

THE MASONIC STAR

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At Home



Record of Freemasonry
and Abroad.

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Condemnation.



It will be seen by our account of the proceedings of the Special Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, held on Thursday last, the report of the Committee of Investigation lately presented has been adopted, and the recommendations annexed thereto are to be carried out in their entirety. The condemnation of the management of the Institution during the past few years has been pronounced without reservation of any kind; and the determination that a better order of things shall be at once established gives promise that the future will remedy the evils of the past. There can be no doubt that the most proper course which could have been taken was that which secures the temporary management of the affairs of the School by a Provisional Committee, whose powers will be such as to set aside all possible interference from any person or persons hitherto connected with the former Committees or deriving authority therefrom. Probably never in the annals of charitable institutions has so entire and immediate a change in administration taken place, or so sweeping a condemnation been so deserved. To the Craft generally it must be a matter of deep regret that the affairs of one of their beloved Institutions should have become the subject of public discussion, and the discreditable details spread far and wide by the universal press. But they may be consoled by the knowledge that the late investigation was made in time to prevent further mischief; and that when known to those concerned effectual steps were taken to mark their sense of disapprobation, and to call to account the Committees and Officials who were responsible for the mischief done.

We have now the satisfaction of knowing that the Institution will be safe during an interregnum, more or less prolonged as circumstances may require, in the hands of a

body of brethren of distinguished reputation in the Craft, and of undoubted independence in connection with Masonic matters. And it will be the duty of all true friends of the Institution to avoid any interference whatsoever with their deliberations or directions. It may be relied upon that the report they will make at a future Special Court, and the advice as to subsequent arrangements which such report may contain, will merit and meet with approbation; and whether it be that the displacement which has been demanded shall be quite so complete as has been apparently desired, or that some amount of condonation may be advisable in the interests of the school, their decisions should be loyally accepted and acted upon.

The proceedings of the late Special Court; the disapproval it has expressed; the reproof it has administered; the condemnation of those in whom the subscribers had trusted, and the steps taken for securing a future administration, free from all those evils which have brought obloquy on the Institution, should now, we think, satisfy those who have lately hesitated as to the disposition of their charitable gifts in favour of the Boys' School. Whilst any uncertainty existed it could well be supposed that lodges and individual brethren would, and very properly so, refrain from any efforts to assist "a muddled charity," and subscribe funds which might not have direct application to the objects for which they were raised. But now there can be no such reason for withholding assistance, for the fullest reliance can be placed upon the provisional management and the integrity of the policy they will adopt during their regency. The certainty in this respect is even greater at the moment than could, at the best, have been the case had not the recent investigations taken place, and, therefore, as the School *must* be carried on from day to day, and funds for such purpose are probably more than ever necessary, whilst it would be a cruel shame that our poor lads should be the sufferers for the faults of those who stood *in loco parentis* towards them—for all these and many more reasons—the resolutions of lodges and individuals, which resolutions if carried out would considerably lessen the anticipated and necessary income of the Institution, should be recalled, and the strongest possible efforts be made to strengthen the hands of the provisional management and afford them fair opportunity for advising upon the future re-arrangement or re-establishment by securing a grand total on the Stewards' Lists at the forthcoming Festival in July. No fear but that that will be faithfully applied, and perhaps, and very probably, the announcement of a larger amount than might have been expected would have the effect of restoring a confidence which in former years this Institution enjoyed in common with others, which it is sad to know has been so rudely shaken, but which, notwithstanding present condemnation, nay! possibly because thereof, may soon become as strong as ever.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

SPECIAL COURT FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION.

This anxiously expected gathering of the Life Governors and Subscribers of the Institution took place in the large Hall of Freemasons' Tavern, London, on Thursday last, the 6th inst. and was largely attended, as well by provincial as metropolitan brethren. With the remembrance of the confusion which prevailed at the meeting of the General Court on the previous Saturday, there were not wanting many expressions of doubt as to the preservation of order throughout this meeting, and it is gratifying to be enabled to record at once that, all things considered, the proceedings were far from being of a turbulent character. The first step in the right direction for conciliating the large audience was taken by V.W. Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. treas. who, on being nominated as chairman, very gracefully, and, as we think, with great tact and judgment, suggested the chair should be occupied by the R.W. Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and who had the previous evening presided over the United Grand Lodge in the absence of the Pro Grand Master the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon. Such a proposal could not fail of ready acceptance, and the assurance of able and impartial ruling at once secured effective deliberation. On taking the chair, Bro. Beach was supported by, amongst others, the Grand Secretary, Bro. Plucknett, treasurer of the institution; F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., the chairman of the Committee of Investigation, whose entrance into the hall just previously was greeted with much acclamation: Col. A. Thrale Perkins; Richard Eve, P.G. treas.; Asher Barfield, P.G. treas.; Henry Smith, D.P.G.M., West Yorks.; J. Chadwick, Prov. G. Sec., E. Lanc.; W. F. Smithson, West Yorks.; John Wordsworth, West Yorks.; R. W. Stewart; Dr. F. W. Ramsay; Brackstone Baker; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C.; J. Terry, sec. R.M.B.I.; F. Binckes, sec., R.M.I.B.; W. Roebuck, P.G.S.B.; C. F. Hogard, and others.

The requisition for calling the Special Court was read by Bro. Binckes, and also the notice convening the meeting. Bro. W. SMITH, S.W. 933, at once contested the insufficiency of the notice, the same not having been sent to every subscriber interested in the institution, and moved an adjournment for a fortnight, and at a later hour in the day, with a view to ensuring that every supporter of the schools should know what was going on, and have the opportunity for attending after business hours. This proposition at first appeared to have the approval of a large majority, but on the representation of several provincial brethren who protested against the waste of time and money which they and the brethren whom they represented would suffer if adjournment were agreed upon, and on its being pointed out by the Chairman that the law (31), provided for assembling a Special Court, had been complied with in every respect, and the Secretary could not have exceeded that law, the meeting all but unanimously declared in favour of proceeding with the business at once.

