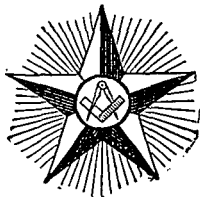


THE MASONIC STAR

A Weekly Journal and
At Home



Record of Freemasonry
and Abroad.

VOL. II.—No. 16.]

THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH, 1889.

[CURRENT
NUMBER 42.]

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Indignation.



It would be ridiculous in the extreme to affect surprise at the character and result of the meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on Saturday last. Anything so disorderly it has, fortunately, never previously been our lot to witness in connection with Freemasonry, within whose charmed circle "Order, peace and harmony" are presumed to, and in fact most generally do, prevail. Nor can the uproar of last Saturday afternoon be wondered at by any reasonable member of the Craft who recognises the fact that the deepest feelings of those who have the prosperity of our Masonic Charitable Institutions at heart, have been stirred to the very utmost by the revelations contained in the report of the Committee of Investigation. Indignation becomes a virtue under certain circumstances; and those are wanting in appreciation of the highest Masonic principles who can meekly submit to a continuance, in even the slightest degree, of those abuses which the late investigation has brought to light, or permit the past mismanagement to sink into oblivion without resentment and explicit condemnation.

We have, hitherto, in the controversy which has arisen in respect of the present state of affairs in connection with this institution, kept our personal feelings in subjection, entertaining an earnest desire to interpose a shield, however slight, between justice and the infliction of its penalties; and in the strong hope that those to whom the blame for mismanagement is undoubtedly to be credited, would, after the manner of honourable men and sincere Freemasons, lessen the effect of the blow which they have administered to Masonic charity by admissions of unskilfulness and voluntary retirement. In which case

the unseemly proceedings at the meeting of the General Committee would have been averted, and a further addition to an already more than sufficient scandal prevented. But our hopes (and they were shared with many other brethren) have met with most regrettable disappointment; and a fatal indisposition on the part of the offenders to bend to the storm, which can and will assuredly rend if further resisted, has already placed them outside the pale of brotherly consideration as a collective body. In their individual relation to the craft they are each and all most worthy and estimable men and brethren, and it would be as difficult as it would be invidious to select any one or two more worthy than others for full acknowledgment of Masonic services rendered, or the possession of all those social virtues and high principles which originally justified their election as Managers of the Institution. Masonic friendship and esteem is still their due as individuals; but there we stop! Collectively they have been "weighed in the balance and found wanting," and their present position as a *late* body is no other than might have been expected after an investigation which proves that all effective control had been surrendered by them to others not appointed for the discharge of the especial duties with which the Subscribers to the Institution had entrusted them alone. They have now ceased to hold their former positions as Managers of the affairs of the Institution, and the trust which had been confided to them, and which, if the "report" does not lie, they have betrayed in more respects than one, has been ignominiously taken from them. They have wrecked themselves as a *management*, but, thank God! not the Institution.

There is a time for silence, and a time to speak plainly. It would be almost a crime in this instance to cry "peace, where there is no peace." The silent but treacherous current has frequently been more fatal than the furious gale to many a good ship. Rather the storm with all its mighty power, than a dead calm and a drifting tide. Courageous men know how to strive against the former, and though damages may have to be repaired, they save their craft from being cast away. So we trust, and believe, will our Boys' School, under skilful mastership, weather the present tempest, and escape the wreck which might have resulted from a continuance of the mischievous inactivity, on the part of the late management, which was surely drifting it towards destruction.

It is to be hoped that, notwithstanding the perfectly justifiable indignation expressed at the meeting of the General Committee, the gathering of to-day for the purpose of considering the report of the Committee of Investigation will approach and carry through the serious business of the meeting in a cool and collected manner. To our mind

it should be presided over by one chosen from the body of the meeting, having an acquaintance with the functions of chairmanship, and not in any way connected with the late House Committee or the Staff of the Institution. And we venture to submit that whilst there should be no hesitation or timidity in "speaking out," each speaker should take care to embody what he has to say in one speech, and not expect that he should have other opportunity for addressing the meeting. Interruptions, interrogations, contradictions, asseverations and threats are very objectionable features in debate, and rather retard than assist the objects of those who use them. It may be taken for granted that, under a good and efficient chairman, a calm deliberation and impartial summing up will result in the adoption of measures which will amply provide for the removal of the present difficulty, and the salvation and future success of the School. What those measures may be it is absolutely impossible to forecast, but we may be assured that, if the body of intelligent men who attend will keep their heads cool, however much their minds may be filled with indignation, the present blot upon the 'scutcheon of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will soon be wiped away.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of the above Institution met in the Board Room at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Saturday last, the 1st inst. The attendance of Life Governors was greatly in excess of the capacity of the place of meeting, and the confusion which prevailed throughout the entire proceedings was increased in consequence. From the commencement it became evident that a stormy meeting was in prospect, and that it proved to be stormy was not by any means the fault of the large majority who had the interests of the institution more at heart than any personal benefits or advantages. Most unwisely an attempt was made, on the part of those implicated by the report of the Committee of Investigation, to control the choice of a chairman, and after a well-respected name had been proposed from the body of the meeting, an official of the institution—highly esteemed, and against whom not even a whisper in connection with the present scandal has been heard—was nominated for that position. The former was, however, chosen, and once for all it may here be said that the most numerous portion of the assembly had ample occasion for surprise in respect of his several rulings. Silence was maintained during the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, at which the nominations of candidates for election as House and Audit Committees were made, but when the same were put for confirmation the storm began, and did not in the least subside until the meeting broke up. The minutes were not confirmed, nevertheless the endeavours to force an election were unmistakable, and were supported by the chairman up to the very moment the hour for taking the ballot had expired, when, with apparent regret, he announced that no election had taken, or could now, take place. To attempt a lucid report of the several speeches during this "bad hour" of Masonic work is out of the question, for the babel of voices and general uproar were such as to entirely preclude the possibility of correctly noting what was said, and even presumed decisions were misapprehended. It is sufficient to say that protests were numerous; that if an election of members of either committee had been effected, legal proceedings would have been commenced, one brother stating his readiness to put down a hundred guineas towards a fund for that purpose; that the rules for the governance of the institution were continually quoted as laws which bound the subscribers to the charity even against their own inherent power to make, alter, and revise such rules whenever necessity might compel, or circumstances render revision absolutely imperative; that the institution has not now any House or Audit Committee, but remains for the present in charge of the official staff until the General Committee may please to elect the future management; that an adjournment of the General Committee was resolved, but whether to the 15th or 29th inst. does not appear certain in the minds of the brethren, and that the meeting broke up in dire confusion without the customary vote of thanks to its chairman.

