

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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

VOL. XLV.—No. 1162.]
23rd year of issue.

SATURDAY, 17th APRIL 1897.

[PRICE THREEPENCE.
13/6 per annum, in advance.

OUTSIDE CHARITY APPEALS.

WE have already written under this heading in opposition to proposals made in different quarters, than an appeal should be made to the Lodges of England on behalf of the Fund inaugurated by the Grand Master, to benefit the Hospitals of the metropolis as a means of celebrating the record reign of Her Majesty the Queen, and we did so because we were of opinion that, as "Charity begins at home," the English Craft had quite enough to attend to in the three Institutions specially associated with it. But as we then said, we were not actuated by any selfish motives in doing so, and we are as pleased as anyone could possibly be to now find that our views are by no means shared by the Lodges around us, as the lists we have already published, taken in conjunction with the one on the succeeding page, clearly demonstrate.

From these three lists it appears that to the end of last week upwards of one hundred and sixty Masonic bodies had evinced their interest in the Grand Master's Hospital scheme, in the most practical of all ways—by contributing to it, and when, in association with this, we bear in mind that the register of London and the Provinces includes 1,662 Lodges, some of which are dormant, or practically so, it will be seen that ten per cent. of the whole number have already given their support to the project. In face of this it would be absurd to say that the Craft is unmindful of the claims of the Grand Master's proposed method of celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and in publishing the lists as we are now doing we hope we shall be the means of bringing the matter yet more prominently before the Craft and, it may be, eventually lead to a much wider extension of the support already given.

At the moment of going to press we have received a return from the Mansion House, giving the following list of the "Masonic" amounts contributed to the Lady Mayoress's Branch of the Fund:

Israel Lodge, No. 205, per Joseph Levy	-	-	-	10	10	0
Unity Lodge, No. 69	-	-	-	5	5	0
Barnato Lodge, No. 2264	-	-	-	10	10	0
Great Northern Lodge, No. 1287, per S. Webb	-	-	-	7	11	6
Tredeggar Lodge, No. 1625, per E. J. Anning	-	-	-	5	5	0
The Masonic Girls, per Sir John Monokton	-	-	-	5	0	0
Alderman Vaughan Morgan Grand Treasurer	-	-	-	50	0	0

MASONIC JUBILEE HONOURS.

AS the 23rd April falls in Easter week, the St. George's Day Masonic Festival will be held on the 28th inst. On account of the Diamond Jubilee no fewer than sixty brethren will receive brevet Grand Lodge rank in addition to the usual Officers of the year. Thirty of these much-coveted "purple aprons" will go to London, the same number being divided between the provinces and the colonies. In accordance with the precedent created in 1887, a special meeting of Grand Lodge will be held at the Albert Hall early in July, says the "World," under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, who is unable to attend in person on the 28th inst. The proceeds of the gathering are to be equally divided between the Grand Master's Jubilee Hospital Fund and the Masonic Charities.

DEVON EDUCATIONAL FUND.

THE annual meeting of subscribers to the Devon Masonic Educational Fund was held on Wednesday, 7th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth. Bro. E. H. Shorto, of Exeter, presided over a large attendance.

The Treasurer's report showed that the total Funds at the end of last year amounted to £1,716 6s 9d, as compared with £1,586 4s 7d in the previous year. Bro. Lord mentioned also that last year's receipts included a sum of £104 6s 11d, the net proceeds of a concert given under Bro. Willoughby's able conductorship in Plymouth Guildhall in December last. There were nineteen children now on the Fund, and by the election which would take place at that meeting this number would be increased to twenty-two. That they were able to educate and clothe so large a number of children, and at the same time to maintain their income at such a satisfactory figure, showed that the Fund had a strong hold on the sympathy of the brethren throughout the Province.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said he had lately been going into the question, and it was a disappointment to him to find that the contributions to the Fund represented an average of only about £5 or £6 per Lodge throughout the Province. The splendid result of the last concert at Plymouth was beyond all praise, and he hoped that the brethren of those Lodges that did not yet subscribe to the Fund would at once awaken to a sense of their responsibility, and do something that was really worth doing to help so deserving an Institution. The motion was seconded, and carried.

The Officers of the Institution were all re-elected, and cordially thanked for their past valuable and gratuitous service. The Management Committee were also re-elected. There were six candidates for three vacancies on the Fund, and the result of the ballot was that a child nominated from Torquay headed the list with 956 votes, a Devonport case came next with 894 votes, and a case from Exmouth was third with 702 votes, says the "Western Morning News." The unsuccessful candidates polled 529, 30 and 26 votes respectively. These will be carried forward to their credit at the next election.

The Committee are making a special appeal to Devonshire Freemasons to more largely support this valuable Institution, in order that its present state of usefulness may be maintained; and it is hoped that the Funds will be greatly increased, consequent upon this appeal.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUSSEX.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter was held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Saturday afternoon, Comp. Lieut.-General C. W. Randolph Provincial Grand Superintendent presiding.

The Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follow

Comp. A. Lloyd 732	-	-	-	H.
W. Smith 732	-	-	-	J.
V. P. Freeman 311 315 732	-	-	-	S.E.
B. Burfield 811	-	-	-	S.N.
J. M. Reed 732	-	-	-	Treasurer
J. P. Slingsby Roberts 1466	-	-	-	Registrar
J. H. Ewart 916	-	-	-	Principal Sojourner
H. Pearce 811	-	-	-	1st Assistant Sojourner
H. L. Staffurth 38	-	-	-	2nd Assistant Sojourner
J. Turton 271	-	-	-	Sword Bearer
R. Weston 311	-	-	-	Standard Bearer
J. Wood 315	-	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
A. King 271	-	-	-	Organist
Alfred Coe	-	-	-	Janitor.

On the closing of the Chapter the Companions sat down to a banquet, at which the customary Loyal and Royal Arch toasts were duly honoured.

THE GRAND MASTER'S HOSPITAL FUND.

BY the courtesy of the Editor of the "Daily Telegraph" we are enabled to give the following list of Masonic contributions received by the "Daily Telegraph Shilling Branch" of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund (for London) up to the 12th inst. The names in parenthesis are those of the Brethren forwarding the different contributions.

NAME.	PER.	SHILLINGS.
Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127 (Harry Nicholls Sec.)	-	105
Doric Lodge, No. 933 (R. Ayton)	-	41
St. Leonard Lodge, No. 1766 (S. C. Kaufman P.M.)	-	70
St. Martin's-le-Grand Lodge, No. 1538 (George Hatch Treas.)	-	55
Bloomsbury Rifles Lodge, No. 2362 (T. W. Mogford W.M.)	-	25
Royal Albert Edward Chapter, No. 1362, Redhill (T. H. Roberts)	-	60
Dalhousie Lodge, No. 860 (C. H. Berry W.M.)	-	54
Smyth Lodge, No. 2284, Grimsby (Alfred Wykes P.M.)	-	22
Euston Lodge, No. 2283, St. Neots (D. R. Tomson)	-	21
Caledonian Lodge, No. 134 (E. J. Jones Treas.)	-	36
Upper Norwood Lodge, No. 1586 (E. T. Clarke W.M.)	-	30
Camden Lodge of Instruction, No. 704 (E. Styles)	-	16
Bedfordshire Lodge of St. John the Baptist, No. 475, Luton	-	15
Rickmansworth Lodge, No. 2218 (H. L. Barrett P.M. P.P.G.S.)	-	10
1st instalment	-	10
New Cross Lodge, No. 1559, Installation meeting (T. Grummant Secretary)	-	110
Belgrave Chapter, No. 749 (J. J. Thomas Treas.)	-	105
Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614 (G. Reynolds Sec.)	-	105
Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 185 (David Hills I.P.M. Sec.)	-	90
Scots Lodge, M.M., No. 406 (C. F. Matier Grand Sec.)	-	50
Stewards of the 12th Annual North London Masonic Benevolent Ball (F. Humphreys Hon. Sec.)	-	45
West Kent Chapter, No. 1297, Crystal Palace (H. Crowden Treas.)	-	38
London Lodge, No. 108 (H. W. Green Sec.)	-	31
Walthamstow Lodge of Instruction, No. 2472 (J. R. Carter Sec.)	-	28
1st instalment	-	28
Salisbury Lodge, No. 435, Installation meeting (Wilhelm Ganz)	-	46
Queen's Westminster Lodge, No. 2021 (Chas. P. Bellerby Sec.)	-	32
Gatwick Lodge, No. 2502, Horley (T. A. Roberts)	-	1050
Woodgrange Lodge, No. 2409, Forest Gate (H. W. Clarke Sec.)	-	52
Cator Lodge, No. 2266, Beckenham	-	41
Great City Lodge, No. 1426, Charity Box (J. K. Gwyn)	-	25
Duke of Fife Lodge, No. 2345 (J. W. Folkard)	-	22
St. Leonard Chapter, No. 1766 (S. C. Kaufman M.E.Z.)	-	21
Old Boys' Lodge, No. 2500 (W. G. A. Edwards)	-	105
Shurmur Lodge, No. 2274 (James Pinder P.M.)	-	86
Westbourne Lodge, No. 733, Installation meeting (C. T. Brown)	-	80
Clissold Lodge, No. 2551, Charity Box (J. J. Lamigeon W.M.)	-	42
Cavendish Lodge, No. 2620 (W. Causton)	-	36
Acacia Lodge, No. 1309, Audit Dinner (— Davies Sec.)	-	35
Surbiton Lodge, No. 2146 (R. S. Hart P.P.G.S.D.)	-	105
Portland Lodge, No. 1037, Portland (F. T. Dowdeswell W.M.)	-	100
Rose of Denmark Lodge, No. 975, Shilling Collection, Ladies' Night (T. Toten Wilcox P.M. Sec.)	-	55
Manchester Lodge, No. 179, 27 members (James Watts W.M.)	-	40
Cricklewood Lodge, No. 2361 (J. Stephens)	-	31
Priory Lodge of Instruction, No. 1996, Acton (E. Monson Treas.)	-	13
Peckham Lodge, No. 1475, Installation banquet (Henry Conyers W.M.)	-	60
Stockwell Lodge, No. 1339 (R. Templeman Treas.)	-	30
Woodrow Lodge of Instruction, No. 1708, Pall Mall (J. W. Simeons Sec.)	-	21
Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744 (W. M. Stiles P.G.Tr. Treasurer)	-	42
Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540 (Leopold Weil Sec.), 1st instalment	-	21
South Norwood Lodge of Instruction, No. 1139 (T. H. Horley P.M.)	-	11
Sphinx Masonic "At Home," Surrey Masonic Hall, 19th Feb.	-	305
Ebury Lodge, No. 1348, Collected in the Charity Pillar	-	147
Sandown Lodge, No. 1869, Sandown, Installation meeting (A. G. Prickett P.M.)	-	48
St. Dunstan Lodge, No. 1589	-	33
United Lodge, No. 697, Colchester (J. T. Bailey Sec.)	-	55
Leyton Lodge, No. 2626	-	29
Bedfordshire Lodge of St. John the Baptist, No. 475, Luton (G. S. Duberly), 2nd instalment	-	30
Amherst Lodge, M.M., No. 266, Sandgate (The W.M.)	-	12
Chough Lodge, No. 2264	-	210
Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge, No. 2432, Ladies' night (G. Ransford Treasurer)	-	113
Finsbury Lodge, No. 861	-	55
Star Chapter of Instruction, No. 1275, 1st instalment	-	11
City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563 (C. M. Brander Treasurer)	-	400
Carrington Lodge, No. 2421, Amersham (J. J. Thomas Treasurer)	-	105
Loyalty and Charity Lodge, No. 1584 (Wm. Dodd Sec.)	-	32
Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 34	-	20
Victoria Chapter, No. 1056 (B. Groner)	-	42

Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 199, Dover	-	105
St. James Lodge, No. 765 (H. E. King W.M.)	-	58
Kennington Lodge, No. 1381 (J. N. Hearn Sec.)	-	30
Grosvenor Lodge, No. 1257 (Thomas Hawkins)	-	60
Lodge of Agriculture, No. 1199, Yatton	-	40
Duke of Albany Lodge, No. 1963 (R. C. Davis Treasurer)	-	110
Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192 (Charles Garton W.M.)	-	105
Southgate Lodge, No. 1950	-	64
Temple Lodge, No. 101 (E. S. Lardner Sec.)	-	42
Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488 (W. J. W. Beard Treasurer)	-	315
Ionic Lodge, No. 227, Charity Box (F. Mead Treasurer)	-	205½
Finsbury Park Lodge, No. 1288 (John Oldis Sec.)	-	162
Regent's Park Lodge, No. 2202 (G. Clappitt W.M.)	-	44
Cyclist Chapter, No. 2246 (Charles Sheppard S.E.)	-	36
Mozart Lodge, No. 1929 (Frederick Flood P.M. Sec.)	-	30
Ravensbourne Lodge, No. 1601, Lewisham	-	210
Holborn Lodge, No. 2393 (Dr. Lovett Treasurer)	-	105
Adelphi Lodge, No. 1670 (W. A. Linney Sec.)	-	44
Wellington Lodge of Instruction, No. 548 (J. G. Milbourn P.M. Precept.)	-	30
Star of the West Lodge	-	40
Collected from the residents of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	-	32½
Egyptian Lodge, No. 27 (M. H. Hall Sec.)	-	25
Hammersmith Lodge, No. 2090 (Arthur J. Barclay Sec.)	-	21
Rickmansworth Lodge, No. 2218 (H. L. Barrett P.M.)	-	12
Samson Lodge, No. 1663, Ladies' Banquet (E. Hahn Treas.)	-	105
Sir Hugh Myddleton Lodge, No. 1602 (John Osborn P.M. Sec.)	-	100
Caledonian Lodge, No. 134 (E. J. Jones Treas.)	-	20
Prince Edwin Lodge, No. 125, Hythe	-	15
London Rifle Brigade Lodge, No. 1962 (Andrew McDowall Treas.)	-	53
Genesis Lodge of Instruction, Bedford Park (Harry Nicholls Treas.)	-	42
Lodge La France, No. 2060 (Henri Bué Treasurer)	-	64
Temple Bar Lodge, No. 1728 (G. S. Recknell)	-	63
Rye Lodge, Peckham, No. 2272 (J. W. Dewsnap Sec.)	-	44
Shalden Lodge, No. 2016, Alton (H. Cooper Sec.)	-	30
Earl of Leicester Lodge, No. 2237, Wells (H. E. Loques)	-	26½
St. Andrew Lodge, No. 231	-	105
St. Paul Lodge, No. 194 (S. J. Weston P.M.)	-	100
Sub-Urban Lodge, No. 1702, Great Stanmore (J. Treble Treasurer)	-	75½
Borough Lodge, No. 2589 (J. Hattersley Treasurer)	-	33
West Smithfield Lodge, No. 1623 (J. J. Howes Treasurer)	-	110
Nelson Lodge, No. 700, Woolwich (S. E. Southgate P.M.)	-	92
Excelsior Lodge, No. 1155, Upper Norwood (C. Clark Sec.)	-	30
Selwyn Lodge, No. 1901 (A. H. Fraser W.M.)	-	63
Asaph Lodge, No. 1319 (W. A. Tinney Sec.)	-	128
Hugh Owen Lodge, No. 2593 (H. Roberts Sec.)	-	100
St. John Lodge, No. 761, Dursley (H. I. Francillon)	-	24
Empire Lodge, No. 2108	-	140
Borough of Greenwich Lodge, No. 2332 (A. H. Oakley)	-	44
Prosperity Lodge, No. 65 (John Roberts Treas.)	-	427
United Brothers Lodge, No. 1069, Southsea (A. R. Hendy Sec.)	-	145
Stuart Lodge, No. 1632, Charity Box (John Morgan P.M. W.M.)	-	84
Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 68, Bristol	-	50
Merit Lodge, No. 466, Stamford Baron (G. H. Burton Sec.)	-	31
West Kent Lodge, No. 1297, Crystal Palace	-	51½
Earl of Warwick Conclave (S. J. Street)	-	23
Walthamstow Lodge of Instruction, No. 2472 (John R. Carter Sec.), 2nd Instalment	-	20
Pythagorean Lodge, No. 79, Greenwich (G. H. Dowsett Treas.)	-	105
St. Martin Lodge, No. 2455 (H. T. Brickwell W.M.)	-	105
Horatio Shirley Conclave (Major Dunbar Treas.)	-	54
Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet	-	42
Highbury Lodge, No. 2192 (G. W. Bowyer Sec.)	-	63
St. Mary Lodge, No. 1312, Braintree (Thomas E. Pilgrim Sec.)	-	42
Ivy Lodge, No. 1441 (Burcham Cooper P.M. Treas.)	-	42
Vale of White Horse Lodge, No. 1770, Farringdon (W. Collins Sell Sec.)	-	20
Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693 (A. W. Fenner P.M. Sec.)	-	63
Lodge of St. John, No. 1306, Installation banquet (J. G. Irwin P.M. Sec.)	-	105
Prince Frederick William Lodge, No. 753 (J. J. Thomas Sec.)	-	105
St. Michael Lodge, No. 2136, Bishop's Stortford	-	26
Pilgrim (German) Lodge, No. 238, Ladies' Festival, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Emperor William I.	-	1500

GLEANINGS.

NEVER were Anti-Masons more unscrupulous, more untruthful, or more vindictive than now. But their animosity fails, because of the absurdity, improbability and preposterousness of their accusations.

The Anti-Masonic Congress at Trent, in September, has proven a great advertisement of Freemasonry, and made it more friends than enemies. The awful falsehoods there proclaimed, like great overdoses of poison, are antidoting themselves.

From 1st January 1897, the Masonic Home of New York admit all worthy applicants, except those suffering from contagious diseases, or those whom the laws of the State interdict.

CONSECRATIONS.

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ALBANY LODGE.

THE consecration of this Lodge, No. 2652, formed in connection with the Albany Club, Kingston, took place on Friday, 9th inst., at the Club House, the ceremony being performed by the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, assisted by Bro. F. West D.Prov.G.M.

Bro. S. S. Goodman was installed as the first W.M., S. H. Horton was appointed S.W., G. A. Petter J.W., W. M. Wilkinson Treasurer, F. G. Wheatley Secretary, David Harrison S.D., and F. W. Hancock J.D.

The ceremony was most impressively performed, Bro. Arthur Briscoe presiding at the organ. The names of several joining members and initiates were proposed.

After the working the company sat down to banquet, and the usual toasts were honoured.

Lord Onslow, responding to that of the Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, augured a prosperous career, both for the Lodge and the Club, as it appeared that the right element had been introduced. He hoped to see the Lodge take a leading part in the county Masonic Charities.

The music room of the Club is admirably adapted for the purposes of a Lodge room, and everything points to the Lodge being a great success.—“Surrey Advertiser.”

LISCARD LODGE.

THE recent progress of Freemasonry in the Province of Cheshire, especially in the Wirral Peninsula, has been remarkable, as, following upon the establishment of the New Brighton Lodge, No. 2619, in December last, the ceremony of consecration of the Liscard Lodge, No. 2657, on Saturday afternoon, at the Concert Hall, Manor Road, Liscard, was an event which excited the greatest interest amongst the Brethren in Cheshire, and the neighbouring Provinces. The attendance was not only numerous, but highly representative, and the proceedings were characterised by an enthusiasm which gives good promise for the success of the youngest Lodge in the division. The total attendance numbered about 150 Brethren of all ranks, and the consecration proceedings were greatly enhanced by the presence of the Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton Provincial Grand Master as chief Officer, his lordship being assisted by Bros. Colonel C. S. Dean, C.C., P.S.G.W., H. Jackson P.J.G.W., the Rev. C. Chetwynd Atkinson P.G.Chaplain, Rev. R. Edwards P.G.Chaplain, John Clayton P.P.S.G.W., Richard Newhouse Dep.Grand S.B. Prov.Grand Secretary, G. H. Brown P.P.G.W., and H. Gordon Small P.G.D.C.

