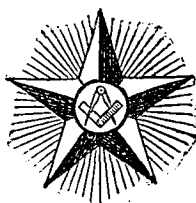


THE MASONIC STAR

A Weekly Journal and
At Home



Record of Freemasonry
and Abroad.

VOL. II.—No. 20.]

THURSDAY, JULY 4TH, 1889.

[CURRENT NUMBER 46.]

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The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

THE adjourned meeting of the General Committee of the Boys' School, which was the outcome of its meeting on the 1st ultimo, was held on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall, London. From the report which has reached us—we were unable to attend personally—it would seem that confidence in the ability of the Provisional Committee appointed by the Special Court, on the 6th June, to set all matters right again in connection with the administration of the School, is entertained by the great majority of those patrons and subscribers who attended such Special Court and shared in its deliberations; for these were absent on the occasion we now refer to, when something less than forty brethren attended—a strong contrast to the overflow which characterised the assembly on the 1st June. It is also apparent that those brethren who sought re-election on the House and Audit Committees, and did not admit that the Provisional Committee of Management was legally competent to perform the duties with which the Special Court had entrusted it, have taken a common sense view of the situation, and do not now persist in claiming presumed rights and privileges which would have been surely and sorely contested if any action had been taken by them in a corporate capacity. The question of election of the subordinate Committees was naturally introduced as an uncompleted business, but it was at once admitted that, rightly or wrongly, as opinions may be, the Provisional Committee had superseded them. The General Committee therefore continued the business comprised in the Agenda, receiving several petitions from new candidates, and placing same on the list of applicants for next election. One of the successful candidates in April last elected, through his friends, to receive the education grant of £20

in lieu of admission to the Institution at Wood Green, and the request was complied with. Beyond the granting of a few sums for outfits to ex-pupils on leaving the School, no further business was done. The next regular meeting of the General Committee is to be held on Saturday next, but under existing circumstances we presume the business to come before it will be of a merely formal nature, and, in anticipation of the action and report of the Provisional Committee of Management, no important proposition will be considered.

As we go to press, the Anniversary Festival of the Institution is commencing, and in common with many others of its best friends, we share the anxiety of the stewards who have been zealously working for some time past to secure a respectable total of donations for the support of the school during and after the ensuing twelve months. There can be but little doubt that such total will have been affected by recent events, and by the publicity given thereto as well in the general press as in the several Masonic journals. Still, we hope, and have reason to think, that the diminution, if any, from the average of the past two or three years will not be serious, and, if it be, that, nevertheless, more permanent good than temporary harm will be the result of the steps which have been taken to amend the general management of the institution. Whatever may be the issue of this year's festival in a pecuniary sense, one thing is certain, that the many causes for dissatisfaction which have of late—and much more so than many members of the Craft may imagine—hindered the flow of subscriptions from lodges and individuals, will no longer exist; and that under improved regulations and more stringently supervised instructions, the affairs of the institution will be restored to their former excellence, the strong affection of the Craft for "Our Boys" be further strengthened, and the deficits of the present made good by increased efforts and larger contributions in the future. The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys is not to be wrecked because some acknowledged and, we must admit, desperate abuses have existed which are brought to light, and are in course of remedy; and it should not now be further imperilled by factious disputation over matters which are beyond recall. To impugn in any manner the report of the late Committee of Enquiry is, at this moment, a dangerous proceeding, and should be universally condemned. What is absolutely necessary for safety is calm and deliberate action under the authority which has been conferred, and a patient reliance upon the judgment and experience of those to whom the conduct of affairs has been entrusted. And equally, should all desire for vindictiveness on the part of those offended—and all things considered having reasonable cause for offence—be dis-

couraged during the period which intervenes between the present and the date at which the Provisional Committee will meet a Special Court. They will know best how to mete out justice, and where to exercise clemency; and however much our public utterances have been in dispraise of actions and actors in connection with the recent past, and our pages may still continue to express the opinions of other brethren, we believe we shall not be misunderstood in counselling the observance of a discreet non-interference with the proceedings of that Committee during its exercise of the authority and powers with which it has been invested. In its turn it will have to submit its report to the Patrons and Governors of the Institution, and, as we hope, receive deserved commendation for what it may have done; and, on the other hand, its members may be sure that, apart from unnecessary fault-finding, any error of judgment or abuse of power which might attach to their decisions will be as firmly criticised as have been the errors and abuses they are now called upon to remedy.

QUATUOR CORONATI LODGE—No. 2076.

The lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Monday, 24th June, at 5 p.m., to celebrate the Masonic Festival of St. John in Harvest. The following members attended—Bros. W. Simpson, *R.I.*, *M.R.A.S.*, *W.M.*; R. F. Gould, *P.G.D.*, *I.P.M.*; W. H. Rylands, *G. St.* (*W.M.* No. 2), as *S.W.*; Jno. Lane, *P. Pr. G. Reg.*, Devon, as *J.W.*; G. W. Speth, *sec.*; Prof. T. Hayter Lewis, *P.S.A.*, *R.I.B.A.*, &c., *S.D.*; Dr. W. Wynn Westcott, *J.D.*; T. B. Whytehead, *C. Kupferschmidt*, as *I.G.*; F. H. Goldney, *P.G.D.*, Prof. W. Mattieu Williams, *F.R.A.S.*, *P.C.S.*, and C. Purdon Clarke, *C.I.E.* Also the following members of the correspondence circle, viz.—Bros. S. Richardson, E. W. Carus-Wilson, R. Roy, W. M. Graham, D. P. Cama (*P.G. treas.*), J. B. Mackay, R. A. Gowan, H. Tipper, Max Mendelssohn, G. A. Nock, C. E. Wright, W. Lake, C. F. Hogard (*P.G. Std. B.*), and J. Bodenham, *P.G.A.D.C.* Also the following visitors—Col. Marmaduke Ramsay, *Dis. G.M.* of Malta; Dr. B. W. Richardson, *P.M.* 2029; H. Warner, 2265; and S. L. Macg. Mathers, 195.

The lodge having been opened and the previous minutes confirmed, 3 lodges and 28 brethren were admitted to the membership of the correspondence circle, viz.:—The District Grand Lodge of Natal; Meridian Lodge, No. 1469, Craydock, Cape of Good Hope; and the St. Andrew's Lodge "Indissolubilis" of Berlin; and Bros. K. L. Christiansen, *Dis. G.J.W.*, Eastern Archipelago; A. R. Adams, *Dis. G.A.D.C.*, Eastern Archipelago; E. C. Harte and W. Porteous—all of Penang; Major J. B. Hendry, *M.A.*, New York; O. H. Bate, Barkly East, Griqualand; E. Hancock, Major J. R. Robertson, C. G. Serrurier, and B. Lapin, all of Johannesburg, Transvaal; O. W. Kauffman, Breslau, Silesia; A. Duncan, King William's Town, Cape; G. Beveridge, E. Hart, J. Lawrence and E. F. Lezard, all of Kimberley, South Africa; A. C. Morasso, *Dis. G. St.*, Gibraltar; F. L. Forsyth, *M.D.*; W. H. Scott, and N. L. Wilbur, all of Providence, Rhode Island; C. Hull, Christchurch, New Zealand; Lieut. Col. H. Fawcett Pudsey, Hull; C. H. O. Curtis, Bournemouth; H. Tipper, Hammersmith; J. Nevin, Clayton, Bradford; T. Hicks, *P. Pr. G.J.W.*, Cornwall, St. Columb; R. H. Singleton, Halifax; and Col. Marmaduke Ramsay, *Dis. Grand Master*, Malta. This raises the number of intrants to 660.

The *W.M.* referred to the publication since the last meeting of Part I. of the 1889 Transactions. It was a larger number than any previously issued, replete with interesting matter, and a credit to all concerned. The "Notes and Queries" department he thought would be very valuable; it afforded an opportunity for the preservation of matter which was perhaps scarcely fitted to form the basis of a paper or lecture, and he trusted that any brother, however inexperienced, who in the course of his reading came across a passage of possible interest, would make an extract for their secretary. Such a course would naturally entail the reception of much that was already well known, but although the Committee might decide not to reprint it on that account, the services of the correspondent would be none the less appreciated. On the other hand much of great interest might be brought to their notice and gratefully made use of. He would mention, as a curious coincidence, that the secretary had received for their next number no less than four or five notes on Chinese Masonry from different quarters. Further, since their last meeting, Vol. I. of Masonic Reprints had been issued by the lodge. The brethren would be pleased to hear that he held the written commands of the *M.W.* the *G.M.* to proceed to Marlborough House and present him with a copy of their publications to date. As soon as the volumes were decently bound for the purpose he should take the first opportunity of complying. Reverting to the "Reprints," he was of opinion that from every point of view, masonic, archæologic, artistic and literary, they were a credit to the editor, the lodge, and he would add, the craft itself. There was one feature of the book which deserved their especial attention. He alluded to the commentary on the *Regius MS.* by Bro. Gould. The labour and research involved in its production must have been enormous. He had read it through once, but he intended to apply himself to a study of it, and wished he could have Bro. Gould at his elbow to answer questions as they rose to his mind. He was informed that it represented nearly twelve months of research and hard work, and he wished to impress upon the brethren that all this study, thought and toil were rendered by Bro. Gould, freely, cheerfully and gratuitously, out of the abundant love he had for the lodge and its welfare. He would now go through the needless formality of moving a vote of thanks, and had great pleasure in expressing to Bro. Gould what must of necessity be the unanimous

feeling of the brethren, their gratitude for his work, and their appreciation of the result. Bro. Rylands supported the vote, which was carried by acclamation.