At a large and influential Meeting on Monday of a Committee formed to secure the Election of New Candidates on the House Committee, it was resolved that the various legal points arising from the present state of affairs on the non-election of the Committee at the above meeting be submitted for the consideration of an eminent Queen's Counsel, whose opinion it is hoped will be in hand in time to guide those who have the true reform of the Institution at heart.

ROYAL ARTHUR LODGE OF INSTRUCTION—No. 1360.—Held at Prince of Wales' Hotel, on Thursday, May 30th, 1889. Present—Bro. Wade, W.M.; Shelly, S.W.; Holmes, J.W.; Bond, S.D.; Magee, P.M., J.D.; Jolliffe, I.G.; G. King, P.M., P.Z., Preceptor; W. H. Wingfield, P.M., hon. sec.; Bro. Britten. Initiation rehearsed, Bro. Britten candidate. Passing rehearsed, Bro. P. M. Magee candidate. Lodge closed down and a cordial vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. King, the preceptor, and W. H. Wingfield, sec., for the great benefit the lodge of instruction had derived at their hands, and that the same be entered on the minutes. The brethren having briefly responded, the lodge was closed in due form, and the meeting adjourned until the first Thursday in September (the 5th) when the ceremony of installation will be rehearsed.

REVIEW.

Ars Quatuor Coronatorum. Vol. II. Part I.—This, the first of three numbers to be issued this year of the Transactions of Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, for 1889, has just come to hand, and more than preserves the reputation which the Lodge has already acquired. The page is no longer divided into two columns, a matter on which the editor is to be congratulated, and the amount of matter offered to the members, no less than 84 pages, is unusually large. A detailed financial report and balance-sheet for 1888 affords the members and associates not only information respecting the use to which every penny of their subscriptions has been applied, but shows that absolutely nothing, out of a total expenditure of £500 odd, has been devoted to purposes foreign to Masonic Literature or the maintenance of the Lodge, except a trifling entry of £1 15s. 5d. for waiters and petty expenses. No hole can possibly be picked in the accounts except to suggest that the Lodge is running matters very fine and giving the members more for their half-guinea subscription than is quite prudent.

The present number contains two *pièces de résistance*:—a paper by the W.M. Bro. W. Simpson, R.I., M.R.A.S., the well-known artist and traveller, on the "Worship of Death;" and one by Bro. W. H. Rylands, P.G. St., W.M. Antiquity, No. 2, on the "Compagnonnage." The first paper is profusely illustrated, many of the sketches being from originals by the W.M. himself, and is a monument of well-arranged data, apt quotation, and logical deduction. The argument is that the great majority of religious fabrics, including the Ark of the Covenant and the Temple itself, are more or less directly connected with a certain reverence universally accorded to relics, and that the one grand idea, "through death to life," has pervaded all religions and forms of worship. That such an argument should be vigorously contested is only natural, and accordingly, we find the discussion on the paper more than usually extended. Our space forbids us to deal with the *pros and cons* of the matter, neither, when we find such competent authorities ranged on the one side and the other, do we feel inclined to enter into the arena without very careful preparation.

Bro. Rylands' paper is highly instructive. He takes up the well-known legends of the French Compagnonnage (so similar in many points to those of the Craft) and essays to demonstrate when, where and how they arose. The subsequent discussion was chiefly confined to himself and Bro. Speth, and is a very pretty display of nice fence over a fine point of difference.

The four pages devoted to Notes and Queries are interesting reading, and afford an opportunity for the preservation of many little matters which every Mason must come across in his reading. We are also much pleased with the honest yet fraternal manner in which all recent Masonic publications are reviewed, and a few pages of notes on current events of general interest complete this very excellent number.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex will this year be held at the Town Hall, Twickenham, on Saturday, the 29th June, at 3 o'clock, under the presidency of R.W. Bro. Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G.S.W., Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex.

STAR CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION—No. 1275.—On Friday, 31st ult., at the Stirling Castle, Camberwell. Present: Comps. F. Hilton, P.Z. 1275, preceptor; T. Grummant, P.Z., M.E.Z.; G. L. Moore, Z. 169, H.; Jackson, J.; C. H. Stone, S.E.; C. Woods, A.S. 1275, S.N.; Wingham, P.S.; Towers, A.S.; Addington, Z., 1275; Neeld, P.Z.; and Geo. Powell, P.Z. Z., 1185. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Addington, candidate. Comp. Moore was elected M.E.Z. for the first Friday in September. The preceptor ably answered certain questions on the ritual. A discussion on other matters followed. On the motion of Comps. Neeld, P.Z., Woods, and Wingham, Comp. Hilton, P.Z., preceptor, was heartily congratulated on the proud position of the Chapter. The name of Comp. Stone, S.E., was coupled with this congratulation. The Companions heard with deep regret of the serious illness of Comp. Cowley, P.Z., one of the founders of this Chapter, unanimously passed a vote of sympathy with him in his sufferings, and expressed earnest wishes that he might speedily be fully restored to health, so that they might again be cheered by his presence.

RAVENSBORNE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION—No. 1601.—The last business meeting of the session was held at the George Inn, Catford, S.E., on the 29th inst. Present: Bros. J. Joyce, W.M.; J. Shelton, S.W.; G. A. Pickering, J.W.; D. O. Scott, S.D.; J. T. Axford, J.D.; J. Clark, I.G.; Dr. H. Visger; H. Shaw, P.M., preceptor; C. Atkins, sec.; James Stevens, P.M.; C. Blanchard; Walter Smith; Noyes; P. McCarthy, P.M.; G. Williams, and others. The ceremony of passing having been rehearsed, Lodge was opened in third degree, and the brethren saluted the East individually. The third and second degree lodges were closed in due order. Bro. Shelton was elected to open the new session after the vacation, and after a brief address by the preceptor the lodge was closed, and adjourned to the first Wednesday in October. The annual festival was held on the following evening at the same place and was well attended, the W.M. of the Mother Lodge, Bro. J. Ingoldby, occupying the position of president, and W. Bro. James Stevens, P.M., that of vice-president. The evening was devoted to social enjoyment, and what few toasts were given were introduced and responded to with commendable brevity. Songs and recitations were not only numerous but more than usually well rendered, and the entire proceedings were of such an enjoyable character as to make the closing hours of the session such as will be well remembered until the brethren again meet for Masonic labour. In addition to the above-named, there were present Bros. Theo. W. Williams, J. Hostombe, W. Jones, Hardy Smith, Walter Martin, P.M., Geo. Scudder, P.M., J. Peters, H. T. Bonner, A. Norris, W.M., No. 1997, &c. Bro. Atkinson very ably conducted the musical portion of this thoroughly satisfactory entertainment.