The Founders of the new Liscard Lodge were Bro. Col. C. S. Dean, C.C., P.S.G.W. W.M. 2619 P.M. 1289 2375 2133, W. Orry Callow P.M. 2335, T. M. Stanbury, E. Russell Taylor, Edward L. Bruce, J. Roby, J. C. Robinson P.P.A.G.D.C. (W.L.) 249, W. F. Robinson P.G.A.D.C. P.M. 2132 2433, Jas. Boughey, Julian Shalders, John Miller P.M. 1086, T. Wiggins, T. Stanley Ball, J. F. Walker, W. Richardson, John Armstrong P.P.G.S. of W. P.M. 1250 1350 2433 W.M. 2651, A. H. Baird W.M. 2433, W. Roberts, W. J. Fairclough, Dr. Brewer S.W. 2433, and G. Beattie.

After the Provincial Grand Lodge representatives had been received, and Officers temporarily appointed to their respective positions, Lord Egerton proceeded with the consecration ceremony, which he performed in a most impressive manner, assisted by the Brethren already named.

An eloquent oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. C. Chetwynd Atkinson P.G.Chaplain, on the merits and obligations of the Masonic Order, teaching each Brother the duty he owed to God, to his neighbour, and to himself. As Freemasons they were loyal to the throne, and their loyalty should be especially shown this year, in view of the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of their beloved Queen, in a true Masonic manner, viz., by raising subscriptions in all the Lodges in the Province towards securing increased monetary help for the Fund of Benevolence in aid of Aged Freemasons.

The musical arrangements of the ceremony were under the direction of Bro. J. T. Hindle P.G.O., and the several effective pieces were admirably rendered by the Minster Vocal Quartette (Bros. C. Aspinall, W. H. Atkinson, T. Barlow and Fred Owens), assisted by Bros. J. Costain, Wynne Jones, G. Kiddle, W. Hudson, J. F. Swift, and A. H. Baird.

Bro. Colonel C. S. Dean, on behalf of the members of the Lodge, presented the Provincial Grand Master Lord Egerton of Tatton with a valuable foundation jewel, as a memento of his kindness in performing the duties of Consecrating Officer on that occasion, and it was further intimated to his lordship that he had been elected to honorary membership of the Liscard Lodge.

In acknowledging the gift and honour, the Provincial Grand Master expressed the great pleasure he had felt in being present that day to consecrate a new Lodge, which, judging from the very large attendance at the interesting event, was certain to have a prosperous career. His lordship then retired, to keep an engagement in another part of Cheshire.

The chair at this point was taken by Bro. Colonel Dean P.G.S.W., who, in a most impressive manner, proceeded to instal Bro. W. Orry Callow P.M. 2335 as the first Master of the Liscard Lodge. The W.M. then invested the Officers for the ensuing year.

Assistance in the ceremony was given by Bro. J. Armstrong, and at the close a great number of propositions for initiation and joining were made.

After business, the Brethren banqueted in one of the lower rooms of the Concert Hall, the excellent catering of Mr. Ferdinand Rallwagen, of the Albion Hotel, New Brighton, giving general satisfaction.

The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to in the course of the after-dinner proceedings, and a choice musical programme was given by Bros. Atkinson, Barlow, Owens, Aspinall, Wynne Jones, Leslie, Harris, Costain, Baird (musical director), and Swift (accompanist).—“Liverpool Mercury.”

“A SPRIG OF ACACIA.”

ONLY a few days back we had to record the death of a Brother whose friendship we had enjoyed during the twenty odd years we had been associated with Freemasonry; to-day we mourn the loss of another old friend, Brother Jacob Norton, to whom we owe more than one useful lesson, and whose memory we hope we shall always revere. Bro. Norton's special characteristic was the pertinacity with which he kept to any project he set his mind upon, and we can well remember how, as a young man, we were impressed with the determination of the Mason who had started on a journey from America for the purpose of—among other matters—paying a visit to the British Museum, and settling for himself an idea he entertained that this or that was set out in black and white in some one or other of the volumes stored there. We used to wonder whether Brother Norton exaggerated as to the difficulty of finding out what he generally appeared to so easily discover, but have since found that he could often succeed in the most astonishing way where others would search in vain; and we now know that the opinion we heard expressed in our earlier days that he was a wonderful man was fully justified. Brother Norton gave offence to very many, on account of his outspokenness, and we believe he would have risked losing his dearest friend rather than budge from what he considered to be the correct standpoint in any argument, and bearing in mind the many theories he has been the means of exploding we cannot wonder at the obstinacy, as some called it, with which he supported his views; but at heart he was a true Mason, and we think he really loved those best who differed from him, and, by arguing their differences, gave him the opportunity and the need for extending his researches. That he was no bigot we can personally testify, for we call to mind an occasion when, just after we moved into a new office, Bro. Norton came across to us from an interview with the then Grand Secretary, and asked us to lend him a Bible, to verify some statement made. We had to admit we had not yet furnished our office with one, upon which Bro. Norton persisted in taking us to a neighbouring bookseller, where he bought and presented us with a copy, saying that although he was himself an Atheist and could not believe much the Book contained, there was not a room in his house but contained a copy. We have that Bible yet, and reverence it as the gift of the Brother who early taught us that he knows nothing who is only acquainted with his own side of an argument, and who convinced us that much more may be done by persistent personal effort than by taking the opinions of others—no matter how able they may be considered—as conclusive. Brother Jacob Norton died at his residence in Boston, U.S.A., last month, at the ripe age of 83 years, and in saying how much we regret his demise we feel we are but echoing the thought of all who knew him—whether they opposed his peculiar theories or were in accord with him. Brother Norton had been in business in Boston since 1841, and was regarded as one of the most honourable citizens of that important city. He was an active man of business, thorough in all he undertook, and never considered any labour too great if the interests of his clients required it, as was evidenced by the frequent journeys he made across the Atlantic in pursuit of his avocation. He thought no more of a voyage to England and back than an ordinary trader would of travelling between London and Manchester, and could equally interest one with accounts of his journeyings as in many other matters. We learn that his funeral was attended by many prominent merchants, Masons and others, who took that opportunity of showing their respect for their departed friend.

VISITORS.

THE right to visit another Lodge is a landmark of the Order, and, in addition, visitation on the part of certain Officers is enjoined by the Constitutions. There is therefore no reason for the timidity displayed by the ordinary Brother who hesitates before presenting himself at the door of another Lodge for fear of being considered an intruder. Unfortunately in days when the proceedings in Lodge are only regarded as a tiresome preliminary to proceedings in another place, the visitor is not unnaturally afraid he may be regarded as on the look out for a dinner. This consideration, coupled with the further fact that in a Lodge where he is not known he may be required to produce a Grand Lodge certificate, which he has lost, and pass an examination in matters of ritual, which he has entirely forgotten, combine to make our friend stay at home and confine his Freemasonry to his Mother Lodge.

In these days no man's education can be considered complete until he has travelled and enlarged his conception of men and manners, and similar considerations apply to Freemasonry. If you are able to visit Lodges in many lands so much the better; if you cannot you can at all events visit Lodges in the next town. The writer has never yet been within five miles of a Lodge either in England or out here which he has not visited, and into most of them he had to "fight his way." Let it be understood once for all that a visitor to a Lodge can never be an intruder in any sense, if he be in good standing in his own Lodge. Masonry is universal, and though it is possible to suppose that the Brethren of any particular Lodge may feel and display annoyance when a stranger demands admittance; that stranger, if he can prove himself to be in good standing, has as much right to be present as he would have to promenade in a public park; and when he takes his seat he is not there on sufferance, but in the exercise of his undoubted right. The Lodge which declines to admit a visitor except on well-recognised grounds would run the risk of losing its warrant, and conversely every Lodge which applies for a warrant does so in the full knowledge that the disability—if such it be considered—of having to accommodate visitors, will accompany it.

This liability to visitation is a great safeguard to our rites. The Worshipful Master will hesitate to sanction innovations and novelties of procedure if he knows that he liable to be dropped in upon at any moment by visitors from the uttermost parts of the earth, who will advertise his proceedings far and wide. If it were not for this safeguard there is no knowing what might happen in our Lodges. Even as it is, the most extraordinary things happen, as some of our readers can testify from their own knowledge, and if these things occur in the green tree, what would happen in the dry! So much for visitation from the Lodge's standpoint, the visitee's standpoint as one might say.

Let us now look upon it from the visitor's. Why has he turned up at all? We are supposing he is in a strange Lodge and has worked his way in. Let the writer recount his own experiences. He had just landed at Melbourne, being on a short Australian tour for the benefit of his health. In the course of the first afternoon he went to the Masonic Hall to find what functions were likely to be going on, and found the Tyler most communicative. He attended an installation meeting that very evening, and half a dozen Brethren promptly asked him in what way they could serve him. One of them put his name down at a club for the duration of his stay, others were ready to put him in the best way of utilising his time, and every one according to his ability seemed anxious to do something to make the Indian visitor feel at home. The various certificates the writer carried with him were in effect so many certificates of solvency and respectability. But there was even a stranger thing happened. There landed in Melbourne the day before—another Masonic stranger—who also sought out the Masonic Hall. He, poor fellow, was down on his luck, but nevertheless he not only got as warm a welcome, but the writer beheld him, the day after, engaged upon cleaning and generally repairing the exterior of the Masonic Hall aforesaid, and earning a couple of pounds by doing so. Who shall say after this that Masonic visitation is not a success? In the warmth of the welcome received, the fact that one was 6,000 miles away from every former acquaintance and friend was quite forgotten.

The advantages of visiting, however, are not confined to finding a warm welcome and experiencing hospitality. There is much to be learnt. There is room for considerable variation even in the ritual, and travelling brings to light many strange things sometimes even in a Masonic Lodge.—"J. T. L.," in the "Indian Masonic Review."

Hopes are being expressed that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Grand Master may be present at the Masonic service to be held at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on Ascension Day.