A number of communications from representatives of the provinces of East and West Lancashire, Cheshire, West Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire, Bristol, Shropshire, and Hampshire and Isle of Wight, and from sundry lodges and individual brethren, were directed to be read. These were in every sense in full approval of the recommendations of the Committee of Investigation and unmistakably condemnatory of the Committees and Officials of the Institution. In some cases they were so personal to the Secretary, who, up to now, has not had the opportunity for making what may be termed a masonically public defence, that it seemed a cruel and unkind thing that he should have been required to read his own indictment; but so it was, and he did not flinch in discharge of the requirement. Whatever individual reserve there may be in regard to some of the paid officials, there was not the slightest on the part of the meeting in respect of the Committees, and the announcement of the resignations of the greater number of them was hailed with satisfaction and cries of "Sweep them all away." Bro. Brackstone Baker paid a high compliment to the Committee of Investigation for their Report, which he designated "a State paper," but suggested that it should not be accepted in its entirety until the parties implicated had been first heard in their defence; and without being an apologist for the Secretary or the late management, desired that fair play in hearing the answers to the charges made should be accorded to him and them. It was yet to be considered whether or not the Secretary was a victim to the system of management now called into question. These sentiments did not altogether please his hearers, and Bro. J. H. HAWKINS proceeded to combat them in a very able though, perhaps, a somewhat too personal speech. He admitted that the officers of the Institution were practically on their trial, and should be heard. Therefore the report of the Investigation Committee should be treated in a business like manner, and he would at once move its adoption. It was absolutely impossible that the present meeting could discuss each and all of the clauses contained in the recommendations of the report, but in a general way he would say that, to begin with, they had a House Committee which had grossly neglected and badly managed the Institution, and a Secretary about whom he was sorry to say he would have to use some severe language. Bro. Hawkins then recapitulated in terms of great indignation many of the allegations made in the report, with which, we presume, the great majority of our readers are acquainted, if not in detail by a perusal of the report itself, at least by the publication given thereto in the daily and weekly journals of the country. Whilst confining himself to statements absolutely made by the Committee of Investigation, his remarks were pertinent and effective; but it is a nice point, when he travelled beyond the record, whether or not the "severe language" he had previously alluded to was quite so justifiable. There is a great distinction to be made between the action he condemned, and the definition he gave it, and we prefer to eliminate that portion of his remarks from this report. Bro. Hawkins' motion was seconded, but before

being put to the meeting, Bro. Geo. Britten said that whilst agreeing with the recommendations of the Investigation Committee, he thought that when making the proposed change, it should be done with regard to justice to individuals, and that the former valuable services of the Secretary should not be forgotten. He ought not to be entirely deprived of his means of livelihood, and it should be suggested to him that he should resign on an allowance of £500 a year. Bro. Britten proposed accordingly, and the motion was seconded, but the Chairman pointed out that there was nothing in the report itself which called upon the Secretary to resign and that Bro. Britten's proposition could not be an amendment to that before the meeting, but it could be made an after consideration. The motion for the adoption of the report as presented to the meeting was then put and carried amidst great applause. In the midst of the confusion which ensued, a vote of thanks to the Committee of Investigation was proposed by one brother and seconded by another, but it did not reach the chair, and consequently was not put; but the members of that Committee may rest assured that it would have met with general acceptance.

The several clauses in the recommendations made are as follows:—

1. An entire change in administration, and a thorough breaking away from the present practice must take place before the management, discipline and expenditure of the institution will be satisfactory.

2. There should be but one authority (viz., the Head Master) at Wood Green, and the entire establishment there be subject to him.

3. The House Committee should be able and willing to take and keep the control in its own hands; must be in touch with the daily life of the school, and give more personal attention, and exercise an intelligent authority in the institution.

4. The questions of sufficient playgrounds and proper appliances for health and cleanliness of the pupils require immediate attention.

5. The Finance Committee should regulate the expenditure under the House Committee, and not rest its efforts after merely checking the vouchers and books put before it.

6. The accounts should be kept as recommended by a qualified public accountant, and annually published as audited and approved by the Finance Committee.

7. The Secretary's duties should be strictly limited to the office, and he should not interfere at Wood Green save as the mere official channel of communication with the Head Master.

Bro. Smith, on the adoption of the report containing these recommendations, called especial attention to the first of them, and contended that it should be strictly carried out. If it was desired to place the charitable institutions on a sure foundation the report must be acted upon in spirit as well as in letter, and a clean sweep must be made of the whole administrative body. The new Managing Committees should be formed of brethren who should be selected apart from all cliques, or any bodies of Freemasons who could influence their election, and the same remark applied to the other Institutions as well. He would move in the terms of the first clause; and also that the Secretary and the entire House and Finance Committee, excepting only the Head Master, Dr. Morris, be requested to at once submit their resignations. This exception was met with loud cries of dissent, and exclamations of "all, all!" Bro. Stiebel, P. Prov. G.J.W., Notts, hoped that the Court would assent to the unanimous voice of Freemasonry, and seconded the motion. Bro. Controller Bake considered that the whole system of the Benevolent Institutions should now be considered, and that instead of sending all the children to London, as now, they should be provided for in the districts where they resided. Bro. Bake was reminded that he was not speaking to the question, and amidst interruption resumed his seat. Bro. Bateman Fox said that it would be better to carry at once a general resolution, and strongly objected to some of the "severe language" he had been compelled to listen to, which did not in any way benefit the Institution. The object in view was purification, and he thought a strong Provisional Committee would have to be appointed to carry out the entire change which must now take place. He therefore moved—"That this Special Quarterly Court, having adopted the Report of the Committee appointed to investigate the management of the Boys' School, desires to express its most complete confidence in the ability and absolute impartiality of the members of such Committee; its opinion that the recommendations of such Committee should be supported to the utmost; and that an entire change in administration, and a thorough breaking away from the present practice, must take place."

The Chairman said he thought this proposal scarcely an amendment to the proposition that the spirit of the recommendation of the Committee should be carried out, but agreed that the appointment of a Provisional Committee for that purpose would be a reasonable course to pursue. After some further discussion, and many irrelevant interruptions, Bro. Harry Bevir, representing Wiltshire, said as the Report had been adopted in its entirety there was no necessity of putting individual clauses to the meeting. The meeting was faced with the fact that a large number of the members of the Committees connected with the Institution had resigned, and practically at that moment there was no effective House Committee, and no effective Audit Committee, or Finance Committee. The other members might resign, but whether they did or not it had been practically decided that day that the members of the Committees had forfeited the confidence of the Subscribers. It was absolutely necessary that the working of the School should be carried on from day to day. Was that meeting the best tribunal—off-hand—to deal with the questions raised in the report? He thought not. He did not think the Committee of Investigation would like to be the executioners of their own recommendations, and he therefore proposed that a strong, powerful, and influential Committee should look after the interests of the Institution for the present. He proposed "That Bros. Philbrick, Sir R. Hanson, J. Derby Allcroft, Richard Eve, P.G.T.; Sir R. Fowler, G. Corble, Essex; J. Glass, Essex; G. Lambert, London; The Earl of Euston, Norths and Hunts; Captain S. G. Homfray, Monmouth; R. V. Vassar-Smith, Gloucestershire; W. F. Smithson, West Yorkshire;