The Masonic "Poet's Corner."

(Original and Selected.)

"THE GRAND OLD CRAFT."

Masonic Song, dedicated to the Oriental and Bulwer Lodges of Constantinople, by BR.: A. H. SCAIFE.

COME! drink long life to the grand old "Craft,"
None's rigged more tightly fore and aft;
Ancient, Free, while ages run,
She's still *Accepted* as A. I.

Chorus—And he who will this truth deny:
Down among the dead men,
Down among the dead men,
Down, down, down, down,
Down among the dead men let him lie.

Across life's wild, tempestuous Sea
Swift sails the good craft "*Masonry*,"
Well found, well manned, with trusty crew
Composed of none but Masons true. *Chorus.*

Now in this "craft" of Masonry
Are high and low of each degree;
And none too great and none too small
If only true, they're welcome all. *Chorus.*

There's work to do for all on board:
And work that brings its own reward—
Since no good Mason need despair
Of getting, some day, "*past the Chair*." *Chorus.*

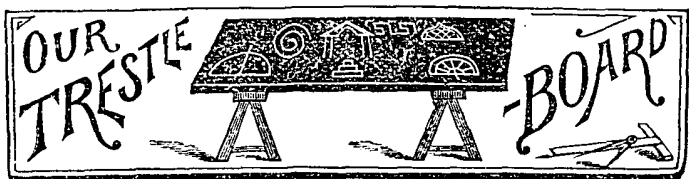
But if he would attain to this,
Attending Lodge he should not miss,
And when he gets the Master's call,
He should come to Freemasons' Hall. *Chorus.*

Now Masons all, of all degrees,
Do not forget to pay your fees—
For rocks the old craft mostly fears,
Financially, are called "arrears." *Chorus.*

Remember that the Mason's grip
Implies five points of *Fellowship*—
But *fellowship*-mates we are not
When we omit to "pay our shot." *Chorus.*

Then may fair breezes always waft
And fill the sails of the Grand-Old Craft,
While she freights *Love, Truth and Relief*
There is no fear she'll come to grief. *Chorus.*

Constantinople, Jan. 9th, 1889.



"For the Master to lay lines and draw designs upon."

The importance of the Special Court on the affairs of the Boys' School, to be held this day, cannot be over estimated by the Craft generally, for to our mind the enquiry lately held affects the entire system of Masonic charity, "root and branch." Most thinking English Freemasons are thrown back to a serious consideration of what our predecessors intended when the earliest of the three existing Institutions was founded. Did they ever contemplate or desire such palatial establishments as are now to be seen respectively at Clapham, Wood Green, and Croydon? We doubt it, and are far more disposed to think that a continuance in the rough and ready, yet nevertheless effective plan of education and support of children, and the maintenance of the aged and the infirm, would have been more useful, and have spread the bounties of charity to a greater number of deserving objects than have, notwithstanding arithmetical calculation of large totals, benefitted thereby.

Accepting matters as they now stand in relation to establishments, or we should say as they may stand after the reform imperatively demanded, what are we doing for posterity? Can we secure in perpetuity the necessary funds for maintaining these large buildings and the staff of officials and dependents absolutely necessary for upholding them? Even now there is no certainty from year to year as to our respective Festival funds, and by-and-bye what may possibly ensue? There is no need to specify evils of the on-coming of which we have no prescience, nor need we be pessimistic; but the experience of the past should be the guide for the future, and we learn from the former how nations can be afflicted and fortunes dissolved. It is worth while to consider what might be the result of any great national calamity paralysing the will to succour the helpless and infirm, and preventing the sustentation of the magnificent residences we have erected.

A correspondent who is an ex-pupil of the Boys' School, and a letter from whom over the motto "*Palmarum qui meruit ferat*," appeared in our columns of the 16th ult., again asks us for the promised answer thereto. We cannot but admit that the pressure of other important Masonic matters had quite driven the promise from our mind; and now, when we take the enquiry into consideration, we find it is not an easy one to reply to. We know of no Lodge which would initiate a "Lewis" for a "*much reduced*

sum" below its ordinary initiation fee: nor do we think it either politic or necessary that any Lodge should do so. The entrance into the Masonic Order is already made a great deal too cheap, and the circumstances surrounding those who offer themselves for initiation are not sufficiently considered before they are "accepted." Our ex-pupil will kindly take it from us, without taking offence, that he had better put aside his desire to enter the Order until he is so circumstanced as to be able, "without detriment to himself or connections," to be more careful for the interest of others than of himself, particularly in respect of pecuniary matters.

This is what the *South African Freemason* says about Lodge meetings in taverns:—"It is rather amusing to us to find certain of our brethren in England continuing to exercise their minds on the evils of meeting in public-houses, and seeming to view a general building of lodge rooms as a sort of Utopian idea. Why, bless their Masonic hearts, we in poor South Africa never think of meeting in a 'public-house.' We have solved the question long ago. We should like to show some of our Home brethren little lodges of 20 to 30 members in out-of-the-way up-country villages, possessing their own well-built temples, land, lock, stock and baggage, bought and paid for by themselves."

We learn by the *Voice of Masonry* (Chicago) that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi which met at Meridian on the 14th February last, "*inter alia*," altered the Constitution so as to exempt from the payment of dues all brethren over 70 years of age, who had been affiliated Masons twenty-one consecutive years." This is, in our opinion, a reasonable concession to veteran Craftsmen, and might be worth consideration at home.

The *New Zealand Mail* will be especially thanked by us if it will direct its masonic editor to carry out the masonic injunction to "act honorably by all men," by acknowledging the sources from which he gets his "copy." We consider he can do the paper with which he is connected no harm by crediting the journals from which he selects poems and articles, and not entirely leaving out the authors' names. We are hard hit ourselves by the insertion of our own "poor thing"—"What better theme than Masonry"—without the slightest reference to its author.

Questions and Answers.