IN THIS SPIRIT LABOUR ON.

Oration by Bro. Jacob Voorsanger, at the Laying of the Corner-Stone of the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home at Decoto, California.

THRICE happy is he whose footsteps led him this day to this favoured spot in the sunny Alameda hills. Thrice happy he who, with us, may witness this sacred consummation of hopes long deferred, of prayers long unanswered, of wishes long unrealised. We stand on the hill-tops overlooking our domain, every foot of which speaks of Faith, Hope, and Charity. We stand at the closed groove, in which is sunk the keystone, noble symbol of patient faith kept alive by the love of our Brethren. We stand aloft, gazing on the rich valleys of this dear, dear land; we watch the silver lines of the waters beyond; we watch these kindly faces, beaming with pleasure at the fulfilment of this holy task, and, surely, our first thought is—God is good the Master who steels the arm for the sowing time permits us to stand on the threshing floor and sing our song of praise!

Brethren, this is a sacred hour. Well may we tarry to learn its lessons. There are few such periods in our busy lives. Usually we grapple with problems that often remain unanswered until we have gone our last journey. We hanker after power, riches, glory; we illustrate, in the mighty weakness of our reputed strength, the unhallowed selfishness of our ambitions and desires. Life is a battlefield strewn with the corpses of unsatisfied ambition, of wrecked hopes, of defeated schemes; and in our journey to the beyond we oft meet the cripples, whose maimed bodies tell the woeful tales of disaster to the one, conquest to the other. We live to conquer; to reach the goal in the mighty race for power and fame; to set our foot on the neck of the vanquished. This we call success, forgetting that there is a measure with which all are measured—a scythe that mows the ranks of men, and knows not the difference between the conqueror and the vanquished. Death is the victor. Success is but the glimmer of a moment, a bright presence lighting up our little world but for a brief day. We pass on, to make room for others. We descend into the ocean of oblivion; its waters engulf us, and on the shore stand new generations, awaiting, wonderingly, the time when they, too shall follow. What remains? Faith remains, hope abides, and charity, also—and the greatest of these is charity!

Do not think, Brethren, that it is my intention to convert this moment of success into one of extreme melancholy. We are indeed happy that our enterprise hath prospered. We are moved to give thanks and praise to all who have contributed to this lasting monument of Masonry, and thereby have illustrated the promising fact that our natures are not altogether selfish. We are moved to glorify the generous mother of our Institution, the Grand Lodge of California, its wise, good men, and its women also, who recognise the services of Masonry to the world, and we gladly accord them the meed of praise they deserve. But this is not the hour for glorification, but for humility; not for praise of men, but of the Supreme Grand Master. This is not the hour to extol our success, but to deliberate the potency of greater effort. For, Brethren, in setting this corner-stone in its socket, the thought grows on us that the inmates of the Home that shall here be erected are the very cripples who have been shot to pieces on life's battlefield. When we think of them the flush of success disappears from our countenances, for we begin to think, not of what we have achieved, but of what we owe them; not of our own poor glory, but of the responsibility that life's battle puts on them who have stayed in the fight to win and prevail. Here are to dwell orphans and widows. The Providence of God might, with unquestioned justice, have willed that your wives, your children should be cherished here. There is, in spite of the most unselfish humanity, a touch of humiliation in public support. They who need it are maimed, the cripples, the helpless, the fallen. How much have we for which to be grateful? How deeply moved to gratitude must we not be when we come to realise the great privilege vouchsafed us, that we may remove this touch of humiliation from the hearts of all who here will seek shelter beneath the wing of Masonry?

And this inclines me to say to you, Brethren, that probably this very teaching of humility is the first lesson in Masonic philosophy. We cannot wholly conquer the selfishness of our natures; but we can strive to infuse mercy into life's battle. If we must war against one another, let us, after the manner of modern warfare, collect the maimed after the battle and heal their wounds. We owe it to ourselves. It is, it should be, an expression of our humility, a recognition of the fact that, if the race belongs to the swift, God gives strength to the one and weakness to the other. To me, the great beauty of Masonry is, and always has been, that it sets forth the relations between God and man, the duty man owes to his God and his neighbour. Masonry preaches the ideal of Fraternity, and preaches in bold, homespun language the theory that this warfare of man against man is wrong; that brotherhood is a nobler ideal than manhood, that amity is nobler than strife, that humanity is holier than the success of life. Masonry teaches that there is a democracy of spirits before God, in which not the mail-clad warrior but the righteous man, not the wise, learned scholar, but the lover of his fellow man, shall be priest and ruler. In that democracy, as the spirit of Masonry interprets it, the classes and divisions of man are as naught in the face of the eternal verity, that God hath made all men of the same dust, hath endowed them all with the capacity of suffering, and hath ordained for them a common destiny, eternal rest for their weary frames, eternal light for their beatified spirits in the lustrous realms above, where the Supreme Master of the Universe presides. That thought of a common origin and a common destiny humbles the Mason before the Great Light in the East, but strengthens his

spirit to see wherein man departs from the great wisdom of the ages. That thought of the democracy of spirit levels, within Masonry, all classes and conditions. All are alike before the Supreme—the Master and the Apprentice, he who sits in the flood of oriental light and he who gropes in darkness, he who wields the sceptre and he who obeys orders, he who commands and he who toils. Banded and linked together by the power of that levelling principle, duty receives a different interpretation. There may be a palace for the one and a hovel for the other; but the denizen of the palace must know the fate of him who dwells in the poor man's hut; they are responsible to one another, for God has made them alike; they share a common destiny; both live, and both suffer, and both shall die, and both shall live again. Brethren, we are responsible to one another, and unless that link of responsibility holds us together, Masonry is not worth a thought. Rich and poor, learned and unlearned, strong and weak, high and low, these are the nomenclatures of life's battles, representing the victor and the conquered, the sound in body and the maimed; we know them not in Masonry; we are a democracy, standing before the Supreme Grand Master, girt with but one armament, uniform to all, the armament of virtue, of character, and of good deeds! That is our creed. He who hath a better to offer, let him step forward and improve the ideal, which is the design of God Himself. And now, since we are thus constituted, with a firm belief in the justice of equality, we render no humiliating service to the families of our Brethren who have departed on their last journey—we do but honour ourselves, we do but justice to ourselves, when we provide this shelter for them. Charity is kind, but the word charity is not so Masonic as the word justice. We do justice to our orphans, to our widows, when we remove them into surroundings where they may witness the strength of our teachings; it is justice to give them shelter, justice to clothe them, justice to educate, justice to love them! If I could, I would remove the word charity from our vocabulary. Faith, Hope and Justice would suit me better. Justice interprets the relations of man to man according to the design of law; it imposes righteous duty, whereas in these modern times the word charity is misconstrued as intending to place the poor and forlorn in the capacity of recipients, who with shamed face give thanks for the munificence that enables them to live. That is not charity—it is rank injustice. Our charity, our justice, is not only kind, but it offers to the poor our gratitude for that we are enabled to demonstrate the strength of our teachings. Our charity, our justice, is of that character that illustrates that all we are able to accomplish is not for our own glory. In our Masonic democracy, at least a part of our possessions actually belongs to our Brethren, and that is, or should be, the charity without which there is neither faith nor hope! For such charity we need no thanks, for it is the tithe of the Mason to God whom He thanks for all His goodness and mercy!

In this spirit, Brethren, let us labour on, illustrating to the world the glorious fact that Masonry weakens and finally eradicates the selfishness of human nature. We stand on the threshing floor; but the harvest is not yet complete. Much remains to be done; much faithful toil is yet to be expended. But the goal is in sight—the beginning of the end has approached. In our imagination the walls of this glorious monument are raised; in our hearts are already resounding the benedictions that here shall fall from praying lips. From whose lips? From those homeless ones who here shall find a home; from those bereaved ones who here shall find their friends; from those fatherless children who here shall recover their parents and protectors. Ah, Brethren, may God be thanked for the impulse that brings such labour to fruition; may the Master of us all be praised for the seed planted in these sunny hills! For the work is unselfish, it is God's work. Nothing can be compared to such evidence of loving kindness. Men erect monuments to commemorate or perpetuate various phases of usefulness. Here stands a university, there a chapel, over yonder the arts claim their asylum and science has her temple. But everywhere man, more or less, strives for himself and to some degree perpetuates the warfare of mankind against itself. Here alone—here alone none but the Creator can profit! Here alone—here alone, Brethren, the suspicion of selfishness fades before the bright star of hope and faith that rises upon these hills. Here the tenderest sentiments of humanity shall find rich illustration, and the atmosphere shall not be tainted with the impure motive of everyone for himself. Here shall rise a temple of humanity, and every Mason a priest therein; here shall rise an altar of love, and its censers swung by grateful women and happy children, from whose lives we shall have removed the bitterness that prevented them from seeing the good in man that comes from God. Think you the labour is worthy of the illustrious Order which claims our allegiance? If so, continue to strengthen our hands. You must find the means to prosecute this great work to its consummation. Your intelligent legislation must devise permanent provision for the Home to be erected here. Your personal contribution, in money, is needed and desired. For love is a great, good thing; but starving love, helpless love, motiveless love, is little more than a name, little more than a fancy, which hath a trick of self-deception, and in the end means nothing whatever. Our charity and love are, must be, evidenced in the material support we shall give this institution. Now that we have begun in earnest, the consummation rests with you; on you the obligation to permit the workmen no rest until, like the glorious temple of old, it shall rise in majesty, a lasting monument to the Masonry of California. Brethren, heed this advice. The Mason's love is substantial, not theoretical; his charity is continuous, not sporadic; his affections are tireless, for beneath them all rests, as a strong and safe basis, his sense of duty that tells him that this work is right—and that right must live and prosper and succeed.