Bro. Gould said that he was very greatly obliged to the brethren for the compliment they had paid him, and he appreciated it the more on account of the kindly remarks of the *W.M.*, and Bro. Rylands, with which the resolution had been introduced to the Lodge. The task of writing a commentary on the oldest document of the Craft had been a formidable one, and in setting to work upon it, he had been forcibly reminded of one of those memorable utterances which Cervantes has put into the mouth of Don Quixote. The latter, in enumerating the qualifications which should be possessed by a Knight Errant, went on to state, in effect, that he should be a proficient in everything. In like manner, to do full justice to the ancient legends and traditions of masonry, any person who attempted to commentate upon them, ought to be, not only a student or antiquary of the Craft, but a scholar and archæologist in the widest sense of the expression. A close study of the *Masonic Poem* would have been incomplete, without at least some research into matters not at a first view absolutely connected with it. Thus, the literature, the language, the architecture, the history and laws, and the geography of Britain, had each claimed a share of attention. He did not venture to contend that in these collateral studies he had proceeded very far; but, nevertheless, in the time at his disposal, he had spared no exertion to qualify himself, as far as he was able, for the execution of the task which had been allotted to him. He thought the presentation of the *Regius MS.*, in *facsimile*, was the best of all possible reproductions with which a new series of their publications could be inaugurated, and if the commentary upon it should be deemed by the Lodge, he would not say altogether, but to some slight extent, worthy of its text, and no discredit to the channel of publication through which it had seen the light, he should be amply compensated for the time and labour he had devoted to it.

The Secretary described the preliminary arrangements which had been made for a proposed excursion to St. Albans in July, and handed round for inspection, a photograph of a boss in Peterborough Cathedral, forwarded by Bro. Clarabut. Bro. T. B. Whytehead read a very instructive paper on "The Grand Lodge at York," graphically describing in concise language its history as far as known. The paper is naturally far too long for insertion in our columns; for its study we must refer our readers to the next number of "Ars Quatuor Coronatorum." A long and interesting discussion ensued, embracing a number of points arising out of the lecture and of the photograph already alluded to, in which the *W.M.*, and Bros. Gould, Speth, Rylands, Goldney, Dr. Richardson, and Whytehead took part. A written commentary on the paper from the pen of Bro. Hughan was also read.

Hearty good wishes having been tendered, Bro. Col. Ramsay, *Dis. G.M.*, Malta, begged to thank the brethren, as a visitor, for the good work they were doing, and for the opportunity afforded him of being present at such an interesting meeting. He was happy to say, however, that through their kindness in electing him that evening, although he entered their Lodge a self-invited visitor, he should leave it a member of their widely-spread correspondence circle.

The brethren then adjourned to refreshment. As usual, the speeches were few and short, the brethren appearing to find more pleasure in Masonic conversation and discussion than in after dinner oratory. Noteworthy, however, were two speeches. Bro. Whytehead, in reply to "Prosperity to the Lodge," recounted his fruitless efforts to connect himself with Masonic archæology, a desire which he at length partly gratified by joining the Rosicrucian Society of England. Since, however, the establishment of the Quatuor Coronati, which he joined immediately after its formation, the outlook for an intelligent and intellectual Mason had considerably changed for the better. The example set by this lodge was spreading, and already Yorkshire boasted of two Masonic literary societies—one at Bradford and one at Wakefield—of both of which he was a member. The prosperity of the lodge was assured. The periodical issue of their transactions, the publishing of such a volume of reprints as had just seen the light, with the certain hope of more to follow; the industry, organising power, and energy of their secretary; the literary and scientific status of many of their members; and the extent of their correspondence circle—660 members in every quarter of the globe—made failure simply impossible. Bro. Dr. Richardson replied for "The Visitors" with all his well-known eloquence. He congratulated the lodge on its past, present, and future. The failure of all previous attempts at an analogous society, in some of which brethren then present had participated, had failed to frighten the founders of the Quatuor Coronati, and quite rightly so, for the repeated attempts proved the demand, and the failure was probably due to causes which No. 2076 had known how to evade or surmount. He had only lately become aware of their existence, and was indebted to his friend, Bro. Williams, for bringing him there. It was a red-letter day for him: the most enjoyable he had ever spent in Masonry, and he trusted that the indulgence of the brethren, when they came to examine into his qualifications, would soon place it out of his power to return thanks as a visitor.

BELGRAVE CHAPTER.—The installation meeting of this Royal Arch Chapter was held at the Ship and Turtle, on Friday, the 28th June. Comp. H. E. Coffin was installed as *M.E.Z.*, and Comp. J. J. Thomas as *H.* by the outgoing *M.E.Z.*, Comp. W. A. Scurrah, *Prov. 1st A.S.*, Middlesex, in a very able manner. Comp. Simner, the *J. elect* was unable to be present. The other officers were invested. There being no other business before the chapter, the companions adjourned to the banquet. Comp. W. M. Stiles, *M.E.Z.*, 19, *P.P.G.P.S.*, Middlesex, and Comp. H. Lovegrove, *P.Z.* 72, 1549, *P.P.G. treas.*, Middlesex, responded to the toast of the "Visitors," of whom there were more than members present.

The Masonic "Poet's Corner."

(Original and Selected.)

THE MASON'S VACANT CHAIR.

By Bro. JOHN FAWCETT SKELTON, P.M. 146 (Bolton), P.Z.

(Tune—"The Vacant Chair.")