Col. A. Thrale Perkins, Somerset; Alderman Harwood, East Lancashire; J. S. Eastes, Kent; Gerard Ford, Sussex; J. E. Le Feuvre, Hants; A. C. Spaul, Salop; T. Bodenham, Staffordshire; R. Wylie, W. Lancashire; and Edward Terry, Grand Treasurer, be invited to act as a Provisional Committee to manage the affairs of the Institution, and be requested to report to a future Court the best and most effective mode of carrying out the recommendations in the Report which the brethren had unanimously adopted." Bro. W. F. Smithson having seconded this resolution, and Bro. Philbrick, setting aside his own personal feelings, having assented thereto, the resolution was put and carried unanimously. This would at once have terminated the meeting, but an attempt on the part of Bro. Raynham Stewart to speak in favour of the late House Committee, raised such an amount of disorder as precluded the customary vote of thanks to the chairman,—never better deserved by any brother than on this occasion,—from being heard and responded to as it otherwise would most assuredly have been but for such ill-judged and ill-timed proceeding.

The Masonic "Poet's Corner."
(Original and Selected.)

IN THE HEART OF A MASON'S LODGE.

BY BRO. JOHN FAWCETT SKELTON, P.M. 146, P.Z.

Tune—"On Board of a Man-of-War." (Old Sea-song, 1710).

Around the "festive board," we sit all at our ease,
And, keeping all Masonic, we do whate'er we please;
The Graces all are there, with love upon the square,
In the heart of a Mason's lodge.

Chorus—In the heart of a Mason's lodge,
In the heart of a Mason's lodge,

The Graces all are there, with love upon the square,
In the heart of a Mason's lodge.

The symbols of the Craft, in beauty hang around;
There's food for deep reflection on the tessellated ground,
The faces on the wall, only happy days recall,
In the heart of a Mason's lodge.

Chorus—In the heart of a Mason's lodge,
The faces on the wall, &c.

We sing a merry song—smoke the "calumet of peace,"
And gaily chat together in our cabinet of bliss;
Each brother does his best to entertain the rest,
In the heart of a Mason's lodge.

Chorus—In the heart of a Mason's lodge,
Each brother does his best, &c.

No angry look is seen, each face is bright and gay,
And ev'ry risky topic of debate is put away;
We keep the jubilee of the jolly "Fourth Degree,"
In the heart of a Mason's lodge.

Chorus—In the heart of a Mason's lodge,
We keep the jubilee, &c.

Our troubles in the world stop at the mystic door,
And nothing inharmonious may pass the threshold o'er,
For sorrow, grief, and care, never sit upon the square,
In the heart of a Mason's lodge.

Chorus—In the heart of a Mason's lodge,
For sorrow, grief, and care, &c.

May the canker-worm of strife ne'er enter to destroy,
The glowing fruits of Masonry, its beauty and its joy;
Let love and honour dwell, with charity, as well,
In the heart of a Mason's lodge.

Chorus—In the heart of a Mason's lodge,
Let love and honour dwell, &c.

[The music to the above song is found in No. 26 of the "Sixpenny Musical Library," F. Pitman, 20, Paternoster Row, E.C.]

Written for the MASONIC STAR; may be reproduced "with credit."

The sublime teachings of Masonry are not simply our idealization, but a realization, and it is the ambition of every true Mason so to live that his brother man may see in him a living witness to this one great Masonic truth: the greatest possible usefulness is the highest law of Masonic life. No man is worthy of its name who is content to absorb its sunshine and yet shed no ray of light or warmth upon his fellow man.—Hugh M. Curdy, in *Voice of Masonry*.

THE mass of Masons, especially the younger brethren, seem to look upon the Master as a sort of presiding officer, without any particular powers or prerogatives, but the truth is that he possesses almost absolute authority over the brethren within the jurisdiction of his lodge. Of course this power is at the present time confined to things Masonic, it being the modification of the almost unlimited powers of Masters in past years, while we were Operative Masons.—*Voice of Masonry*.

He who thinks that he has accomplished all there is to be learned in the entire field of intellectual and moral teaching of Freemasonry deceives himself. The best educated among us has gained but a superficial view, while he who has learned the simplest lessons taught by the tenacity of the acacia, has linked his soul to the Infinite and built a temple therein whose corner stone is taken from the quarries of eternal truth, and whose timbers are stronger than the cedars of Lebanon. Masonry is the religion of education under forms and ceremonies. It pays homage to no other system, and because of its independence it has life.—*Grand Master of West Virginia, U.S.A.*

THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

The Grand Lodge met for the June Communication on the 6th inst., under the presidency of the R.W. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Hants and Isle of Wight, in the unavoidable absence of the Pro. Grand Master the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon. R.W. Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Pro. G.M. for Middlesex, officiated as D.G.M., and R.W. Bro. Hugh D. Sandeman, Past Dist. G.M. of Bengal, as P.G.M. There was a large attendance of other past and present Grand Officers and other members of the Craft. The acting Grand Master explained the cause of absence of the Pro. Grand Master, and the minutes of former meetings were read. A Communication from the M.W. Grand Master submitting and recommending an application from "The United Grand Lodge of Victoria" for recognition was made, and it appearing that out of a total of 142 lodges, belonging to various jurisdictions in that Colony, only two had not joined the new Grand Lodge, the request was granted with the distinct understanding that the said two lodges continuing to desire to belong to the Grand Lodge of England, should, nevertheless be acknowledged and recognised by the new body. W. Bro. Philbrick supported the application, wishing the new Grand Lodge every masonic success, and the motion was carried amidst applause. It was then announced that His Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master had, subject to the recognition which had just been made, acceded to the request of the Grand Lodge of Victoria that he should become their Patron. This was also received with expressions of satisfaction. W. Bro. Thomas Fenn, President of the Board of General Purposes, was re-invested on re-appointment. The Colonial Board were nominated and elected as follows:—by the M.W.G.M., Bros. Lieut.-Col. Harding, Chairman; Hugh D. Sandeman and Brackstone Baker, members; and by Grand Lodge, Bros. Col. Frederick Gadsden (Madras), P.M. 434; Capt. Thomas Charles Walls, W.M. 1656; James Brett, P.M. 177; Reginald St. A. Roumieu, P.M. 1537; Albert Escott, P.M. 1539; John Speight Cumberland, P.M. 2128; and Lennox Browne, W.M. 2256.