The consecration of this corner-stone, Brethren, emphasises once more the Mason's duty to the state and to the Fraternity which honours him by elevating him to its service. To the state first, not last, for the Mason's loyalty to the dictates of honour and manhood is but an illustration of that allegiance he owes to his country. Our beloved who here shall find their abiding place, will be taught that the Mason's greatest honour consists in serving God and his country. To make men good Masons they must be taught to become good citizens. That humanity that knows no class nor condition, that sense of equality that looks beneath the artificial divisions of mankind, that cosmopolitanism that is identical with Masonry, these also will be taught to the flock, who from this hallowed spot may graduate themselves to become leaders of men. Therefore, Brethren, our duty first to California, mother of us all! Our duty to the noble state, redeemed from craft ignoble, whose fostering hand raises the manhood of our children! Our love to the glorious, sun-kissed land, the cradle of honourable enterprises and of the Fraternity that makes all men kindred indeed! Long may she prevail, the noble mother, proudest and fairest among her sisters, who compose the holy band of priestesses in the temple of liberty, equality, and fraternity! Beneath the hallowed pennant of the bear, and the greater flag of America's united sovereignties, may this Masonic enterprise come to glorious fruition, and this corner-stone prove as firm as the eternal rocks 'gainst which the storm-laden waves of adversity dash in vain! And now, all hail to the Grand Lodge of California, mother of noble institutions, protectress of honourable enterprises, sacred teacher of our Masonic manhood! All hail to the venerable exponent of Masonry in California, beneath whose protecting hand we are permitted to consecrate this pile to humanity! In it the traditions of Masonry live again. Called into life in the days of gold, its wisdom sought permanence 'midst the coming and going of gold-loving wayfarers, and secured a home for Masonic teachings on the Western shore; its strength supported its young apprentices until they became Masters whom California did and does delight to honour; and its beauty attracted the noble youth, whom it taught the grand lessons of Speculative Masonry. And these lessons, are they really the esoteric knowledge the world may not know? Two words constitute both its ritual and its philosophy. To the Mason the Delphic oracle contained no mystery. Know thyself. That is the sum of our teachings. Knowing is acting, doing. Therefore we give honour to our Fraternity, our Grand Lodge, the venerable and worshipful Brethren who constitute its leaders and teachers, for that we are permitted, under Heaven's blessing, to illustrate our self-knowledge by an act of unselfishness that shall redound not to our glory, but to the glory of Him whom Masons worship—the Supreme Architect, to whose divine care we commit the designs of our architects, the labour of our Crafts, and the success of this noble enterprise.—“Voice of Masonry.”

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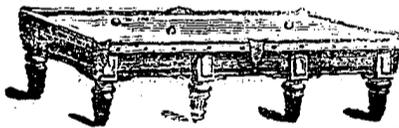
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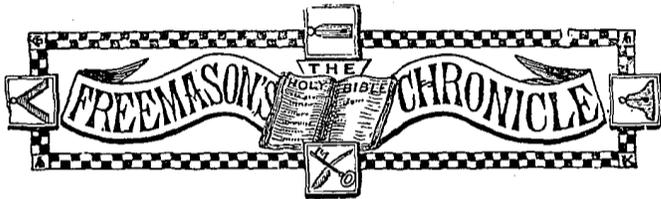
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Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this most important occasion are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary as early as convenient. Stewards are much needed, and their services will be gratefully received.

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SATURDAY, 17TH APRIL 1897.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

AS briefly announced last week the Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Thursday, 8th inst., when Bro. Henry Smith Past D.Prov.G.M. West Yorks. P.G.D. Treasurer of the Institution presided.

Having occupied the position of Treasurer for seven years, Bro. Henry Smith expressed a desire not to be elected again, as he thought the office ought not to be monopolised by one person. On his own nomination, as well as on the nomination of Bro. Peter de Lande Long P.G.D., Bro. Alderman Sir Reginald Hanson, M.P., Past Grand Warden, was elected in place of Bro. Smith.

On the motion of Bro. A. C. Spaul, seconded by Bro. Frank Richardson, a hearty vote of thanks, couched in most complimentary terms, was passed to Bro. Henry Smith, not only for his services as Treasurer, but for the great interest he had always shown in this Institution, and the other Masonic Charities.

Bro. Henry Smith acknowledged the compliment, and in the course of his remarks said he had first become acquainted with the Institution in 1857—a very long time back. He had always taken great interest in the Masonic Institutions, which came very near to his heart; and although he retired from the Treasurership of this Institution, he should always do for it and the other Institutions in the future what he had done in the past.

The list of successful candidates was given in our last issue, the following were the unsuccessful:

No. on List.	Name.	Votes.		
		Forward.	Polled.	Total
15	Woodward, Mabel Elizabeth	...	2612	2612
12	Newson, Edith Louisa Frances	...	2157	2157
6	Stephenson, Victoria Florence	115	1426	1541
21	Brown, Annie Mabel	...	1078	1078
16	Orr, Ethel May	...	806	806
23	Sutton, Constance Marion	...	785	785
11	Stickland, Gwynedd Mary	...	79	79
9	Scholes, Alberta	...	30	30
20	Fincken, Irene Alice (last)	Nominated for Presentation.		

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

THE Quarterly Court of this Institution was held on Friday, 9th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Richard Eve Past Grand Treasurer. The motion of Bro. C. E. Keyser, congratulating Her Majesty the Queen on the completion of the sixtieth year of her reign, was seconded by Bro. W. A. Scurrah, and unanimously agreed to. Bro. Keyser explained that the Queen was the oldest subscriber to the Institution. She gave her support to it when her uncle, the late Duke of Sussex, was Grand Master, had been its patron since 1852, and up to the present time was the largest subscriber. Therefore she had shown a consistent interest in it.

The extra vacancy recommended by the Council was then declared, after which the Chairman detailed what had been done in regard to the development of the site for the new School at Bushey, from which we gather that the Committee have visited several other Institutions, with the object of finding out what is best to provide, and have invited different Architects to send in proposed plans.

Bro. Keyser was afterwards re-elected Treasurer of the Institution, and when this item of business had been disposed of the Chairman announced that, in order to keep down the expenses of building the new school at Bushey, Bro. Keyser had informed the Board of Management that at the Quarterly Court next July he would place at the disposal of the Institution 5,000gs. for building the chapel of the school on the new site. It is not yet decided what recognition shall be accorded to Bro. Keyser for this munificent donation, but in all probability two perpetual scholarships will be given, open to the Provinces of Hertfordshire and Berkshire, with which Bro. Keyser is particularly identified.

The election was afterwards held, the following being the unsuccessful candidates, with particulars of the votes recorded on behalf of each:

No. on List.	Name.	Votes.		
		Forward.	Polled.	Total.
21	Peel, Gilbert William	446	1965	2411
12	Eales, Arthur Douglas	1032	1168	2200
59	Brand, Richard Austin	...	2131	2131
10	Morris, Alfred Daniel	986	1037	2023
19	Mansell, Colston Thomas	1124	820	1944
58	Britten, Charles Wells	...	1922	1922
11	Manley, Leonard Oliver	1210	296	1506
17	Sanderson, Alfred	231	1063	1299
5	Oldham, George Harold	1010	207	1217
23	Thompson, Thomas James	706	463	1169
4	Johnstone, Walter Latimer	53	1108	1161
26	Lyle, Arthur James	170	954	1124
28	Bowman, Harrison	1006	54	1060
55	Spurgeon, Albert Leslie (last)	...	541	541
9	Brinjes, Frederick Edgar	344	117	461
27	Burnett, James Murdoch	213	224	437
31	Carrol, Frederick Sheridan	...	435	435
20	Moulton, Ronald Verlow	267	156	423
52	Downes, Gilbert George	...	337	337
35	Osmond, Frederic William	...	334	334
8	Wright, Charles Philip	254	75	329
34	Calif, Reginald Frank	...	327	327
14	Hatchwell, Leonard Douglas	7	260	267
56	Grant, Albert Edward	...	240	240
40	Delahaye, William Arthur	...	129	129
37	Sherman, Harold Mackenzie	...	55	55
47	Parsons, Bertram Eugene	...	32	32
50	Blake, William Worthy Atkinson	...	28	28
45	Glover, Geoffrey Ravenhill	...	8	8
38	Hartley, Bernard	...	5	5
41	Broben, Gerald Grant	...	3	3
49	Howson, Thomas Richard	...	3	3
13	Miners, Arnold Beverley	...	Withdrawn	
32	Parry, Rey Griffith	...	Withdrawn	
33	Parsons, George	...	Withdrawn	
48	Collins, Lloyd	...	Withdrawn	
51	Barlow, Walter Cecil	...	Withdrawn	
60	Morton, Wilfred Foster	...	Withdrawn.	

We regret we have not yet had an opportunity of paying a visit to the locality of the new School, but hope to be able to do so during the next few days, more particularly as we have heard from a resident near the site that a splendid opportunity exists at the present time of judging of the nature of the soil of the district, as sewers are being laid in some of the surrounding roads, the ground excavated for the works being gravel of the best description. We are pleased to be able to make this announcement, and hope we shall soon further assure our readers of its accuracy by personal inspection, as, despite all that has been said to the contrary, we are very anxious to do our share towards securing the success of the Institution in its new quarters.

ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

A SPECIAL GREAT PRIORY was held on the 8th inst., at Mark Masons' Hall, the Earl of Euston presiding. Viscount Dungarvan Great Seneschall was in his place, and among other Great Officers present were the Earl of Onslow, Bro. De Tatton Egerton, M.P., Bro. Frank Richardson, Colonel A. B. Cook, and Bro. Loveland-Loveland.

The meeting was called to receive the delegations from the Great Priory of Scotland and the Chapter-General of the Order in Ireland, who are now in London for the purpose of conferring on the affairs of the Order. The Earl of Kintore was at the head of the delegation from Scotland, and Sir Charles Cameron at the head of that from Ireland. The Grand Master extended a warm welcome to the delegations, who replied, thanking their English brethren for their hospitality. Great Priory then proceeded to the transaction of routine business.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

All Letters must bear the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—After reading your remarks of last week, and the extract from the New Zealand letter you give, I am certainly of your opinion, and feel that someone has blundered in regard to the relations existing between our Grand Lodge and the Brethren of New Zealand who formed themselves into the Independent Grand Lodge of that colony; and what is far more to be regretted than the disagreements of the past is the fact—as it appears to me—that even yet the “breach has not been healed.”