* * *Querists will please note that we shall in future decline to pay attention to enquiries made anonymously, or otherwise forwarded than in closed envelopes. In some instances it may be found impolitic to publish replies, but answers may be assured by the enclosure of a stamped and addressed cover.*

Q.—Are there any specially appropriate passages in V.S.L. at which the Greater Light should be opened in the several degrees of Craft Masonry?—ADONHIRAM.

A.—Dr. Oliver says "We have no especial directions about the place at which the V.S.L. ought to be unclosed by the P.M. at the commencement of opening a Lodge. Any chapter of any book will be correct, provided it has a direct application to some circumstance connected with the degree under consideration. In the First Degree, Ruth iv.; Gen. xxi., xxii.; or 2 Sam. xxiv., will be appropriate. The Second Degree would demand 1 Kings vi., 2 Chron. iii., or Judges xii.; and the Third, 2 Chron. iii. or vi." We, however, incline to the opinion of many well-informed brethren that the opening at Psalm cxxxiii. is sufficiently appropriate for each of the three degrees.

ADONHIRAM is referred to the note at heading. His second question is not such as we can reply to in these pages.—ED. M.S.

We Notify that:—

—The Star Chapter of Instruction has adjourned until Friday, September 6th.

—This evening, June 6th, the veteran preceptor, W. Bro. T. J. Barnes, so well known in the east of London, will preside as Section Master in the Victoria Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1816. The fifteen sections will be worked by some of the most able brethren who have acquired proficiency under his tuition. Lodge will be opened at 7 p.m. sharp, at the George Inn, Broadway, Stratford, E.

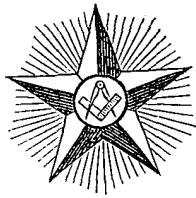
—The Fidelity Lodge of Instruction, No. 3, has adjourned till Wednesday, the 2nd October next, when it will meet as heretofore at Bro. Silvester's, "The Alfred," Roman Road, Barnsbury.

—A Cricket Match will be played next Saturday, June 8th, at Lake's Farm, Wamstead, between the Moorleigh Club, the members of which are the compositors of the *Masonic Star*, Messrs. Adams Bros., and the St. Dunstan's Club, comprising the employes of Messrs. Skipper & East. Wickets will be pitched at 3 p.m. precisely.

THE ZETLAND LODGE OF INSTRUCTION—No. 511—At the York and Albany, Park Street, Camden Town, Monday, June 3rd. Present—Bros. S. Lichtenfeld, W.M.; Streech, S.W.; Shutt, J.W.; Bartlett, S.D.; H. Halliday, J.D.; Harnell, Sen., I.G.; H. Lichtenfeld, Sec.; Mulrey, Preceptor; Gittens, Harnell, jun., Higgs, Casely, Ram, Rex, Righton, and several other brethren. The lodge opened with solemn prayer. The ceremony of passing and raising was rehearsed, Bros. Righton and Casely acting as candidates, respectively. Both ceremonies were rendered most impressive by the musical accompaniment, Bro. Rex acting as organist. Bro. Higgs was elected hon. and Bro. Ram joining members. Bro. Streech having been elected W.M., appointed officers in rotation, and the proceedings terminated.

The Masonic Star.

THURSDAY,



JUNE 6, 1889.

Edited by

W. BRO. JAMES STEVENS, P.M., P.Z., &c., &c.

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VOLUME I.

In Masonic Cloth Cover—Now Ready—Price 3s. 6d.

Original Correspondence.

Without in any way holding ourselves responsible for, or even approving of the opinions expressed, we freely throw open our columns for the proper discussion of all matters of a general character relating to Freemasonry.

Correspondents must be as brief as possible, must write plainly, only use one side of the paper, and cannot expect the return of rejected contributions.

Every contribution must be accompanied with the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I cordially concur, with one exception, in the resolutions adopted by the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1572, with reference to the Report of the Committee of Investigation, published in your last issue. Unless a clean sweep is made of the neglectful House and Audit Committees and of the peccant officials implicated, no confidence can be placed in the management of the Institution, nor can the brethren continue to support it. In my own province the feeling is universal that if this course is not taken we cannot in future continue the liberal help we have hitherto given the Institution.

But I cannot agree with the resolution of the Carnarvon Lodge, "That under the present circumstances of the school no subscriptions should be paid to it." The school has done incalculable good, spite of its mismanagement, and the Craft would be untrue to its best principles if it adopted a course which would result in the deprivation of so many of the innocent sons of our poorer brethren of its educational benefits. I have every confidence that the Special General Court, to be held on the 6th prox., will deal thoroughly and effectually with the misgovernment brought to light by the Committee of Investigation.

May 30th, 1889.

Yours fraternally,
PROVINCIAL GRAND TREASURER.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I am told that previous to the late meeting of our Provincial Grand Lodge, there was a meeting of the Charitable Association connected with the province, and that it was resolved "That the Report of the Enquiry Committee (Bro. Philbrick's) should be at once accepted, without reservation, as the basis of thorough and complete reform." It has been said that the feeling of many of the brethren was that it was not near strong enough. I must confess, however, that I cannot conceive any expressions much stronger in the way of condemnation of the entire management *ab ovo usque ad mala*, and if only the Special Court should insist upon that and no more, no more will be required.

Several of my friends, as well as myself, have received a reprint from one of the Masonic Journals, attacking the impartial character of Bro. Philbrick's report, and these reprints seem to have been scattered about pretty thickly, at whose cost does not appear to be known. If this inspired article is to be the line upon which the Special Court will adjudicate, all I can say is that there will be a general stop of supplies to the three institutions from our province. I should think the eyes of the brethren are opened to the necessity for clearing away entirely the management and staff of the one now implicated. It is all nonsense, and no use, for your contem-

poraries to talk so wildly about "Midsummer madness," or the treatment of the subject as a "silly season big gooseberry, or sea serpent." It is far too serious a matter for such contemptuous dismissal, and the subscribers should be, as I personally am, indebted to your paper for the example you set of fair and outspoken criticism. Your contemporaries are doing the Charities of the Masonic Order more injury by their policy of timid silence, than your paper can possibly do by enlightening those contributors to their funds who have hitherto been kept in darkness.

I fear that more than one or two lodges will follow the example of the Carnarvon, 1572. It may be hard lines, but they only stop the supplies until the cure has been effected. Old Masons, with their stewards' jewels, &c., have mostly "shot their bolt," and it is to the younger ones the Institutions have to trust for future supplies. Let them be sure that what they give in the cause of charity will be *faithfully* applied.

You have my name, if required, but I prefer to sign myself,

Yours fraternally,

June 2nd, 1889.

STAFFS.