The following were declared duly elected on the Committee of Management for the Royal Benevolent Institution:—Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, P.M. 733; Hugh Cotter, P.M. 554; J. E. Dawson, P.M., 404; C. G. Dille, P.M. 1155; Major A. Durrant, P.M. 569; C. Kempton, P.M. 1287; A. H. Tattershall, P.M. 140; I. Dixon, P.M. 1567; R. Griggs, P.M. 228; and Wm. Henry Hubbert, P.M. 1625. and the Grand Master appointed the following brethren on the same Committee:—Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Jabez Hogg, Robert Turtle Pigott, D.C.L.; Dep.-Insp.-Gen. Thomas Purchas, M.D., R.N.; Frederick Mead, Thomas George Bullen, James Brett, Henry Garrod; William Henry Perryman, and David Dixon Mercer.

The report of the Board of Benevolence was received and the whole of the grants specified in the Agenda (see page 195), and amounting to £810, were confirmed. The report of the Board of General Purposes was received and adopted, and a grant of £70 from its funds for the supply of coals to the inmates of the institution at Croydon during the winter season, was agreed to. Grand Lodge was then closed in form, and subsequently the result of the ballot for members of the Board of General Purposes was declared. The successful candidates were—Bros. T. Hastings Miller, W.M. 2192; Lennox Browne, W.M. 2256; W. A. Scurrell, W.M. 167; Capt. T. C. Walls, W.M. 1656; E. C. Mulvey, W.M. 179; Gordon Smith, W.M. 14; J. L. Alex. Monckton, M.A., W.M. 197; George Gardner, W.M. 2309; F. E. Pocock, M.D., P.M. 1891; Joseph D. Langton, P.M. 2096; George Read, P.M. 511; Tom Drew Bear, P.M. 1584; William G. Lemon, P.M. 165; and Henry Pritchard, P.M. 1415.

We Notify that:—

—THE WOOD FUND. Our brother, "The Druid," having severed his connection with the MASONIC STAR, has handed over to us his collection to this fund. If any other brethren are anxious or desirous of subscribing, and will send on their amounts to us, we will acknowledge and pay same to the General Committee on July 1st next.—THE EDITOR.

—The Election Meeting of the Lebanon Lodge No. 1326, W. Bro. E. A. Smith, W. M., will be held at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, Middx., on Saturday next, at 3 p.m. There are four candidates for Initiation, and also work in the Second degree. The Chapter attached to this Lodge holds its next convocation at the "Red Lion" Hotel, Hampton, on Saturday, 6th July.

—The twenty first anniversary meeting of the Mark Benevolent Fund will be held on the 24th July, under the distinguished Presidency of the R. W. Bro. Sir Lionel Edward Darell, Bart., Grand Junior Warden of Mark Master Masons for the present year. Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., secretary to the fund, will receive the names of brethren willing to act as Stewards on that occasion.

—The election meeting of the Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institution, of which H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, K.G., K.T., &c., is patron, and W. Bro. W. H. Saunders, P.M., Secretary, and in which a large number of members of the Craft are interested, will take place at Cannon Street Hotel, London, on Saturday next, the 15th inst. There are so many as 237 applicants for 25 vacancies in this noble Institution, which merits the general support of the British public, and more especially of that portion more immediately connected with our commercial ports and sea-board towns.

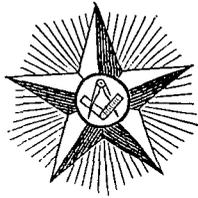
—The fiftieth Anniversary of the Consecration of Sutherland Lodge of Unity, No. 460, will be commemorated by a banquet at the Town Hall, Newcastle-under-Lyme, on the 26th July.

Press Exchanges and Books Received.

The Australian Keystone; Society; Voice of Masonry, Chicago, for June; Masonic Review, Cincinnati, for May.

The Masonic Star.

THURSDAY,



JUNE 13, 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 MARK BENEVOLENT FUND."

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

At the present time, when we have so much to cause anxiety to the donors or subscribers to our General Craft Charities (Girls, Boys, and Aged), it is very refreshing to contemplate the great good that is being done in a very quiet unostentatious way by the organisation known as the "Mark Benevolent Fund," which I notice is about to celebrate its Twenty-first Anniversary Festival at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 24th July next, under the presidency of Bro. Sir Lionel E. Darrell, Bart.

Some of the more striking advantages of this Institution are that the *entire cash donated is applied to the relief and educational purposes for which it is contributed*, and not sunk in expensive building speculations, nor wasted on secretaries nor collectors, the entire expenses for printing, postages and secretary's or office expenses (which includes everything), being only about four per cent. on gross receipts.

The boys and girls placed under the care of this benevolence are educated under home influence at such school as the parents or guardians select, at a cost of not exceeding £12 per head. They may be elected on the charity even during the life and health of both parents, if the parents are not in a position to afford a proper education for deserving children; or a grant may be made to enable a child to complete his or her education at a suitable or approved grammar school or training institution. And further, a grant of £5 per year is made to every child towards clothing.

The advantages of this home training cannot be too highly commended, as at this stage children are so susceptible; if sent from home, habits may very readily be contracted that may be very detrimental to them in after life, besides placing them upon a much higher social footing than their less fortunate (?) brothers and sisters, and, if girls, making them comparatively useless to a poor and struggling mother; for having been so long in contact with influences which they never could have in their respective homes, they have to undergo the unpleasant process of climbing down to the family level upon their return home.

The conditions of eligibility for the ANNUITY FUND are most considerably drafted, and yet in such careful terms as to prevent the funds being squandered on such candidates as do not require or deserve such assistance.

A Benevolent Fund is also in active operation, for the purpose of granting present, prompt and liberal relief to the distressed brother or widow, which is widely recognised as only second to our Grand Craft Lodge Fund of Benevolence. I would respectfully urge Mark Master Masons, especially at the present time, to bear this admirable charity in mind, and give liberally at the forthcoming festival.

All necessary information can be had at the office, 8A, Red Lion Square, from the indefatigable secretary, Bro. C. F. Matier.

Others, also, who are not Mark Masons, but who are disposed to contribute to a charity having the lowest possible outlay for office expenses, and no other expenses whatever, all the executive duties being done voluntarily.

