 |
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| 511 The Ansayrii (or Assassins), with Travels in the Further East, in 1850-51, including A Visit to Nineveh. By Lieut. the Hon. F. Walpole, R.N. (late Prov. Grand Master of Norfolk). 3 vols. 1851. † | 1 10 0 | 538 An Address by Bro. R. F. Gould on his installation as W.M. of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge; also an Address on “English Freemasonry before the Era of Grand Lodges (1717). Margate, 1888. † | 0 2 6 |
| 512 The History and Articles of Masonry. By Matthew Cooke. 1861. † | 0 5 0 | 539 Record of the Installation of Bro. Thomas William Tew, J.P., as R.W. Prov. Grand Master of the West Riding of Yorkshire, at the Albert Hall, Leeds, on Friday, the 24th day of April 1885. With Preface and Appendix. † | 0 10 6 |
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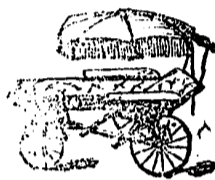
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