We shall meet around our altar,
In the Lodge, upon the square,
But our bravest words will falter,
As we see his Vacant Chair.
'Twas as yesterday we met him,
Hand in hand, and heart to heart;
Oh, not soon shall we forget him!
Oh, 'twas hard for us to part!
Chorus—We shall meet around our altar,
In the Lodge, upon the square,
But our bravest words will falter,
As we see his Vacant Chair.

A belov'd and cheerful Brother
Was he who now has gone;
Hard to find we such another
'Neath our fix'd meridian sun.
Bright for him the same will glisten,
Wheresoe'er his steps may roam;
In his dreams oft may he listen
To the voices dear, of home.

Chorus—We shall meet, &c.

May he prosper 'mong the living—
May he never lack a friend—
May he have no dread misgiving
When his life draws to an end.
Like a good and faithful Mason,
May he join his Lodge above,
When his raptur'd soul shall hasten
From this world to worlds of love!

Chorus—We shall meet, &c.

DEAD!

By Bro. JOHN FAWCETT SKELTON, P.M. 146 (Bolton), P.Z.

(Tune—"The Vacant Chair.")

We shall meet around our altar,
In the Lodge, upon the square,
But our bravest words will falter,
As we see his Vacant Chair.
Clad in gloom are all our spirits,
For our Brother dear, is dead;
But his memory richly merits
All our praises, sung, or said.
Chorus—We shall meet around our altar,
In the Lodge, upon the square,
But our bravest words will falter,
As we see his Vacant Chair.

He hath done a Mason's duty,
He hath kept his jewels bright;
In yon Lodge of Heavenly Beauty,
May his spirit see The Light!
In the grave we all bewail him,—
Here his Lodge is left in woe;
May the Great Grand Master hail him,
Where all good Freemasons go!

Chorus—We shall meet, &c.

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

"MASONIC POET'S CORNER."

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

Your correspondent, "Friar Tuck," seems fond of hard words. What is the meaning of "Zenodochy," and why is there no "X" in the "Masonic A B C"? I suppose he thinks a Mason shouldn't be on the cross!

Yours fraternally,

Camberwell, June 28th, 1889.

JONAS SMITH.

* * * The word was unfortunately misprinted. It should be *Xenodochy*, which means "hospitality."—ED. M.S.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASONS OF MIDDLESEX AND SURREY.

The annual meeting of this important Province was held at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, on Friday, the 21st June. Nearly all the lodges were represented. The treasurer's accounts were received and adopted, showing a good balance in hand. The warrant of re-appointment of the Prov. G. Mark Master, Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., was read. Bro. F. Davison was re-appointed Deputy Prov. G.M.M., but was too unwell to be present.

Sir Francis Burdett appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Henry Lovegrove, G.S.W.; J. F. Griffith, M.D., G.J.W.; G. H. Wilkinson, G.M.O.; J. H. Thompson, G.S.O.; Nelson Plower, G.J.O.; Rev. R. W. J. Cator, M.A., G. Chaplain; Rev. G. H. Weldon, G. Chaplain; Charles Hammerton, G. treas.; P. Snillard, G. Reg.; W. G. Brighten, P.G.W., G. sec.; W. Heath, S.G.D.; J. H. Clare, J. G. D.; W. Lloyd Wise, G.I. of W.; T. C. Edmunds, G.D.C.; F. R. Hales, G.A.D.C.; W. F. Potter, G.S.B.; R. J. Chitson, G. Std. Br.; Charles Lee, G. Organist; H. Tipper, G.I.G.

An excellent banquet followed, after which Bros. Egbert Roberts and G. J. Dunkley gave some excellent songs.

IRREGULARITIES IN LODGES.

We quote the following instructive paragraphs from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the District Grand Lodge of the Punjab of the 13th April last.

In addressing District Grand Lodge, the Right Worshipful the District Grand Master, Bro. E. Woodall Parker, alluded to the examination of candidates before admission into the higher degrees, and said "that a sham examination, in which the answers were prompted to the candidate, was worse than useless, and made the candidate, as well as other brethren present, think lightly of our duties and obligations. The usefulness and impressiveness of our ceremonies were destroyed if candidates were not required to possess a thorough knowledge of one degree before they passed into the next; and any candidate who neglected the duty of submitting himself to instruction, should be remorselessly sent down, and his proposer and seconder reprimanded for their neglect. Indeed the Master was bound to insist on the candidate being properly prepared, mentally as well as physically, before entering the Lodge. The District Grand Master spoke at some length on the irregularities of procedure which has occurred of late in some Lodges in the district. He mentioned that in one Lodge the ballot had been omitted, by mistake, *before* and taken *after* the ceremony of Initiation had been performed. The excuse offered was that the Master in the Chair thought the ballot had been taken at a previous meeting, which was absurd, as the Minutes were present for reference. The re-admission of the candidate concerned in due course had removed the disability as regards him, but such an omission as that of the ballot should have been impossible."