I have not been present at recent meetings of Grand Lodge, and so cannot speak of my own knowledge as to what was done therein in regard to this question, but as I understand it the Grand Master felt it was desirable to recognise the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and took the voice of Grand Lodge upon the subject, the result being that the Craft of England endorsed the wish of the Grand Master. Yet, we are told, nothing further has been done, which is equivalent to saying that the Grand Master has not carried out what he himself desired, and what the Craft of England also wished. There must be some very strong under-current at work to account for this, as the Prince of Wales is not the man to make a proposition without first of all satisfying himself that the course he proposes is both desirable and practicable, and having gone so far as he did, I, for one, cannot understand what has occurred to stop the fulfilment of his scheme. Some very strong representations must have been made to the Grand Master to induce him to delay the recognition, and I hope, for the sake of the good name of Freemasonry, whose principle of universal Brotherhood I have always so much admired, that the mystery surrounding this New Zealand business will some day be cleared up.

Yours, &c.,

COSMOPOLITAN.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is all very well you continuing your arguments in support of the rebel Brethren of New Zealand, but that does not get over the fact that they have not acted in a constitutional manner. Until they have the regular following they have no right to recognition as an Independent body.

Yours, &c.,

LOYALIST.

A GOOD MASTER.

IT is truly refreshing, in these days of neglected duty and place hunting combinations, to find a Master of a Lodge who under any and all circumstances has the temerity to do his duty without fear, favouritism, or partiality. Especially so where he who is possessed of this God-given sense is actuated by a pure and holy spirit born of true religion. By this we do not wish to say that a good Master must be a devotee of some religious faith, but we do say that if he is a “man of God,” and so deports himself every day before the world, that he has within him the necessary qualifications which, when joined to his solemn installation vows, and the high and holy duty he owes the Craft, the combination of a model Master. On the one hand he has his hope of heaven, which, on the other, is made stronger, day by day, just in proportion as he adds the graces of his religion to his Masonry, and together, hand in hand, exemplifies them both as he travels life's rough and rugged path. This kind of a Master scatters sunshine as he goes, and as he passes the fast-fading mile-posts of life and arrives at the “sear and yellow leaf of time,” he has the consciousness of knowing that his life as a Christian and as a Mason has been a success.

When we speak of a Master doing his duty we would not be understood as alluding simply to the conferring of degrees and the humdrum of stated meetings. These are the smallest part of his duty. But we allude to the higher and holier duty of the government of his Lodge, in the exercise of which he weighs well the introduction of all matters into the body of his Lodge, and if, in his judgment, the peace and harmony will be disturbed thereby has the manhood to exclude it entirely, and with words of gentleness and kindness, though keenly cut, rebuke those who would thus disturb the Lodge, and yet in the exercise of his great prerogatives never forgets the right of a Brother to an appeal either to his Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. It is a rare occurrence when you find all the good qualities of a Master concentrated in one man, yet nevertheless it is so occasionally. Such an one is the embodiment of all that makes a good Master, and is not afraid to act and speak his convictions. Firm as a rock, yet gentle as a woman, he governs his Lodge by love, and by the high power in him vested steers his Lodge away from all breakers. He has a clear, bright mind, which has been so expanded by the holy religion which he professes as to enable him to detect the wrong and reward the right in a moment, and when convinced of the justice of his cause never hesitates to act promptly. If all the Masters were like him nothing would

ever be railroaded through their Lodges without a thorough investigation and the end to be attained weighed in the balance of even-handed justice. Go on, Brother, continue to set an example to the Masters of Lodges, and the day is not far distant when your Grand Lodge will place upon its records a recognition of your services which will live on throughout all time, and mark your memory to the Fraternity as the marble shaft will designate your last resting place to the world.—“Memphis Appeal.”

MASONRY.

SIR HUGH McCURDY once said that Freemasonry is not a Lodge, nor a promise, nor a creed—it is a life. It thus has a glorious past, but a more glorious present, and will have a still larger and brighter future. The past has contributed its very best to the present. The face of nature is more beautiful to-day than ever before, because its beauty to-day is a composite of all the most beautiful of the past. Next year nature will put on brighter hues, richer colours, because of the added life and beauty of the now falling leaf and fading flower. Never since God said, “Let there be light,” has there been so much light in the world as there is to-day—never so much life since the first day of living things. All this is true of Freemasonry. More light, and let there be light, never had so high, so broad, so complete a meaning as in this present day. Never was Masonic life so much a living principle as to-day. Into this advanced of all good things you are now received. This is the baptismal feast of which you are invited to partake. This is what Freemasonry is to you. What will you be to Freemasonry? It never can be more to you than you are to it. “With what measure ye mete it shall be measured unto you.” “Seek and ye shall find. Ask and it shall be given. Knock and it shall be opened unto you.” How infinitely beyond a life of not being cast forth among the rubbish of the world is such a life? It is a life that no man knoweth save he that receiveth it. A life for God, for the State, for the Brethren, honour, fidelity, benevolence. Its magic words are wisdom, peace, strength, concord, truth, beauty. If, my Brethren, you are able to unite these things, your knowledge is sufficient. This is the height, length, and breadth of Masonic character. This is the work which we are authorised to receive. Such men are the lively, polished stones in the Tabernacle built after the pattern given by the Great Master Builder of the Universe. Growth in these sublime principles alone is advancement. Let us, as just and upright Masons, study well the designs drawn upon the trestleboard. The absence of these from our thought betoken disaster to the building of Masonic character—the loss of the Masonic word. Let us build our lives according to the pattern given us in the sermon of the mount, of duty to our fellowmen, of overcoming their enmity by our friendship, their narrowness by our broad character, their selfishness by our generosity. The pattern given us in the mount of the transfiguration, the perfection of a life loyal to the truth. Above all things let us build according to the pattern given to men on Mount Calvary, the mountain of the cross—the perfect sympathy with our fellow-men—the glory of sacrifice.—“Idaho Mason.”

TEMPORA MUTANTUR.

The sun is shining dimly in the west,
The day is dying;
All peaceful is the scene, which speaks of rest;
Old age is sighing.
For youth is ever radiant like the morn,
With beauty glowing;
But age is sorrowful, and oft forlorn,
No pleasure knowing.
And to the young I say make much of joy,
For time is creeping;
Before the man hath ceased to be a boy,
There's time for weeping.
The old order changeth, and the new
Its place is taking;
Youth is fickle, never thinks 'twill rue
Old friends forsaking.
We that have passed the hey-day of our life,
Whose sun is setting,
Know that in sunshine, or it may be strife,
There's no forgetting.
We have all built are castles in the air,
And oft been dreaming;
Yes, and our dreams were ever bright and fair,
Not true, but seeming.
But time and circumstance teach many things;
Here's kindly greeting!
Old friends are best, and riches they take wings,
And time is fleeting.

EMMA HOLMES,
Author of “Amabel Vaughan.”

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

We shall be pleased to receive particulars of Masonic meetings for insertion in our columns, and where desired will endeavour to send a representative to report Lodge or other proceedings.

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CRAFT : METROPOLITAN.

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DALHOUSIE LODGE, No. 860.

THE annual installation was held at Anderton's Hotel, on Thursday, 8th inst., under the presidency of Bro. C. H. Berry Worshipful Master, who was supported by a large number of Brethren.

After the formal opening of the Lodge, and the transaction of other business, the Worshipful Master raised to the third degree Bro. W. King and Bro. R. M. East; passed to the second degree Bro. T. McGuire and Bro. H. M. Lonergan; and initiated Mr. R. Whithead.

Subsequently, after the Auditor's report had been received and adopted, Bro. C. H. Berry installed as his successor in the chair, with the same ability as he had shown in the performance of the other ceremonies, Bro. J. Wade, who had been elected at the previous meeting to preside over the Lodge as Worshipful Master for next year.

After the addresses to the Master, Wardens, and Brethren had been delivered by the Immediate Past Master, the Worshipful Master addressed the Brethren, expressing the hope that they would all support the summer outing which it was proposed to organise. The Brethren had had such a summer outing in previous years, but he trusted that this year, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year, it would be taken up as a function belonging to the Lodge. After an exceptionally hard day's work the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet.

The usual toasts were afterwards proposed and honoured. Bro. Berry proposed the W.M., and said that this Lodge was always noted for the way in which it supported the Worshipful Master in the chair; but when they had such a Master as Bro. Wade for the year of the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen they would, he was sure, if possible, support him with more than usual ardour.

Bro. Wade, in responding, said that it was extremely gratifying to him to have such an enthusiastic reception of the toast proposed by Bro. Berry. He could assure the Brethren that he would do his best for the Lodge.

After the toast of the Initiate had been proposed and replied to, the Worshipful Master proposed the Immediate Past Master Bro. Clement H. Berry, and presented to him a handsome Past Master's jewel, accompanying the gift by some flattering remarks on the manner in which he had discharged the duties of Master during the past year.

Bro. Berry, in responding, said he should value the jewel which had been presented to him as a souvenir of his year of office in the Lodge he was initiated in, and in which he had served every office but one, that of Junior Warden. As long as he had health and strength he should always do his best for the harmony and prosperity of the Lodge.

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SOUTHERN STAR LODGE, No. 1158.

AT the annual election meeting held last month, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, Bro. W. Richards was unanimously elected as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The installation meeting will be held in June.

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ST. JOHN LODGE, No. 1306.

THE Installation meeting was held on Wednesday, 7th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham Street. Bro. C. Schultz W.M. occupied the chair, and was supported by a large number of Officers and Brethren.

The Lodge having been opened and the customary preliminaries gone through, the report of the Auditors was received, which showed the Lodge to be in a very flourishing condition, all agreeing that the books and accounts of the Lodge were well kept, and reflected great credit upon Bro. J. G. Twinn Secretary.