R.M.I.B. GENERAL COMMITTEE.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

The great meeting of the 1st June has taken place, but alas! the Masonic attributes we are taught and charged to observe amongst *brethren* were conspicuous by their absence.

As many on leaving the hall enquired, "What is the real upshot of all this?" permit me to put on record what I saw and heard.

1. The evident sense of the meeting was *not* to confirm the minutes for legislative action, but simply to *ratify* their *correctness*. The "chair" and its advisers vigorously endeavoured to enforce the ruling that the minutes must, *of necessity*, be confirmed, which resulted in a long wrangle, serving only to confuse all parties as to *what* was being voted, and ultimately it was declared, "the minutes are confirmed."

2. The next business was to elect a House Committee. This was vigorously opposed by the crowded meeting, but the continuous cross-fire between the speakers prevented any proper debate and the "chair" seemed powerless to quell the confusion, but appeared to announce or support various dicta as suggested by different advisers.

Hence we heard:—

(a.) That the House Committee *must* be elected on first Saturday in June.

(b.) That the House Committee *ceased to exist* by effluxion of time on this 1st of June, whether their successors were elected or no.

(c.) That after 5 p.m. no new Committee could be elected until June, 1890, but the old Committee would remain in office till then.

(d.) That no election could be made at an adjourned meeting.

Finally:—

(e.) The Chairman declared at 5 p.m. "no election can now take place."

(f.) And afterwards declared the meeting adjourned for one month.

Sir, does not this tend to prove the existence of a party desirous of wresting the R.M.I.B. from its proper custodians; in fact, make it an irresponsible freehold? If this be not the case, why this anxiety to insist on the election of the Committee before the discussion of "The Report of the Investigating Committee?" Why call the General Court for 12 noon on Thursday, when the greater number of the Life Governors and subscribers (who are the bone and sinew of the Institution), are tied to their business?

Can one imagine a more solemn farce than to elect a House and Finance Committee *absolutely unpledged* to anything whatever, giving them uncontrolled power for twelve months, and then to hold a meeting to decide what that unpledged and autocratic Committee shall do!

Hence, Bro. Editor, arises the dissatisfaction of numbers, including myself, who attended in the cause of RELIEF, to act in all BROTHERLY LOVE to discover the TRUTH by postponing the election of any Committee until the real Masters and Directors of the Institution, viz.: the Life Governors and Subscribers who form the General Court, could discuss the report and decide on what mandate to give as to the duties and regulations for Committees and all others concerned.

This, in fact, is the kernel of the contest we are now witnessing—*Who shall control the R. M. I. B.?* Officialism or the General Court? Surely there can be but one reply,—but, should officialism by any misfortune temporarily triumph, there arises the form of the High Court of Chancery to be invoked to order the well-ruling and governing of a Masonic Charity, and to stand as their natural protector before our poor Boys who have hitherto been taught to look in all childish confidence to their Masonic uncles.

Yours fraternally,

SEMAJ.

"HOW IT STRIKES A STRANGER."

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

On Saturday last I attended the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, in the expectation of hearing some discussion, not of the subject matter of the Investigation Committee's Report, but of the means by which the Institution was to be carried on pending the action of the properly constituted General Court on Thursday next.

It was a most unpleasant surprise to find a state of utter confusion, out of which no satisfactory result could possibly arise.

Is it too late to appeal, through you, to the members of the Craft attending the General Court to avoid a repetition of this scene on Thursday next?

Many brethren are travelling long distances for the purpose of deliberation, in the interests of the Institution, on a crisis of the utmost gravity. It would be an insult to the Committee of Investigation (as strong and capable a committee as could possibly be formed) and a stultification of ourselves to ignore their report, or not to accept it as a judicial deliverance on the present state of the school. The feeling of indignation is strong and general, but the question now before us is how the Institution can be thoroughly reformed and purged from the abuses which mar its usefulness. The more restrained and careful the discussion the more certain is a successful result.

The House and Finance Committees are entitled to a patient hearing, and the more freely this is accorded the stronger will be the position of those who propose to insist that reform shall be thorough, and not merely nominal. No institution can be reformed by vulgar and senseless clamour, and while nothing less should content us than such a change in administration and system as will guarantee a better management in the future—an object which must be pressed without consideration of persons—this result will be attained most effectually and most promptly by a resolution on the part of the General Court, as calm and deliberate as it is firm.

Yours fraternally,
J. BODENHAM, V.P.

Answers to Correspondents.

J. R., CROYDON.—You are wrong to reproach us for the result of your own delay. Your communication could have reached us long before it did; and moreover it might have been in the form of a notice. We cannot undertake to prepare reports from programmes alone.

J. F.S., BOLTON.—Your original songs shall appear in "Poet's Corner"

PALMAM QUI MERUIT FERAT.—See Trestle Board Column.

LIFE GOVERNOR, M.B.F.—Your letter reaches us as we go to press. Shall have attention.

Press Exchanges and Books Received.

South African Freemason; The Liberal Freemason, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.; *Society*.

Masonic "Bitter-Sweet."

"The web of our life is of a mingled yarn; good and ill together."—*Shakespeare*.

The Viator Lodge, membership of which will be restricted to that very useful and hard working body, the commercial travellers of England, was consecrated on Saturday last by a very old "traveller" Col. Shadwell Clerke, who for many years, both at home and abroad, has represented the grand old firm of "Queen and Country, unlimited."

The Wardens chairs were filled by Bros. Belton and Matier, the oration of the Chaplain called forth the unanimous expression of "Well done, Weldon," and the Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Frank Richardson, apparently solved the problem of being in two places at once.

* * *

We sat down some seventy to dinner, which it is scarcely necessary to say was very satisfactory, and Brother Arthur Clemow, the manager of Anderton's Hotel worked like a galley slave to promote the comfort and harmony of the evening.

* * *

The General Committee of the Boys' School met on Saturday, and managed to beat the record. I have never been at Donnybrook Fair, nor do I know much, except theoretically, about a bear garden, but I should say that either of these places would be a peaceful haven of rest after my experience of some of the life governors, who were barely restrained from open violence.

* * *

If the Special General Court, on Thursday, is to be conducted on similar lines, I warn all brethren who have any respect for themselves to keep away. I most certainly believe there will be nothing to be found in the hall on Friday but hats and boots. Like the far-famed Kilkenny cats, the opposing parties will have eaten each other.