"In another case, which had come to light, a candidate had been Initiated with only three brethren present, *viz.*, the Master and two Master Masons. The brethren concerned were old and not undistinguished Masons, and it was astonishing to find them pleading ignorance of the simplest laws and usages of the Craft. Had the Worshipful Master asked himself the question usual for candidates of the Fellow Craft Degree—'Where were you made a Mason?' the answer—'In the *body* of a Lodge *just, perfect and regular*,'—must have suggested itself to his mind. The volume of the Sacred Law makes it just, the number seven or more makes it perfect, and its warrant of constitution makes it regular. Not less than three Master Masons, two Fellow Crafts (or Master Masons), and two apprentices (or Fellow Crafts or Master Masons), must be present. In this case also, after due submission made by the Lodge, the candidate was re-admitted in a regular manner."

"Bro. Parker said that the last case which had been brought to notice was that of a Lodge which had, during the working, divided itself into *two* Lodges, and worked as such in different rooms,—thus forming an *imperium in imperio* of the most curious description. Certain brethren had been told off by the Lodge to go into another room and confer one degree, while the Lodge proper was working in another. Here also the question whether the second Lodge so formed was just, perfect and regular, must at once have settled its fate to any reflecting mind. Even supposing it had been made just and perfect, it could not have been 'regular,' with reference to Articles 120, 125 and 126 of the Book of Constitutions, as it had no warrant and had not been formally constituted; nor was the degree given in the '*body*' of a Lodge just, perfect and regular. It has been urged that the plan has the sanction of former practice, but no authority can be quoted. Now whether the brethren who went into the other room had been working in the same degree as the Lodge proper or independently in other degrees, their action was most unwarranted and improper, as there can be but one Worshipful Master and one Warrant for one Lodge, and the Master being present and the Lodge open in the Lodge room, all action elsewhere was irregular and void. It having been reported that at a subsequent Regular Meeting the candidates concerned had been re-obligated in a regular manner, and the Lodge having submitted an explanation and apology it was unnecessary to move further in the matter than to bring it to the notice of the Grand Secretary who would doubtless inform District Grand Lodge upon the rights of the matter. The District Grand Master was fully assured that the action of the Lodge in question was taken in good faith and without any intention to break through the laws and usages of the Craft, and was gratified to find that efforts had been made to repair the error and to avoid the disqualification of the candidates concerned."

SINCE many of our forms and operations are necessarily secreted from common inspection, the uninitiated will doubtless be apt to measure the worth of our Institution by the deportment of its members. This should serve as an incentive to every one of us uniformly to display in the lodge and out of it those virtues so earnestly and beautifully inculcated in it. Our Institution would be but weakly commended, and our professions of excellence but empty boasts, if our lives give not corroborative evidence to our assertions and prove the propriety of our encomiums. Masonry teaches, and has always commended the highest standard of moral excellence, yet sometimes a standing reproach presents itself to the Craft in the abuse by its members of the best faculties with which God has endowed man. It presents itself in various forms—profanity for instance, vulgarity, ingratitude, back-biting, intemperance, and even absolute drunkenness, and many other evil forms which bring the blush of shame to the good Mason's cheek. These things should not be, and I assert most positively that these vices are not learned or acquired in the lodge room. Temperance, prudence, fortitude, justice, brotherly love, relief and truth, are virtues that strengthen our moral natures when properly studied and practiced, and make the resistance of temptation easy and enable us to avoid excess. Yes, brethren, the lodge room is intended to make us wiser and better men and Masons, and our conduct in all the relations of life should convince the world of its good effects.—*The Grand Master of Arkansas, U.S.A.*

The Masonic Star.



THURSDAY,

JULY 4, 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.

"PAST MASTERS' COLLARS."

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

My attention has been called to a query and your reply in your issue of January 24th, 1889, anent this subject.

Although somewhat behind time, perhaps the following notes may not be considered out of place by those who want to know.

At the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, December 1st, 1886, it was resolved, on the recommendation or report of the Board of General Purposes, that *Law 307 should read:*

"The collars of the Officers and Past Masters of private Lodges to be light blue ribbon, four inches broad; if silver chain be used it must be placed over the light-blue ribbon."

And that Law 308 should read:

"The collars of the Officers and Past Masters of private Lodges are to be worn only in their own Lodges or when attending the Grand Lodge or their Provincial or District Grand Lodges as Masters, Past Masters, or Wardens."

The above was carried by 211 to 210 against my motion as eventually modified by the late Bro. Portal, viz.: "That the Master, the Past Masters and the Wardens of a Lodge shall be at liberty to wear their collars and jewels upon all masonic occasions;" and was duly confirmed at the March meeting, unopposed by me upon the distinct understanding that my motion, of which I had given notice, would not be ruled out of order in consequence (otherwise I would, of course, have opposed the confirmation of this part of the minutes); as a result, however, I carried by a very large majority, my series of propositions of which Art. 306a is the embodiment. But mark how the Board turn back on their own recommendations made and passed in December and confirmed in March. The Board reports, in addition to Art. 306a, at September meeting: they delete the words "and Past Masters" from line 1 of 307 as formerly passed, thereby taking the *plain blue collar* again from the P.M.'s, and in Art. 308 they again delete the words "Past Masters," as formerly inserted, from line 1, and also the same words from line 4, and report: "Rules 307 and 308 will then remain as they were *before December, 1886*, with the omission of the words 'Past Masters' in the fourth line of 308." The sum total of this is, by 307 and 308, a P.M. has *no collar at all*, neither in nor out of his Lodge, and in fact has no collar but as per Art. 306a (except as per 304 for Grand Stewards), and no officer of a Lodge can wear his collar anywhere except as per Art. 308.