The installation ceremony was then proceeded with, Bro. Schultz W.M. performing the ceremony, and installing Bro. C. J. Holmes into the chair of K.S. in a praiseworthy manner, says the "East London Observer."

The W.M. appointed and invested his Officers for the ensuing year, and later said it became his pleasant duty to hand to Bro. Schultz the jewel that had been voted to him by the Lodge; in doing so he commented upon the able and efficient manner in which Bro. Schultz had carried out the duties of W.M. during his year of office, and wished him long life to wear it.

Bro. Schultz responded in appropriate terms.

All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed, and the meeting adjourned until October next. The Brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where an excellent repast had been provided, which gave great satisfaction.

The Loyal and Masonic toasts were briefly given, and suitably responded to. A collection was made on behalf of the Prince of Wales Hospital Fund, amounting to 105 shillings.

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PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 1743.

THE Brethren met on Saturday, at Anderton's Hotel, for the election of the new Worshipful Master, Treasurer, and Tyler. Combined with the proceedings of the day was an entertainment to the Ladies. The presiding Officer was Bro. H. C. Lonsdale Worshipful Master, who conferred the third degree on a capital candidate Bro. H. G. Franklin. The Brethren next elected Bro. H. Watts Senior Warden as Master of the Lodge for the next year, re-elected Bro. T. Lovell Past Master as Treasurer, and the good old Scots Guardsman Bro. W. Lane as Tyler. They subsequently appointed the Audit Committee and voted a five guinea Past Master's jewel to the outgoing Master. When the Lodge was closed, a reception was held, says the "City Press."

Bro. H. Lonsdale W.M. took the chair at the banquet, and presented each lady with a large bottle of scent, a gift that was highly appreciated. The toasts were few, and comprised the compliments paid to the Queen and Craft, the Worshipful Master, the W.M.-elect, and the Ladies and Visitors. The toast of the Masonic Charities was not given, as the list was designedly short, as were also the speeches, but the Charities were not forgotten, for the

Worshipful Master is Steward of the Lodge for the ninety-ninth anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on 30th June, for which he has already a list of £100.

There was a programme of music between the toasts, and some excellent singing.

The toast of the Worshipful Master was given by Past Master Wall, in a speech warmly eulogistic of the services rendered by Bro. Lonsdale to the Lodge.

Bro. Lonsdale acknowledged the toast in appreciative terms, and concluded by proposing the health of the W.M.-elect, who, he predicted, would at the end of his year of office give up the collar of Master untarnished in any way.

Bro. Watts suitably replied. The toast of the Ladies and Visitors was responded to by Bros. Gardner and Miller. The remainder of the evening was devoted to dancing.

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CLISSOLD LODGE, No. 2551.

THE M.W. the Grand Master having granted a dispensation for the removal of this Lodge to the Great Eastern Railway Hotel, Bishopsgate Street, E.C., the first meeting was held at that popular place for Masonic gatherings on the 8th inst. The occasion coincided with that of the annual festival, and a large number of the members and visiting Brethren were present.

The outgoing Master Bro. J. J. Lamigeon presided, and opened the Lodge, when the minutes were read and confirmed.

The only business being the installation of the new Master, Bro. Harry Townend was introduced and gave his assent to the ancient charges and regulations. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, when Bro. Townend was placed in the chair of King Solomon according to ancient custom.

The following Officers were appointed and invested: Bros. Thomas H. Carleton S.W., Alfred H. Cooper J.W., W. M. Stiles P.G.T. Treasurer, J. J. Lamigeon I.P.M. Secretary, G. C. Elliott S.D., W. R. Itter J.D., H. A. Badman D.C., E. A. P. Broad I.G., W. Wright Organist, Percie C. Cooper, J. S. Keith, and E. LeBas Stewards, T. C. Edmonds Tyler.

The installation banquet was excellently served, and gave general satisfaction. The menu was an artistic production, and contained the portraits of the Worshipful Master and his Wardens.

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PROVINCIAL.

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INTEGRITY LODGE, No. 163.

AT the regular meeting which took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Wednesday, the 31st ult., there was an attendance of over forty. The principal business of the evening was the passing to the degree of F.O. of Bro. T. R. Jackson, and the raising of Bro. F. M. Whittle to the sublime degree of M.M., the former ceremony being performed by Bro. Herbert A. Owles W.M., and the latter by Bro. J. M. H. Blamey P.M.

Before the Lodge was closed, Bro. Owles proposed that some steps should be taken to mark Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, the primary object being to assist the London Girls and Boys Schools. The remarks of the W.M. met with universal approval, and a committee was formed to carry out all details, consisting of Past Masters Warburton, Blamey and Hepworth, who will shortly issue a circular to the members of the Lodge inviting their active co-operation.

The Lodge having been closed, a very enjoyable evening was spent. Bro. H. R. Yates J.W. proposed the health of the candidates, who replied in exceedingly apt terms.

Bro. Hepworth P.M., in a masterly speech, proposed the toast of the Worshipful Master, the latter responding.

Among the contributaries to the harmony were Bros. R. W. Nuttall, J. W. Scott, J. E. Williams P.M., and Andrew Ellor 104 and 2464. Bro. F. Ridsdale Bowley P.M. (of the Manchester Concerts) rendered several songs in his usually excellent manner.

Among the numerous visitors we noticed Bros. C. D. Cheetham P.M. 993 Prov. J.G.W., Wm. Hy. Peak P.M. 993 P.P.G.D.C., R. K. Roberts I.P.M. 1012, and Past Masters Thos. Stopford 1077, Walter Alcock 191, and J. H. Thompson 978.

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ARCHITECT LODGE, No. 1375.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, on Friday, the 2nd inst., Bro. T. A. Holland Worshipful Master.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Mr. John Webster, Merchant, residing at Heaton Moor, was successfully balloted for and afterwards initiated into ancient Freemasonry, this ceremony being followed by that of raising Bro. O. A. Brown to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

At the festive board, many of the members and visitors were called upon for songs and sketches, a very happy evening passing quickly away. Among the Visitors were noticed Bros. W. J. Cunliffe P.M. 317 P.P.G.S.D. (E.L.), Walter Newton P.M. 268 830 1322 P.P.J.G.D. (E.L.), H. Walmley P.M. 317 P.G.A.D.C. (E.L.), James Tilley P.M. 600 P.J.D., and others.

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LONGLEAT LODGE, No. 1478.

THE installation of Bro. Richard Elling J.W. took place on Wednesday, 7th inst., at the Town Hall, Warminster.

The ordinary Lodge rooms not being large enough for the ceremony, the ball room was used, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion by Messrs. Webbe and Wheeler, the prevailing colours being the royal red, white, and blue. The gallery and canopy presented a charming appearance.

The ceremony was performed by Bro. C. N. P. Phipps D.P.G.M., who was ably assisted by the outgoing W.M. Bro. G. W. B. Crees, and the D.C. Bro. S. L. Cordon P.M.

The Lodge was closed at 7.45 p.m., when the Brethren proceeded to a banquet at the Bath Arms Hotel, which was served in excellent style. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and were interspersed with many good songs.

Bro. R. Elling W.M. proved himself a most genial chairman, and the whole proceedings, both in and out of the Lodge, will not easily be forgotten by those present.

WILBERFORCE LODGE, No. 2134.

ON Tuesday, 13th inst., the annual installation of Worshipful Master took place at the Masonic Hall, St. Luke's Street, Hull, when Bro. J. Leach Charter was installed in the chair of King Solomon by Bro. George Eckles the retiring Master, assisted by Bro. T. B. Redfearn P.M. P.P.G.W., and Bro. J. Belt P.M. Lecture Master. There was a large attendance of Brethren present, who followed with deep interest the impressive ritual.

During the course of the proceedings, Brother John Work Senior Warden, in eulogistic terms alluded to the esteem and popularity of the retiring Worshipful Master, Bro. George Eckles, and on behalf of the Officers and Brethren he asked the worthy Brother's acceptance of a handsome 18-carat gold Past Master's jewel, as a token of their sincere regard, and in acknowledgment of his eminent services to the Lodge and to the Craft.

Brother Eckles expressed his indebtedness to the Brethren for their beautiful gift, and assured them that he would ever continue to take a deep interest in all that concerned the good and welfare of Freemasonry.

The annual banquet followed.

EAST LANCASHIRE CENTURION LODGE, No. 2322.

THE regular meeting was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on Monday, the 5th inst., Bro. Major George Kershaw W.M.

The summons was a very heavy one so far as ceremonial was concerned, indicating, besides a ballot for Bro. Robert Ayrey Armitage (2nd Lieut. 3rd V.B. Lancashire Fusiliers), Travellers Lodge, No. 1253, as a Joining Member, one initiation, one passing, and three raisings. The ballot for Bro. Armitage was successful, as also one for Lieut. Alan Ramsay (1st V.B. Manchester Regiment), who was initiated by Capt. Jas. Andrew P.M. P.P.G.D.C., the working tools being presented and explained by Bro. Surg.-Capt. J. J. Kent Fairclough J.W.

Bro. Capt. Francis Isaac Bentley was passed to the degree of a F.C. by the W.M., the working tools being presented by Bro. Capt. T. W. Ashworth S.W.

One ceremony of raising to the sublime degree of M.M. was taken, viz., that of Bro. Surg.-Capt. Stephen Nesfield, the same being performed by Bro. Col. J. Howarth Clark, J.P., P.M. P.P.G.D.

The usual festive board followed, Loyal and Masonic toasts being duly honoured. Besides those mentioned above, we noticed the presence of Bros. Rev. E. Bigoe Bagot P.M. P.P.G.C. Chaplain, Rev. John W. Challinor Prov.G.Chap. Secretary, Capt. Peter Nightingale S.D., Major John Heap P.M. P.P.S.G.D., Col. Henry L. Rocca P.M. P.P.G.J.D., Capt. J. E. R. Hall, and Lieut. George Heys. Visitor:—Bro. Capt. Clement R. N. Beswicke-Royds Deputy Provincial Grand Master East Lancashire.

ORDE-POWLETT LODGE, No. 2391.