* * *

My congratulations to the newly appointed grand officers of Grand Mark Lodge, and especially to such well-known brethren as Lord Cremorne, Sir Lionel Darell, W. G. Lemon, &c. This popular Grand body may well be high up in the favour of the universal craft. As I foreshadowed some time ago, the "Great Earl" of Euston has succeeded the lamented Canon Portal as President of the General Board. Long life and health to him.

* * *

I am told the contest for the Board of General purposes bids fair to be very close. I have no doubt but that the good sense of the electors will take care that the best men win.

THE DINER OUT.

HORNSEY CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT—No. 890.—A convocation was held at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Square, Paddington, W. Present: G. March, J. 733, M.E.Z.; W. C. Williams, H. 733, H.; J. Davies, N. 733, J.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, S.E.; W. H. Chalfont, N. 975, S.N.; J. Cruttenden, 779, P.S.; M. Spiegel, 834. The chapter was declared open for the purpose of improvement. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Chalfont, candidate. A letter from Comp. Dean was read, thanking the companions for their kind sympathy during his illness, and that he hoped to be present at the next convocation. Comp. Davies was elected M.E.Z. for the ensuing two weeks. After hearty good wishes the chapter was closed.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

A Half-yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, was held in the Hall at Holborn Restaurant, London, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., the Right Hon. the Marquess of Hertford, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, presiding. The R.W. Bro. William Kelly, Prov. G.M., Leicestershire, acted as D.G.M. The R.W. Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.S. Warden, and the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, G.J. Warden, occupied their respective chairs; and the remaining Grand Officers were also present, together with a large assemblage of Past Grand Officers, and the Masters, Wardens, Overseers, and brethren of private lodges. Grand Lodge having been opened in form, the presiding Grand Master, in a feeling address, referred to the great loss sustained by the Order by the recent lamented decease of the M.W. Bro. the Rev. Canon Portal, Past Grand Master, which melancholy event had been formally communicated to the Grand Lodge on the 12th April, and whose eminent ability and zealous service had so materially conduced to the successful progress of the Mark Degree. Words were inadequate to describe the appreciation of those lengthened and valuable services, which would ever be gratefully remembered by all whose good fortune it was to be associated with him in the various spheres of labour in which he had played so conspicuous a part. A letter of condolence had been forwarded to Mrs. Portal conveying a tribute of respect and affectionate remembrance, to which a sympathetic reply had been made, and therefore no further resolution was necessary. It would not, however, have been fitting to commence the business of the present communication, more particularly as Grand Lodge and its members evidenced their sorrow by the outward tokens of mourning, without some reference to the loss they had sustained, and a sorrowful remembrance of their lamented brother's association with them even up to the date of their last meeting, when he advocated the purpose they had in view of securing premises for the future convenience of their Grand Lodge. The R.W. Bro. W. Kelly, acting Dep. G.M., endorsed the observations of the acting Grand Master. The minutes of the Grand Lodge, held on the 6th December last, and of the Special Grand Lodge, held on the 5th March, were then confirmed. The following recommendations of the General Board were unanimously agreed, viz. :—

"That in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown the title of 'Provincial Grand Lodge' shall be changed to 'District Grand Lodge,' and that powers be given to such District Grand Lodge to regulate the Fees payable to their own Funds, subject to the approval of the Board;" and,

"That the rank of Past Master be conferred on the Most Worshipful Bro. Chief Justice Way, Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of South Australia, and that the Adelaide Lodge, No. 41, be authorised to carry this resolution into effect."

The remainder of the Report was adopted, together with a recommendation of a Grant to the Widow of a deceased brother. The acceptance of the position of Most Worshipful Grand Master for the ensuing year by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was announced and proclaimed in the customary manner. The following brethren were appointed by His Royal Highness, and in most instances were invested by the Acting Grand Master, viz. :—

The Rt. Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton	...	Pro Grand Master.
The Most Hon. the Marquess of Hertford	...	Dep. G. Master.
The Rt. Hon. Lord Cremorne	...	G.S.W.
Sir Lionel Darell, Bart.	...	G.J.W.
Richard Vassar Vassar Smith	...	G.M.O.
W. G. Lemon	...	G.S.O.
Butler Wilkins	...	G.J.O.
The Rev. Dr. Herbert Kynaston	...	G. Chap.
The Rev. Trevor Parkins	...	G. Chap.
Henry Faija (elected)	...	G. Treas.
Frank Richardson	...	G. Reg.
The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Euston	...	Pres. G. Bd.
Frederick Binckes	...	G. Sec.
Felix Sumner Knyvett	...	G.S.D.
William Goodacre	...	G.S.D.
Henry Stocker	...	G.J.D.
H. E. Cousans	...	G.J.D.
Rowland Plumbe	...	G. Insp. Wks.
Robert Berridge	...	G. Dir. Cer.
J. H. Matthews	...	G. Asst. D.C.
J. B. Bridgman	...	G. Asst. D.C.
Dr. F. B. Purchas	...	G. Swd. Br.
W. F. Christian	...	G. Std. Br.
A. R. Carter	...	G. Std. Br.
Thomas Troman	...	G. Org.
Chas. Fitzgerald Matier	...	A.G. Sec.
Joseph Mainwaring	...	G.I.G.
J. Unwin	...	A.G.I.G.

Grand Stewards.

Bros. J. M. Collins, Bon Accord Lodge; E. M. Money, Old Kent Lodge; Philip Saillard, Grosvenor Lodge, 144; Edwin Storr, Brixton, 234; T. E. Biddlecombe, Trinity College, 244; G. H. Newington Bridges, Kintore, 333; J. W. Howard Thompson, Percy, 144; Henry Fisher, Prov. of Warwickshire; William Denne, Invicta, No. 378; G. J. Brady, Prov. of Dorsetshire; W. R. Felton, Prov. of Glo'ster and Hereford; S. Knight, Prov. of Berks and Oxon; K. McEwen, Prov. of North Wales; and G. P. Airey, Alfred, No. 247.

General Board.

Bros. Frederic Davison, Alfred Williams, James Moon, C. H. Driver, Thomas Cubitt, George Cooper, D. George Mickley, J. E. Dawson, R. Loveland Loveland, A. F. Godson, M.P., and Rev. Hayman Cummings.

The Grand Lodge having been closed with solemn prayer, a large proportion of the brethren adjourned to banquet.

PROVINCIAL.

EAST LANCASHIRE.—HEATON NORRIS.—EGERTON LODGE—No. 1030.—The report of the meeting of this lodge on the 27th ult., was wrongly headed "*Cheshire, Stockport*," in our last issue. We have been requested to correct the error.