If the B. of G. P. had left 307 as they passed it in December, 1886, the P.M.'s could have worn their plain-blue collar in their own Lodge, but now they cannot, and if they had left the words "and Past Masters" in first line of 308, as also carried in December, 1886, the said P.M.'s could have taken their plain-blue collar into

Grand or Provincial or District Grand Lodges, but now they cannot—they have only 306a to resort to.

I don't think the B. of G. P. intended this, and I am informed they or the G. R., or someone else, has already given a "*ruled*" that *plain blue without cord* may be worn; but no one has any such power under the Arts. as quoted above.

Yours truly,
W. NICHOLL, P.M. 317.

"PRUDENTLY AND WITH TEMPERANCE."

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

The above is the heading of a letter by "Ignotus" in your issue of 27th inst., in which he minutely, and with what seems to me asperity, criticises certain forms of expression I made use of in a former letter anent (what I considered) the unseemly manner in which the Special Court of the R.M.I.B. received the report of the Investigation Committee, their conclusions or recommendations, and also the very unfriendly and inconsiderate language used by some of the members of that Court.

In your footnote you express your agreement with "Ignotus" that "freedom from vituperation should be the characteristic of all masonic controversy." I also notice he uses the word "*vituperation*" in reference to the style of the masonic press for months past on certain questions which appears to have led him to doubt whether masons are even "as good as the generality of mankind at large," and you say you "know him as an able critic," and as I know you not only as an able critic, but as a lover of fair play and equal measures, I take your word for his ability; but, possibly, you will permit me to say I see no reason whatever for you to accept any chastisement at his hands. On my head be all the blame—if any. "*Vituperation*" looks a long harsh word in type, but upon referring to the best dictionary I possess I find it simply means *blame or censure*; but later on in your foot note you use another word which you seem to consider interchangeable—viz., "*inveective*"—but which I find has a very much stronger interpretation, such as "something intended to cast opprobrium, or it may be used contemptuously, or to convey infamy, and sundry other very disagreeable insinuations."

Well, Sir and Brother, how many of these epithets may be applied to the style and matter of my last letter, or howsoever many more of a like or worse character, it still remains as a fact that I was referring to your report in your issue of 13th inst., which I state is not very pleasant reading. If you will refer to the third paragraph, on page 216, of your report of the Special Court, line 17—I admit you will not find the words "Crucify him," but—you will find "*cries of sweep them all away.*" I don't know of any country, Christian or Jewish, where crucifixion is literally and corporeally practised, consequently my use of this formula had only reference to its counterpart at this meeting, and the well known record of the trial of Christ before Pilate, if the language was different, judging from your report, it could not be much less bitter. There is another counterpart in your report as to the secretary, in lines 8-13 of the same paragraph, where you speak in reference to some of the reports from Provinces. You say "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." I don't know that it is not even worse than its counterpart in the matter of the mock trial of Christ, and yet "Ignotus" objects to me styling those present an *infuriated mob*. Well, seeing that you were there, and he was there, and Bro. Brackstone Baker was there, who made a very sensible, prudent and just suggestion; and that Bro. Geo. Britten was there, who also made a conciliatory suggestion, though possibly at the moment a mistimed one; and the chairman, R.W. Bro. W. W. Beach, *M.P.*, was there, who conveniently, and I think, prudently, though unavoidably, did not catch the motion for a vote of thanks to the Investigation Committee; and that Bro. Controller Bake was there, who also made a very sensible observation; and that Bro. Harry Bevir, of Warwickshire, was there, whose name I trust will be handed down to posterity with honourable mention; and no doubt several other very well intentioned brethren, as Bro. Bevir's motion was carried, I will most unreservedly withdraw my expression of "*infuriated mob*," and apologize for my rash use of so unmasonic a term, and yet as you find it necessary to suppress some of Bro. Hawkins' remarks which you characterise as "*severe language*" expressed "in terms of great indignation," and refer to "*the confusion that ensued*" the passing of the motion for adoption of the report, it is difficult to select a suitable phrase to substitute. I will, therefore, describe them as "Ignotus" says they describe themselves—"Gentlemen"—with my apologies to you and thanks to "Ignotus."

Yours very fraternally,
VICE-PRESIDENT.

R. M. I. B.

To the Editor of THE MASONIC STAR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I must confess I am surprised at the tone of "Master Mason" in your issue of the 20th inst. Surely "to obtain peace by gentle means" should be the earnest effort of all good and true Masons, and much more so when the trouble is in connection with one of our much valued Benevolent Institutions. I can hardly see why such course "must surely fail." I rather think such course would be more likely successful than that he propounds.