Hoping you will excuse me for troubling you at this time when your space must be so fully occupied,

Yours very fraternally,

"LIFE GOVERNOR" M.B.F.

THE BOARD OF INSTALLED MASTERS.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I thought I had done with correspondence on Masonic subjects, but the enquiring epoch has evidently arrived.

I see a letter in your issue of January 24th last, signed "W.M.," anent a Board of Installed Masters, to which you promised an answer "next week." Unfortunately, I missed the answer, and cannot find the paper; but I should just like to ask how is it possible for "Grand Lodge," being partly composed of *Wardens*, to issue any order anent the constitution or formation of a Board of Installed Masters? Neither could the matter be discussed therein, unless all below the rank of Installed Master were ordered to retire, when, of course, it would no longer be a Grand Lodge, as per Constitutions, nor can I see any power given to the Board of General Purposes in the Bk. of C., *in re* ritual.

There is difference of opinion as to the mode, formula, and ritual in this province, and possibly in others, but who is competent to decide?

Some years ago I had the opinion of Bro. Fenn on the subject, but when I put the further question as to the proper time and mode of presenting the W.M. Elect to a Board of Installed Masters, the opinions got muddled!

I was on one occasion present at a somewhat amusing attempt to solve the difficulty. The W.M. Elect of a lodge invited his P.M.'s and W.M. to assist in selecting officers, &c., and to partake of his hospitality. After assembling he was asked to retire. The W.M. declared the brethren assembled a duly constituted Board of I.M., and the Senior P.M. retired and brought in the W.M. Elect (our own host), and presented him as the chosen of his brethren; he was congratulated, asked to be seated (at his own board), and the dinner proceeded. That was certainly one way out of *part* of the difficulty.

Yours fraternally,

June 7th, 1889.

W. NICHOLL, P.M. 317, P.P.G.T., E.L.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

In your issue of 30th May "A. M. Prestwich" asks:—"Is it the proper thing for a W.M. of a Lodge to vacate the chair when he delegates to a P.M. the working of an initiation, passing or raising?"

A few years since a similar question arose in a Lodge in this Province, and was referred to a Grand Lodge Officer of high rank and standing.

His reply, which was communicated to the various Lodges in the Province, was to this effect:—"That although it is permissible for the W.M. to delegate any P.M. to conduct or assist in the working of a degree, he (the W.M.) must not vacate the chair, unless he also quits the Lodge-room, in which case, Rule 141, Constitutions, comes into force, excepting where the I.P.M. or any senior P.M. waive their claim to occupy the chair." The above does not, of course, apply to Rules 142 and 143.

Yours fraternally,

Falmouth, 9th June, 1889.

P.M. 75.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I was very sorry to notice at the meeting on Thursday last that the assembled brethren were so much against the veteran secretary, while Dr. Morris escaped. Surely if Bro. Binckes is to be blamed for taking too much upon himself, the head master deserves something more than blame for the way in which the domestic arrangements have been carried out, as it was clearly his duty to attend to other matters beyond the mere teaching; and I shall not be satisfied, nor will many others, unless Dr. Morris resigns. The report states that he has been severe, which is letting him off very lightly; but beyond that it is evident that many of the matters touched upon by the report should have been reported by him to the House Committee.

I cannot say a word in defence of the House and Finance Committees and their gross neglect of duty; both bodies must be entirely replaced by brethren who will do the work in a proper manner, and not think so much of the social charms of the Boys' School Dinner Club.

The secretaries of our institutions have been made too much of, and they have been too well paid.

Bro. Binckes should retire on a pension, of say, £400 per annum, and the new secretary should receive £300 per annum, a sufficient salary for a post which requires no special knowledge.

Another committee of eminent masons should at once commence an enquiry into the management and working of the other two charities, as it appears to me that the Girls' School costs too much per child compared with other institutions.

Festivals for several years past have been so successful that we have lost our heads, and unless a reserve fund is formed, I can foresee the utter collapse of all three charities at no distant date.

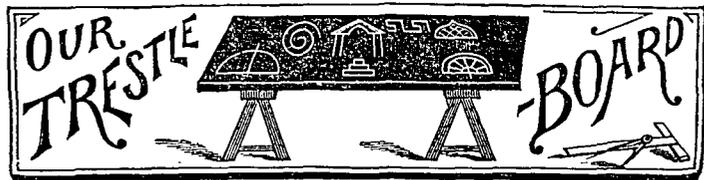
One thing must not be forgotten. We have elected the boys, and it is necessary, apart from all other considerations, that the coming Festival of the Boys' School shall produce ample funds for carrying

on the work, as there is now no fear about the funds being faithfully applied.

I cannot understand brethren withdrawing from the position of steward because the Institution is under a cloud; the funds must be found unless the Craft is to be disgraced before the world.

Yours, &c.

LIFE GOVERNOR OF ALL THE CHARITIES.



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

Grand Lodge a quarter of an hour late! The good old record of commendable punctuality, "the courtesy of princes" broken! As a rule the Quarterly Communications of United Grand Lodge are opened to the minute. An exception, however, must be taken in respect of last week's meeting, for it was fully a quarter of an hour after the appointed time before the procession of Grand Officers entered the temple. We call attention to this exception in the hope that the rule may be in future again honoured by strict observance; for delay adds greatly to the not unnatural impatience of brethren who, more frequently now than in former days, must attend very early to secure the places to which they have become accustomed.

* * * * *

The impatience referred to would be greatly modified if the hint we have before now given, at the request of many brethren, could be acted upon. There is an excellent organ in the temple, and each year there is appointed to the honourable office of Grand Organist a brother of recognised talent in the musical world. Why should he not give the members of Grand Lodge a taste of his quality on each of the four occasions when Grand Lodge "communicates" during his term of office? The occupants of the "floor of the house" can only take it for granted that the ability of the recipient of the Grand Master's favour is such as to render him worthy of a position on the dais; for the practical evidence of musical attainments has been always wanting on the occasions referred to.

* * * * *

Stay! there was one exception, though, to that rule; and we remember expressing in our pages the great gratification with which the assembling brethren then listened to a substitute organist who officiated for the Grand Organist whilst that functionary was at Grand Officers' mess. By all means let the appointed officer enjoy all the privileges attaching to his exalted position; but, at the same time, if he cannot attend himself he should arrange, as on the occasion we refer to, for an effective substitute. To have a Grand Organist and to get no music is something of an anomaly. Let us have some performance, even if it be only of the "common or garden" variety.