THE installation of Bro. H. Nelson Collingwood as W.M. took place on the 7th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Middlesbrough. The ceremony was performed by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of North and East Yorks. Lord Bolton, who was assisted by several Past Masters.

After the Lodge had been closed the Brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where Mrs. Skeen, of the Corporation Hotel, Middlesbrough, provided an excellent repast.

The usual Masonic toasts were drunk.

The Mayor, in proposing the health of the Installing Master Lieut.-Col. the Hon. Lord Bolton P.G.W. England, made special reference to the interest Lord Bolton took in Masonry in Middlesbrough.

Lord Bolton, in responding, said he was very glad that the Masons of Middlesbrough were showing a great interest in the effort in connection with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee to place the Provincial educational movement on a permanent footing.

DUKE OF YORK LODGE, No. 2449.

THE first meeting under the control of the new Worshipful Master Bro. Clement John Hall was held at the Palatine Hotel, Hunt's Bank, Manchester, on Thursday, the 8th inst.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, Lodge was advanced, and Bro. George Walton was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. Thos. T. Hardicker I.P.M., the working tools being presented and explained by Bro. William Boden P.M.

At the festive board which followed, Bro. Hardicker proposed the health of the W.M., to which Bro. Hall responded.

In response to the toast of the I.P.M., proposed by Bro. Boden, Bro. Hardicker said that the position of Past Master was quite an institution—an honourable one indeed—and generally relied upon as the great support of Lodges. He thanked Bro. Boden for his very kind remarks, and could assure the Brethren that he dearly loved the Lodge, one thing he looked for month by month being his visit there to see the genial faces of the members. In concluding his very interesting remarks he told his auditors that they might rely upon one thing—he should stick to his Lodge.

The W.M. proposed the health of the Officers, saying he was delighted to be surrounded by such Brethren. His great object was to make the Duke of York Lodge pre-eminent in the Province of East Lancashire, and with the aid of the other Officers and members, which he was assured would be ungrudgingly given, his desire would not be long in accomplishment. Bros. J. Fairbairn and R. H. Whatham responded to the toast, the latter advocating more practice in the work. He said that before the Officers became thoroughly efficient they must have instruction, and contended that more facilities might be afforded were an effort only made in this direction. Bro. Whatham's remarks were enthusiastically received.

The various toasts were relieved by songs, &c., contributed by the following Brethren, viz., the W.M., Oates Rushton Treasurer, T. H. Stott Secretary, Wm. Boden P.M., Edwd Roberts P.M. 1459, and J. Trevor Smith P.M. 1417.

LONGSIGHT LODGE, No. 2464.

THE regular meeting was held at the Club House, Birch Lane, Longsight, on Wednesday, the 7th inst., Brother Alderman Lloyd Higginbottom Worshipful Master.

The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, a successful ballot (as a Joining Member) was taken for Bro. Daniel Lea, Decorator, Ardwick. This was followed by a ballot for Mr. Richard James Scholfield, Manufacturer, Ardwick, and, being also successful, he was duly

initiated by the W.M., the charge being delivered by Bro. Henry Sheard S.W. Bro. F. G. A. Ballantine was then passed to the degree of F.C. by Past Master Wm. Gadd, Bro. W. H. Wilson J.W. presenting and explaining the working tools in both degrees.

Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at an early hour.

THE MANCHESTER LODGE, No. 2554.

THE regular meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Friday, the 9th inst., Bro. Thos. Plumpton W.M. As there was no particular Lodge business to be transacted, an early adjournment was made to the festive board, where Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and enthusiastically honoured, being relieved by songs, sketches, &c., rendered by Bros. Alfred B. Smith S.D., W. E. Davies J.D., Harry Thompson, Edwd. Roberts P.M. 1459, Albert A. Thomas 58 (Ottawa, Canada), and Geo. Bromley 317. Bro. Thomas, in addition to his rendition of several songs, entertained the company with a very interesting description of American working, and many other matters.

Bro. W. B. Ackerman I.P.M., who proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, referred in very humorous terms to a great change which was impending in the domestic arrangements of the latter, and hoped that the next time the members of the Manchester Lodge met they would be enabled to toast the health of its new Worshipful Mistress. Bro. Plumpton W.M. responded amidst great enthusiasm.

Other toasts followed.

MARK MASONRY.

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GORDON LODGE, No. 364.

THE installation meeting was held at the New Falcon Hotel, Gravesend, on the 6th inst., when Bro. William Russell P.G.Treasurer of Kent was installed as W.M., the ceremony being very ably conducted by Bro. Frederick Mitchell P.G.R.M. Kent.

The new Master appointed the following Officers to assist him during the year: Bros. J. Percy White I.P.M., J. M. Jeffrey S.W., Frank Hitchens J.W., John Simpson M.O., E. B. Wilks S.O., George Masters J.O., William Barlow P.M. Secretary, R. C. Fowle R.M., John Solomon S.D., Joseph Davis J.D., F. A. Jewson P.M. D.C., R. Matthews I.G., E. C. Paine Organist, J. A. Axcell and J. Munday Stewards, and George Martin Tyler.

The Worshipful Master was unanimously elected as Treasurer of the Lodge. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Mitchell for his services as Installing Master, and a handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. J. Percy White. After the business the Brethren adjourned to refreshment, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

GLOUCESTER LODGE, No. 439.

THE installation festival was held at the Bell Hotel, Gloucester, on Monday, 12th inst., the ceremony being performed by the Provincial Grand Master Brother R. V. Vassar-Smith Past G.M.O., assisted by Past Masters of the Lodge. Brother Walter B. Wood was installed Worshipful Master, and appointed the Officers.

A curious incident happened at a Madras Lodge recently, which we should think is unprecedented. A candidate for initiation was balloted for in the usual way, and two black balls—the number specified in the bye-laws—were found against him. The result was communicated to the candidate in due course and the fee returned. After Lodge two Brethren approached the W.M. and stated that they had "pilled" the candidate accidentally and explained how it had been done. The bye-laws say that three months must elapse before a candidate who has been blackballed can be balloted for again. The circumstances of the pilling had, however, become known, and on the reading of the minutes at the next meeting it was proposed and carried unanimously that such portion as referred thereto should not be confirmed. It was held therefore, rightly or wrongly, that the candidate's disability was healed, and he was duly proposed and seconded, as if his name has never before been heard in Lodge. We should be curious to learn how the W.M.'s decision would fare on appeal, but of course no appeal is likely to be made, as the Lodge was unanimous on the subject.—"Indian Masonic Review."

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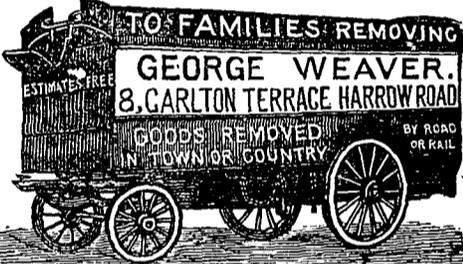
The Theatres, &c.

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Her Majesty's.—On Wednesday, 28th April, The Seats of the Mighty.
Lyceum.—8, Madame Sans Gêne.
Haymarket.—8:30, Under the Red Robe. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2:30.
St. James's.—8, The Princess and the Butterfly. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
Savoy.—7:50, Weather or No. 8:30, His Majesty. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Daly's.—8:15, The Geisha; A story of a Tea House. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30.
Vaudeville.—8:15, Round a Tree. 9, A Night out. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
Prince of Wales's.—8:15, La Poupée. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30. Other afternoons, at 3, A Pierrot's Life, &c.
Gaiety.—8, The Circus Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Shaftesbury.—8, The Yashmak. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
Adelphi.—7:45, All that glitters is not gold. 9, Black Ey'd Susan.
Comedy.—8, Byeways. 9, Saucy Sally. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3. (Closed until Saturday).
Lyric.—8:15 Daughters of Babylon. (Last day).
Criterion.—8:30, The Physician. Matinée, Saturday, 2:30
Court.—8:15, A bit of old Chelsea. 9, Sweet Nancy. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Globe.—8, Confederates. 9, The Mac Haggis. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Garrick.—8:15, The Lady Lawyer. 9, My friend the Prince. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
Opera Comique.—8, Polly's Stratagem. 8:30, East Lynne.
Princess's.—8, Two little Vagabonds. Matinée, Wednesday 2:30.
Grand.—Next week, Les Cloches de Corneville.
Parkhurst.—Next week, at 8, Society plays.
Alhambra.—7:45, Variety Entertainment. 8, Rip Van Winkle. The Animatographe. 9:30, Fregoli. 10:25, The Tzigane.
Empire.—7:40, Variety Entertainment. New Ballet Divortissement. The Cinematographe, &c.
Palace.—7:45, Variety Entertainment, New American Biograph, &c.
Royal.—7:30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2:30.
Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
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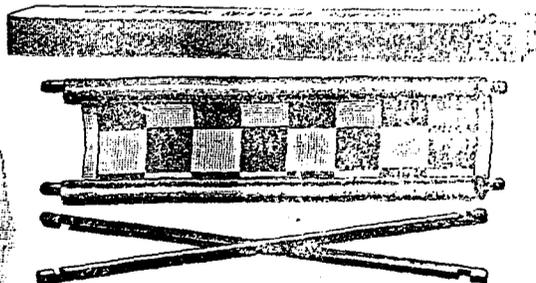
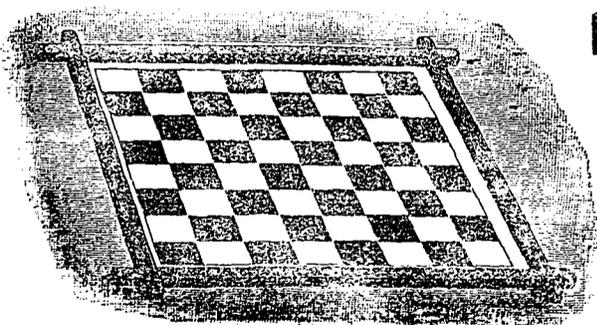
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