Of course the "Court is divided into sides;" has it ever on all points been quite unanimous except in the desire to attain the best ends by the best means? But these are in themselves points upon which it is possible to differ, though I hope in a fraternal way.

Then "M.M." dogmatizes. He says, "If public confidence is to be regained the PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE must do" so-and-so. Well, for the sake of the Institution and Freemasonry generally,

(Continued on page 257.)

The "Masonic Star," Limited.

Incorporated under the Companies' Acts, 1862 to 1886.

CAPITAL £5,000, in 5,000 SHARES of £1 each.

Payable 2s. 6d. on Application;
5s. on Allotment;
2s. 6d. on 1st August.

*The Balance, if and when required, in Calls not exceeding 2s. 6d. per Share,
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Subscribers can pay up in full on Allotment, or on the date of any Call.
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on completion of the purchase.

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PROSPECTUS.

THIS Company has been formed to acquire the Goodwill and Copyright of the well-known Weekly Masonic Newspaper the "MASONIC STAR," the first number of which was issued on the 23rd August, 1888; and to continue its publication.

The paper was designed as an exponent of all matters affecting the Masonic Craft, as well at home as in the Colonies, and has now attained an important position amongst the Masonic journals of the world.

The price of the "MASONIC STAR" is One Penny, and it will favourably compare with other higher priced Masonic journals as regards the usefulness of its contents to the brethren at large; and it is expected by the medium of further publicity to increase its circulation.

The Directors consider that the co-operation effected by means of a large proprietary interested in the welfare of the paper will lead to that result.

It is well-known that publications carried on with energy and economy show considerable and increasing profits, and the Directors therefore have every confidence in recommending the Shares of the Company as a commercial investment.

Considerable expense and capital outlay have been incurred in the establishment and development of the "MASONIC STAR" of which the Company will have the benefit. It is anticipated that, from the position the paper has already attained, little or no further outlay will be required under this head.

Mr. JAMES STEVENS, the present Editor, will continue to preside over the Editorial Department, and so soon as the purchase has been completed he will join the Board as Managing Director.

The Directors will devote their special attention to the "Advertisement Department," and from the present connection, as well as from the numerous promises of support already received, they hope to considerably augment the revenue derivable from this important source.

The price to be paid to the vendors for the goodwill, copyright and stock is £1,500, of which £750 is payable in cash and £750, the balance, either in cash or shares at the option of the Directors.

The vendors will pay the expenses connected with the registration and formation of the Company up to the date of the allotment of shares, as provided by the undermentioned agreement.

The terms of the purchase are set forth in an agreement, dated 28th May, 1889, and made between THOMAS ADAMS, NATHANIEL COHEN and GEORGE BISHOP (trading as ADAMS Bros.), of the first part, JAMES STEVENS of the second part, and the Company of the third part.

Other agreements have been entered into respecting advertising which might be deemed to be contracts under the Companies' Acts. Intending shareholders will therefore be deemed to have waived any further compliance with Section 38 of the Companies' Act, 1867.

If no allotment be made the money paid on application will be returned in full.

Copies of the Memorandum, Articles of Association and the Contract with the vendors may be seen at the office, of the Company, or their Solicitor.

Applications for shares, on the annexed form, should be sent, accompanied by the amount payable on applications to the Bankers or Secretary of the Company.

Memorandum of Association OF THE "MASONIC STAR," LIMITED.

1. The name of the Company is "THE 'MASONIC STAR,' LIMITED."
2. The registered offices of the Company will be situate in England.
3. The objects of the Company are:—

To acquire the copyright of the "Masonic Star" newspaper and to publish the said newspaper.

To carry on the business of printers and publishers, advertising agents, stationers and dealers in copyrights.

To acquire by original registration, purchase or otherwise for the purposes of the Company's business as above defined, the copyright of books, newspapers, works of art, and all publications capable of registration as copyright, and to turn the same to account.

To sell and dispose of the undertaking or property of the Company with a view either to the division (subject to the necessary proceedings for that purpose) of the proceeds of sale in the form of cash, shares, or otherwise among the members of the Company, or with a view to retaining and re-investing such proceeds, and to purchase and sell any interim investments of such proceeds, and to acquire and hold under, or as incidental to, any such sale of the undertaking and property or the re-investment of proceeds of such sale any shares or property, notwithstanding that there may be liability to calls or other liability thereon.

To promote, subscribe to, and hold shares in any public company or private undertaking offering facilities for the purposes of the Company.

To acquire all or any of the assets and property, and to assume all or any of the liabilities of any other company, having objects similar to any of the objects of the Company, on terms of amalgamation or otherwise.

To enter into partnership or into any arrangement for sharing profits, union of interests, or co-operation with any person or company carrying on or about to carry on any business which the Company is authorised to carry on, or any business or transaction capable of being conducted so as directly or indirectly to benefit this Company, and to take or otherwise acquire and hold shares or stock in any such company.

To enter into any arrangement for sharing profits with any person or company contracting with the Company for the use of the Company's copyrights, or to take or otherwise acquire and hold shares or stock in any such company.