* * * * *

Did the brethren who took their places in the Temple on the 6th inst., prior to entry of the Grand Lodge procession, note the solitary occupant of the otherwise, temporarily, "beggarly account of empty benches"? He "sat in silent solitude, and there was no one near" as the fine old song has it. The elect of the Craft, he nevertheless, like the Peri at the gate of Eden, sat disconsolate. We saw him for some moments, and we think we see him now, in the "Craft's distinctive purple" and a deep frown on his brow! He can't get in! Into what, you ask? Why into the aforesaid Mess, or Club, or whatever you may please to call it, which should be of the first to recognise practically the equality of Freemasons *qua* Freemasons, but it would appear really sets up distinctions. Like several of those worthy men who held the office before him P.G.T. has found that to be the "elect of the Craft" is not equal to direct appointment from the fountain of official favour. Clubs and Cliques, Cliques and Clubs, you have—and if not now, you will have—much to answer for in respect of many abuses in Freemasonry which help to bring the Craft into contempt!

* * * * *

Cliques and Clubs, and Messes—particularly Messes! Too much of this sort of thing surrounds all our Institutions, and the true principles of the Masonic Order are neglected in the rage for forming select coteries, the individual members of which may combine to "sit upon" other men quite equal to themselves in social position, but objectionable because they speak their minds and call things by their proper names. Should we be far out if we said that to "much of this sort of thing" may be attributed the unpleasant position in which some brethren connected with the R.M.I.B. now find themselves? We think not!

* * * * *

The Toronto Freemason, says *The Masonic Record of Western India*, "takes strong ground in opposing the present Canadian practice of transacting the business of a Masonic lodge in the Entered Apprentice Degree. As the rule now is in that jurisdiction, a brother who has only taken the First Degree can participate in the action of the lodge relating to the most important affairs. He has the privilege of voting for officers, of balloting for candidates, and even of casting his ballot for or against the affiliation of a Master Mason. The remedy for such an anomalous state of things lies with the Grand Lodge, which will probably sooner or later, make a requirement that all business of a subordinate lodge shall be done in the Third Degree. This will help to a better order of procedure, besides acting as a stimulus to a certain class of Entered Apprentices to move forward and take their places in lodge of Master Masons."

In reference to the foregoing paragraph it may be a moot question as to the advisability of changing the degree in which a Lodge can discuss and decide upon matters of business, in some particulars of which even a newly initiated brother may reasonably have a right to be a participant; but there can be no doubt that it is "anomalous state of things" which gives a very important privilege to a neophyte, who cannot by any possibility be in possession of sufficient knowledge to guide his mind aright in the selection of officers, or the acceptance of candidates. In those two respects at least none but Master Masons should have a voice. We have ourselves known of a member of a lodge carrying his own particular crotchet against the wishes of the majority of his brethren, who were Master Masons, by the help of F.C.'s and E.A.'s, who, interested in him personally, knew absolutely nothing of the merits of the question upon which he obtained their suffrages.

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.—"A" was exalted many years ago into Royal Arch Masonry, resigned membership of his Chapter and paid up all dues. Two years after such resignation he consents to his name being placed on the summons of another Chapter as a joining Companion, and in his unavoidable absence on the date of meeting is balloted for and unanimously accepted. Is he a member, and is there any sum due from him to the Chapter notwithstanding his absence on the evening of his election and on subsequent occasions?—A.W.M.

A.—He is certainly a member, and his joining fee and subscriptions are due to the Chapter which completed a contract voluntarily entered into by him in assenting to accept membership on a successful ballot, of the taking of which he doubtless had previous notice.

Q.—*The Bye-Laws of a London Lodge set forth that "the W.M. being duly installed he shall forthwith invest the Treasurer and Tyler and the other Officers of the Lodge." Acting on the strict letter of that Bye-Law the M.C. on the occasion of a late installation presented for investment, firstly, the Treasurer; secondly, the Tyler, and then the Wardens and Officers of appointment by the W.M. Was he in order?—R.F.*

A.—By such action precedence is certainly given to two brethren above two of the *principal* officers of the Lodge, which cannot be in accordance with our ancient regulations. The M.C. whilst feeling bound to give effect to the Bye-Laws of his Lodge was not wrong although he departed from usual custom. The written law to his mind had more force than custom had. The Bye-Laws were, however, improperly framed, and it is a matter of surprise that they should have had the approval of the then Grand Secretary. The framers may have thought that the Treasurer and Tyler being respectively officers elected by the Lodge in like manner as the Master had been elected, those officers should be invested before any of the Masters' direct appointments; but a reference to the Table of Precedence, published in the Book of Constitutions, would assuredly have set them right, and have prevented the possibility of such a solecism as that of investing the seventh officer of a Lodge before the second in rank.

* * A. M., PRESTWICH, will find in the correspondence columns of this number, a full answer to his enquiry in our issue of 30th May.

PROVINCIAL.

DERBYSHIRE.—On Monday last the festival of the High Peak Lodge of Freemasons—No. 1952—took place in the Town Hall, Chapel-en-le-Frith, when there was a large gathering of the craft from Buxton, Glossop, Chapel-en-le-Frith, New Mills, and other places. Bro. John Hallam (superintendent of police) was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by Bros. T. E. Jones and J. Lingard, and invested his officers as follows: J. St. Leger, S.W.; Dr. W. S. Anderson, J.W.; Rev. W. P. Stamper, chaplain; J. Broadhurst, S.D.; E. Walker, J.D.; W. Ward, I.G.; R. H. Hyde, treas.; James Whitehead, sec.; and R. Longden, tyler.

ESSEX.—LENNOX BROWNE LODGE.—A new Lodge is to be added to the register of Lodges in the Province of Essex, under the name and title of Lennox Browne, in compliment to that zealous brother. It is, we understand, to meet at Buckhurst Hill, a locality in which we opine it will find all the support and prosperity we wish it.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—The Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire was held at Tewkesbury on the 5th inst., the R.W. Prov. G.M. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, M.P., presiding over an assemblage of about one hundred and fifty of the principal members of the craft in the province.

KENT.—At the late annual festival of the Emulation Lodge, No. 299, at the Bull Hotel, Dartford, it was stated that the contributions of the Kentish brethren to the Masonic Charities amounted, in 1886, to £1,725; in 1887, to £1,920 16s. 6d.; and in 1888, to £3,688 11s., making a total amount for three years of no less than £7,334 7s. 6d., or an average of nearly £2,500 per annum. Well done, Kent!