STAFFORDSHIRE.—The foundation stone of new Masonic buildings at West Bromwich, the capital for which, £3,000, has been subscribed in shares by the members of the Dartmouth Lodge, No. 662, was laid on the 28th ult., by his Worship the Mayor of West Bromwich, W. Bro. E. W. W. Heelis, *J.P.*, with full Masonic ceremony, assisted by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master Colonel Foster Gough, *J.L.D.*, and Provincial Grand Lodge Officers. The proceedings were of a highly interesting character, but want of space forbids a lengthened report.

STAFF. MASONIC CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.—At a Special Meeting of the Committee held at West Bromwich on 28th ult., W. Bro. J. Bodenham, Past A.G.D.C., President, in the Chair, it was proposed by the President and seconded by W. Bro. Barnett, P.P.G.W., and resolved unanimously that—"This Committee having heard with profound regret the result of the inquiry into the Management, Expenditure, and Discipline of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, is of opinion that it is essential that the Report of the Committee should be at once accepted without reservation, as the basis of a thorough and complete reform." The resolution was afterwards submitted to the Provincial Grand Lodge held the same day.

SURREY.—CROYDON.—FREDERICK LODGE OF UNITY, No. 452.—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 21st inst., at the Masonic Hall Croydon, Surrey. Present: Bros. D. R. Wise, the W.M.; C. G. Scott, P.M. acting S.W.; Charles M. Ohren, P.M., acting J.W.; Magnus Ohren, P.M. and Treasurer; James Waterman, S.D.; Aubrey M. Ohren, J.D.; Wm. F. Payne, I.G., and Harold Levett, Sen. Steward; also Past Masters, Arthur J. Dickinson, A. T. Jeffery, and Wm. Geo. Hunter. Amongst the visitors were Bros. H. E. Poole, of the Abbey Lodge No. 2,030, and John Rhodes, P.P.G. Organist for Surrey. Letters, messages, and telegrams were laid before the Lodge from the following Past Masters: Wm. Sugg, J. W. Sugg, Fredk. A. Manning, J. C. F. W. Rogers, Wm. Geo. Batchelor, and H. E. Frances (Secretary), Wm. Ackland, J.W., and Walter King, Junior Steward. The W.M. drew attention to the fact that the Lodge was draped in black, and the brethren wore the emblems of mourning, and referred in feeling terms to the great loss the brethren had sustained by the death of the R.W. Bro. General Brownrigg, their late Provincial Grand Master, and moved that a letter of condolence be forwarded to his widow and family expressing the sorrow of the members of the Lodge, and their deep sympathy with them in this their time of trouble. This was seconded by the W. Bro. Magnus Ohren, and carried unanimously. The other Masonic business having been got through, the W.M. stated that he had a pleasing duty to perform, viz., the presentation to the Treasurer, the W. Bro. Magnus Ohren, of a large photographic portrait of himself, which had been subscribed for by the members of the Lodge, as a mark of their respect and esteem. The W.M. referred to the eminent services Bro. Ohren had rendered to Freemasonry in general, as well as the Frederick Lodge of Unity in particular, for a long series of years, Bro. Ohren joining the Lodge in 1867, and had since that time promoted the welfare of the Lodge in every way; he had been the secretary for many years, and for the last nine years the treasurer.—This being the first meeting after the jubilee of the Lodge, the brethren had availed themselves of the favourable opportunity for marking so important an event. Bro. Magnus Ohren in accepting the portrait, said he fully appreciated

the sentiments expressed by the W.M., and the fraternal goodwill of the members, of those present, as well as those who sent their fraternal greetings. Many of the members present had been introduced by him into the Lodge, and as he felt sure that it would be a pleasure to many to look upon the portrait of an old friend after he had been called "to the Grand Lodge above," he hoped that the brethren would allow the portrait to remain in the Lodge, and become the Lodge property, that he might leave behind him a reminder of one who had spent so many happy hours with them in Lodge. He assured them he should ever remember their great kindness to him, and feel honoured by knowing that they would have the portrait hung in the Lodge, as a memento of that day's presentation. This was unanimously agreed to, and the Lodge being duly closed, the brethren sat down to one of those nice little dinners always provided for this Lodge, and a very agreeable evening was passed, the proceedings being enlivened by songs and recitations by the W.M., Bros. Charles and Aubrey Ohren, Harold Levett, and others, Bro. John Rhodes the Provincial Grand Organist, presiding at the piano. The Tyler's toast was given soon after nine, as the majority of the members live at some distance from Croydon, and generally catch the 9.45 train to London and intermediate stations.

KENT.—The preparatory meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent was held at the Apollonian Hall, Dover, on the 29th ult., the R.W. Bro. the Right Hon. Earl Amherst, P.G.M., presiding. The brethren present numbered nearly a hundred and fifty, and some important business was transacted. The date of the Grand Festival was fixed for the 2nd of July, at Bromley. It was decided to give to the Widows' Benefit Fund twenty guineas in the names of ten lodges (£210), beginning at the oldest lodge and working upwards. The sum of £105 was voted for the Girls' Schools in the names of five lodges, and also £199 10s. to the Boys' Schools in the name of the Provincial Grand Master, to enable him to become a Vice-Patron. At 4.30 o'clock a banquet was given at the Town Hall, about a hundred of the brethren being present. The Provincial Grand Master presided, and the proceedings terminated at about half-past eight o'clock.

HYDE PARK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION—No. 1425.—A meeting was held on Monday, 3rd June, at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster Place, Cleveland Square, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. J. Cruttenden, W.M.; O. W. Pattley, S.W.; E. Coleman, J.W.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; Major Ferris, S.D.; N. Spyer, J.D.; A. B. Northcroft, I.G.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425, Assistant Preceptor; J. R. Allman, P.M. 1425; H. Grentrip, visitor; W. J. Millington, 2246. The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree and resumed to the first. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Millington being candidate. The lodge was called off and on. Bro. Millington was elected a member and Bro. Battley W.M. for June 17th, the officers to be in rotation. A vote of condolence with Mrs. and Bro. Smith was passed, on the lamentable death of Mr. Miller. After hearty good wishes the lodge was closed.

GLEANINGS.

If we were all to agree in the things pertaining to our Order, it would be a sure indication that there remained but little of interest in our Institution. The very friction of able Masonic writers and jurists upon questions of law, government, ethics, etc., indicates the profundity and diversity of Masonry.—*Voice of Masonry.*

To experience the bickering, the envy, the strife, the discord which too often arise among Masons and in Lodges, casts our ideal

Metropolitan Lodge and Chapter Meetings for the Current Week.