LINCOLNSHIRE.—The Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire was held in the Masonic Hall, at Grimsby, on the 6th inst. The R.W. Bro. W. H. Smyth, D.L., Provincial Grand Master, was present, and was supported by a very large number of past and present

provincial grand officers. Every lodge in the province was represented, about 260 brethren being present. The statements of the Prov. G. Treas. Bro. C. M. Nesbitt; the P.G. Registrar, Bro. H. Watson; the P.G. Secretary, Bro. B. Vickers; and the P.G. Steward, Bro. H. E. Cousens, having been received, the Grand Master announced that the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master had been rendered vacant by the resignation of Bro. Major E. Locoek, whose failing health compelled him to relinquish the duties. He had intended investing Bro. Sissons with the office, but a family bereavement had rendered that impossible, and he had therefore selected Bro. James Fowler, of Louth, as his deputy. Bro. J. Fowler having been duly installed into the office, was presented with the hearty good wishes of all the lodges in the province. It was resolved to present Bro. H. E. Cousens with a jewel, in recognition of his services as charity steward during a period of two years. Bro. C. M. Nesbitt was re-elected treasurer. It was decided that the Girls' Institution should be the charity to receive the support of the province during the year, and Bro. H. T. Bellamy and Bro. J. Ward were elected Prov. Grand Stewards. The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested the prov. grand officers for the ensuing year. It was announced that Prov. Grand Lodge would next year be held at Sutton Bridge. Bro J. B. Morton, the W.M., and the officers of the Pelham Pillar Lodge, No. 792, entertained the visiting brethren in a most hospitable manner. By the permission of the Prov. Grand Master the brethren were subsequently grouped and photographed in their masonic clothing. The usual banquet took place in the Town Hall, 178 brethren being brethren.

NORTHUMBERLAND.—NEWCASTLE.—The Blagdon Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, No. 659, was consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Maple Street, Newcastle, on Monday the 27th ulto., by Ex. Comps. Col. Addison Potter, C.B., G. Supt., as Z.; George Spain, P.G.H., as H.; G. F. Charlton, P. G. J., as J.; Joseph H. Bentham, P.P.G.H., as S.E.; J. S. Wilson, P.P.G.H., D.C.; and John Nicholson, P.P.G.O., Musical Director. The Principals installed were Comps. James Eadington, Z.; Edward Forster, H.; and James Carmichael, J. The incidental music was rendered by Comps. John Nicholson, Walker, Whitehead, and Nutton.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—The Provincial Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire will be held under the Presidency of W. Bro. the Earl of Euston, at Huntingdon, this day, the 13th inst.

SHROPSHIRE.—WHITCHURCH.—The consecration of the St. Alkmund Lodge, No. 2311, took place at the Town Hall, Whitchurch, on Thursday last. The Provincial Grand Master the R.W. Bro. Sir Offley Wakeman, performed the ceremony, and was assisted by W. Bros. Rowland G. Venables, P.G.A.D.C., and W. H. Spaul, P.A.G.D.C., who subsequently installed the W.M. designate of the new lodge, W. Bro. C. L. Crump, P.G. Treas. After the appointment and investiture of officers, and the despatch of routine business, the Prov. Grand Lodge officers, together with the members of Lodge No. 2311, and their visitors assembled at a banquet, which was presided over by Bro. Crump.

GRAND MARK LODGE.—Bros. Berridge and Driver, the architects for the alterations of the premises, lately Bacon's Hotel, Great Queen Street, for the purposes of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, have received and submitted tenders for the work ranging in amount from £5,873 to £4,943. The latter, which is that of Mr. Lawrence, has been accepted. The improvements to the old premises comprise *inter alia* a hall capable of accommodating about 400 brethren, and there will be numerous private Lodge rooms throughout the spacious building.

Bro. the Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, Treasurer during the past ten years of the Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460, was presented on the 1st. Inst. by his Lodge, with a handsome Queen Anne chased silver Cup in token of high appreciation of regard, and the esteem in which his important services to the Lodge are held by his brethren.

THE altar is an indispensable portion of the furniture of a Masonic Lodge. On it lies, ever open in the Lodge, the volume of the Sacred Law, and the square and compasses. As a general rule it should be about three feet high and of similar proportions as to length and breadth. But the situation varies a little in the different rites. Usually it is in the East, in front of the Master's chair. It is a mistake to call the altar the pedestal, which is purely the Master's desk, and such a confounding of two distinct things is a remnant of the slovenly working of the early part of this century.—*Kenning.*

THEY HAVE NOT LIVED IN VAIN!—That Masonry, professionally embraced, does not reward the laborers in her vineyard with earthly treasures we have a forcible illustration in two of the most prominent Masonic characters of our age, who have given their whole life and spent all their mental energy to promote the welfare of the Craft. We refer to Theo. S. Parvin, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and J. W. Simons, late editor of the Masonic Department of the New York DISPATCH. Really touching are their remarks on this point. We let them speak for themselves. Bro. Theo. S. Parvin says: "Should our life be spared (June 7, 1887) to see the 'Ides of March,' we shall have then rounded out a full half century of Masonic service—more extensive and varied than has ever fallen to the lot of man. Becoming a Mason in the third lodge organized west of the Alleghany Mountains (1791) in March, 1838, we were the night we became a M. Mason elected secretary of the lodge, in which we were the only youthful member—under thirty-five years of age. From that night, save the two years' interregnum, till the organization of Des Moines Lodge, No. 1, Burlington, Iowa, in 1848, of which we were a charter member and officer, we have held a prominent office and served the brethren. Forty-eight years of active and official service in Iowa! A member of the conventions which organized the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery of Iowa; first Grand Secretary and later Grand Master; first Grand High Priest and first Grand Commander; we have never missed a session of the first, and only two (when absent from the State) of the latter, in all these years. We became a member of the national bodies—General Grand Chapter, and the Grand Encampment—in 1856, and for fifteen of these years an officer in the latter and serving on important committees in both. Whether our labors in these and other fields have served in any way to enrich our brethren and the order, 'deponent saith not,' but we do say we have impoverished ourself, and sacrificed therein time and talent which had they been devoted to the profession (law) of our early manhood, would have enriched us and those now dependent upon us. In some respects our life has been a signal failure, and it is too late in old age to remedy the follies of youth." On which M.E. Comp. John W. Simons animadverts: "We presume that most of the Elders—the writer among the number—have had a somewhat similar experience; yet now old, poor and sick, we have no shadow of regret for the labors to which we have devoted the best part of our manhood; for we believe that we have done something for humanity in promoting the stability and influence of our institution, and that when in the not far distant future we are laid away on the hill-side near our country home—which we sometimes look at with longing—the brethren will bear us in kindly remembrance and that we shall not have lived in vain."—*New York Dispatch.*