"All Lodges held within Ten Miles of FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, are LONDON LODGES."—General Laws and Regulations.

No. of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE AND CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.
(THIS DAY) (1st) THURSDAY, JUNE 6th.		
19	Westminster and Keystone ...	F. M. H.
192	Lion and Lamb ...	Cannon Street Hot., E.C.
1178	Perfect Ashlar ...	Bridge House Hot., S.E.
1361	United Service ...	Café Royal, Regent Street, W.
1804	Coborn ...	Vestry Hall, Bow
1950	Southgate ...	Railway Hot., New Southgate
Mark.		
244	Trinity College ...	13, Mandeville Place, W.
(1st) FRIDAY, JUNE 7th.		
706	Florence Nightingale ...	M. H., William Street, Woolwich
1271	Star ...	Ship Hot., Greenwich
1489	Marquis of Ripon ...	Cock Tav., Highbury, N.
(2nd) SATURDAY, JUNE 8th.		
176	Caveae ...	Albion Tav., Aldersgate Street
1446	Mount Edgembe ...	Bridge House Hot., S.E.
1584	Loyalty and Charity ...	Star and Garter Hot., Kew Bridge
1685	Guelph ...	Town Hall, Leyton
2076	Quatuor Coronati... ..	F. M. H.
(2nd) MONDAY, JUNE 10th.		
1571	Leopold ...	Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge
1891	St. Ambro " ...	Baron's Court Hot., West Kensington
1922	Earl of Leicestershire ...	Greyhound Hot., Streatham
C.A.C.		
58	Felicity ...	Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
2366	Highgate ...	Gate House Tav., Highgate

No. of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE AND CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.
(2nd) TUESDAY, JUNE 11th.		
167	St. John's ...	Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead
255	Harmony ...	Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey
834	Ranelagh ...	Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
1269	Stanhope ...	Surrey M. H., Camberwell
Mark.		
223	West Smithfield ...	8a, Red Lion Square, W.C.
K.T.		
149	Studdholme ...	33, Golden Square, W.
R.C.		
71	Bayard ...	33, Golden Square, W.
(2nd) WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12th.		
13	Union Waterloo ...	M. H., William Street, Woolwich
1228	Beacontree ...	Pri. Ro., Red Lion, Leytonstone
1269	John Hervey ...	F. M. H.
1586	Upper Norwood ...	White Hart Hot., Upper Norwood
1610	Northern Bar ...	Café Royal, Regent Street, W.
1629	United ...	F. M. H.
R.A.C.		
1524	Duke of Connaught ...	Anderton's Hot., Fleet Street, E.C.
1540	Chaucer ...	Bridge House Hotel, London Bdg., S.E.
1909	Montague Guest ...	Inns of Court Hot., W.C.
R.C.		
1	Grand Metropolitan ...	Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
(2nd) THURSDAY, JUNE 13th.		
1076	Capper ...	Guildhall Tav., Gresham Street, E.C.
2033	University of London ...	F. M. H.
2047	Beckenham ...	Public Hall, Beckenham
R.A.C.		
65	Prosperity ...	Guildhall Tav., E.C.
869	Dalhousie ...	Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
907	Royal Albert ...	White Hart Tav., Abchurch Lane, E.C.
R.C.		
97	Rose and Lily ...	33, Golden Square, W.

often times into the dirt with other human institutions. Would to heaven it were all it is pictured! would that friendship, morality and brotherly love ever prevailed, and that the votaries of the Mystic Tie were purified of that sordid, narrow, selfish, ungenerous nature which characterizes man in every walk of life.—Bro. H. Weller, D.D., in *Voice of Masonry*.

A mandarin who took much pride in appearing with a number of jewels on every part of his robe, was once accosted by an old sly bonze, who following him through several streets and bowing often to the ground, thanked him for his jewels. "What does the man mean?" cried the mandarin. "Friend, I never gave thee any of my jewels." "No," replied the other, "but you let me look at them, and that is all the use you can make of them." This incident reminds us that we must not make Masonry something simply to look at. On the contrary, we must be a worshipping fraternity, with the Grand Master on high the object.—A.J.B. in *New York Dispatch*.

LECTURES ON MASONRY.—Masonic lectures are by no means a novelty to the Fraternity. For nearly two centuries the Craft have been enlightened by them. From a remote period the ancient charges were read to newly made brethren, and conveyed to them information of their duties. It is from the technical lectures of Masonry that the initiate derives all his knowledge of the force, meaning, symbolism, and philosophy of the Fraternity. They are required to embrace all of the important points of information, and officers may, to a degree, illustrate and enlarge on them, in order to enforce them still more clearly and forcibly. But there are other lectures whose delivery is optional and whose purpose is to enlighten the Fraternity upon their duties and make them aware of the literary and scientific treasures possessed by our Craft. They sometimes bear directly upon the work of the Fraternity; at other times they elucidate the origin and history of Freemasonry or enforce the moral obligations of brethren; and often they illustrate either the one or the other of these more remotely, or some related topic, and throw the light of learning, the halo of eloquence and the force of individual magnetism and character into and upon the body of the Fraternity.—*New York Dispatch*.

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

Office—6, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

Grand Patron—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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

IN compliance with a Requisition received by me from the Treasurer of the Institution—in accordance with Law 31—I hereby give notice that a Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Thursday, the 6th day of June, 1889:

To consider the Report of the Committee of Investigation appointed under Resolution of the Quarterly General Court, of 27th July, 1888, which Report was presented to, and received by, the Quarterly General Court, of 26th April, 1889, and to take such steps thereon as may be determined.

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

FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G.Std., P.G.S.B.)
V.-Pat. Secretary.

LONDON, 24th May, 1889.

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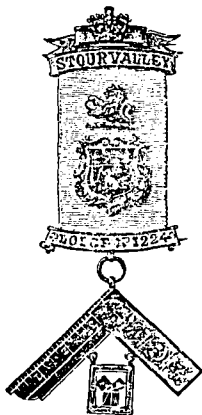
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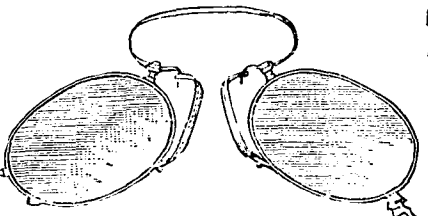
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