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) (2nd) THURSDAY, JUNE 13th.		
1076	Copper	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.
861	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.
(2nd) FRIDAY, JUNE 14th.		
134	Caledonian	Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street
780	Royal Alfred	Star and Garter Hot., Kew Bridge
R.A.C.	—	—
6	Friendship	Willis's Rooms, St. James's, W.
(3rd) SATURDAY, JUNE 15th.		
1195	Lewis	King's Arms Hot., Wood Green, N.
1641	Crichton	Surrey M. H., Camberwell
Mark.	—	—
205	Beaconsfield	Chequers Hot., Walthamstow
357	Chiswick	Star and Garter Hot., Kew Bridge
(3rd) MONDAY, JUNE 17th.		
1238	Gooch	Albany Hot., Twickenham
1506	White Horse of Kent	Holborn Vladuet Hotel
R.A.C.	—	—
1519	Asaph	F. M. H.
Mark.	—	—
239	Royal Naval	8a, Red Lion Square, W.C.
294	Royal Naval College	Ship Tav., Greenwich
K.T.	—	—
131	Holy Sanctuary	33, Golden Square, W.

No. of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE AND CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.
(3rd) TUESDAY, JUNE 18th.		
BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, AT 4—F.M.H.		
1339	Stockwell	Surrey M. H., Camberwell
1635	New Finsbury Park	Cock Tav., Highbury, N.
2191	Anglo-American	Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
R.A.C.	—	—
11	Enoch	F. M. H.
186	Industry	Ditto
933	Doric	Anderton's Hot., E.C.
1348	Ebury	F. M. H.
2021	Queen's Westminster	Holborn Rest., W.C.
R.C.	—	—
45	Oxford & Cam. Universities	33, Golden Square, W.
(3rd) WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19th.		
BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE, AT 6—F.M.H.		
700	Nelson	M. H., William Street, Woolwich
1332	Corinthian	George Hot., Cubitt Town, E.
1716	All Saints	117, High St., Poplar
2140	Huguenot	Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
R.C.	—	—
105	Cœur de Lion	8a, Red Lion Square, W.C.
(3rd) THURSDAY, JUNE 20th.		
HOUSE COMMITTEE, GIRLS' SCHOOL, AT 4.30.		
1320	Blackheath	Tratagar Hot., Greenwich
1681	Londesboro'	Café Royal, Regent Street, W.
R.A.C.	—	—
63	St. Mary's	F. M. H.
733	Westbourne	Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood

The night a brother is raised to the degree of Master Mason, he is launched upon the world—a finished Mason. Could we but fix in his mind that the ritual is but the alphabet upon which he is expected to build the temple of his Masonic knowledge, Freemasonry would become a subject of investigation, and would command the respect of the highest intelligence. The many would learn. Let us, my brethren, foster these means of making our membership the recipients of all that is good in knowledge that each may grow in wisdom's ways, and live as God intended man to live. *The Grand Master of West Virginia, U.S.A.*

COURTESY.—There is really no necessity that Masonic politeness should take the shape of intimacy and confidence. There is no obligation that requires it. There is no principle of the Order that makes it a duty. And yet the fact is apparent that many Masons on the evidence of a sign, grip or emblem, become strangely familiar. Many very undesirable acquaintances are made in this way that we find hard to shake off. All we are called upon to do is to treat the stranger within our gates with hospitality and that sort of courtesy that makes him feel at home and chase away any sense of loneliness that may haunt him. So far as the lodge is concerned, courtesy about which we hear so much, is really a very simple thing, and largely depends upon the officers. The hailing brother should not be examined with suspicious rigor where other testimonials are clearly indubitable. A brother can be turned inside out if he is only kindly handled. Then some Masters make it a rule to receive strange visiting brothers with a few words of welcome. If neatly done, it goes a long way to make the visitor feel comfortable. The Senior Deacon may make it very pleasant in the amiable way he seats a brother in the lodge. In our city lodges, where visitations are numerous, we are liable to forget the individuality of a visiting brother, and run through the preliminary duties and guarding tests with a sort of perfunctory coldness.—*Illustrated Pacific States.*

Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex.

R.W. BRO. COLONEL SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART.,
P.S.G.W. OF ENGLAND,
Representative from the Grand Lodge of Ireland.
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

30, Eardley Crescent, Earl's Court, London, S.W.
June 15th, 1889.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the TOWN HALL, TWICKENHAM, on Saturday, June 29th, at Three o'clock p.m.

By command of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master,
HOWARD H. ROOM, P.M., *Proc. Grand Sec.*

N.B.—The TOWN HALL is in the centre of the Town.

Banquet at the Town Hall, at 5.30, Cold. Tickets, 8 6 each, exclusive of Wine.

Brethren intending to dine are requested to apply for Tickets (with a remittance) to the Provincial Grand Secretary on or before June 26th, otherwise it will be impossible to make satisfactory arrangements, and in order to secure the comfort of those Brethren who have obtained Tickets, none can be issued after that date.

Trains, from Waterloo, 2.0, 2.10, 2.17, 2.20.; from Twickenham, very frequent. There will be a short Service at the Parish Church, Twickenham, at 4.30 p.m. (Saturday being market day at Twickenham, the brethren will not go to Church in procession or in Masonic clothing.) MORNING DRESS.

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All the features of a Club; certain accommodation by day, week, or month.

PRICES:
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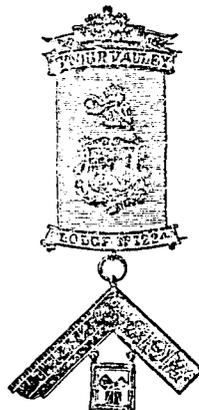
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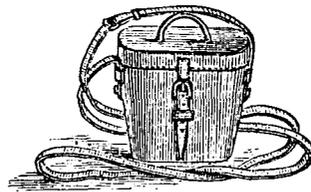
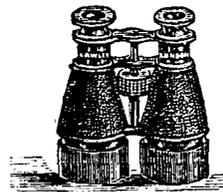
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