To purchase, take on lease, or in exchange, hire, or otherwise acquire any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges which the Company may think necessary or convenient for the purposes of this business, and in particular any land, buildings, easements, machinery, plant and stock-in-trade.

To make, accept, indorse, and execute promissory notes, bills of exchange, and other negotiable instruments.

To construct, maintain, and alter any buildings or works necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Company.

To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

4. The liability of the Members is limited.

5. The capital of the Company is £5,000, divided into 5,000 shares of £1 each, and the shares forming the Capital (original or increased) of the Company may be divided into different classes, to be held on the terms prescribed by the Articles and special resolutions of the Company, and so that the respective classes of shares may be subject to such preference and restrictions (if any) as may be prescribed by the Articles and special resolutions.

(Continued from page 254.)

I sincerely hope M. M. is not in supreme command of the PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE, nor of the Court of Governors to which they have to report.

The temperature of the atmosphere is somewhat oppressive at the moment, but as I peruse his five salient points of reform and retrenchment, I feel it will be necessary to keep myself under restraint, lest I may inadvertently say something to hurt.

His first MUST "make a clean sweep, &c." who are "the discredited staff" to begin with. The steward and matron have resigned; I suppose it does not make much difference to the doctor even if he be one of those "discredited." I cannot find that the under masters or servants are discredited. The collector is only overpaid; who else remains to be pensioned off? Does he call the Head Master discredited? Does he call the Secretary discredited? I cannot find it in the report or the resolutions; true, the Head Master is represented as very severe to the boys, and as weak and non-assertive with the steward, matron, and their staff; true, also, the secretary is represented as active, energetic, persevering, and, wonderful to relate, doing not only his own work well, but picking up odd ends of left undone duties of others, and therefore he has done too much! Who else is there to be pensioned? But this language, "make a clean sweep of the whole discredited staff," sounds mighty powerful and almost authoritative. Grand!

II. MUST. "Appoint a young and energetic secretary at a reasonable salary." Ah! It is the secretary he wants to be at, is it? He certainly puts it *very reasonable*—begin at £200 and increase by not more than £10 per year to £400—20 years' service before reaching £400!! Why does he not apply for the post himself? Is "M. M." not young? or not energetic? or would he not be worth half the amount even as his own master? I fear to know him more intimately lest I might learn to dislike him. If young, I hope he will improve in wisdom with years; if old, I beg of him not to trouble us with such absurdities. A secretary is not a mere clerk, as "M. M." seems to think.

III. MUST, though not in itself unwise, yet it would require to be attended to with great discretion to avoid the swooping down upon the Institution by the Charity Commissioners, for if we accumulate funds beyond present prospective requirements, they may take the management in their own hands. According to my opinion, our reserve fund should never exceed the amount sufficient to fulfil the engagements we enter into; in this respect "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" will be found a tolerably safe motto.

IV. "Reduce the cost," &c. Why, certainly we all want that, provided we can still have efficiency, but we don't want to "lose the ship for sake of a pennyworth of tar." "M. M." may rest assured this point will have careful attention.

V. "Frame rules for the New Committee to help them in their work." I think if "M. M." reads the rules and the bye-laws of the various committees, and the report of the Investigation Committee, even he would find it difficult to make very many new rules, or alter many of the present ones unless he makes one to fine the members of the various committees for absence or inattention to the trust reposed in them; but if the General Court showed more interest themselves, and were not quite so disposed to slide through the reports and routine on Court days in such a perfunctory manner, matters would very soon improve with committees and officers also.

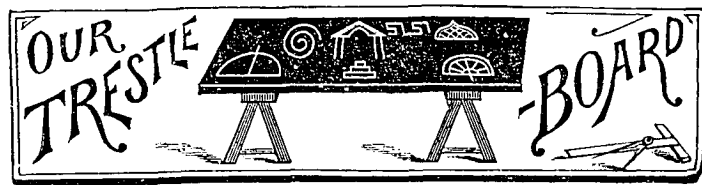
Please let us have no more such irritating communications till after the dog days are over, or when heat is conducive to comfort, and oblige,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,
A VICE-PRESIDENT.

Answers to Correspondents.

G. T., PORTSMOUTH.—Send us your postal address and we will reply by private letter. We cannot publish your communication as it is written.

ANNUAL OUTING OF THE STABILITY LODGE—No. 217.—The annual summer outing of this Lodge was held in delightfully fine weather on Wednesday, the 26th ult., at Sunbury. The party started from Waterloo Station, at 11 a.m., and, arriving at Sunbury, drove to the Magpie Hotel. They crossed the river by boat and rambled along the bank of the Thames towards Shepperton; after which, at 2 p.m., they sat down to dinner under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. W. Eckersall. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were briefly given; and Bro. Elgar, Sec., 1329, responded for the visitors. Bro. Marfleet, P.M., proposed "The W.M.," who in response expressed his great pleasure at presiding over such a gathering. This was, *par excellence*, a Stability Day, and as the elements were inviting them out, he would not make a long speech, but simply express his hearty approval of such a meeting, it being the only time that ladies were invited. There must be very little labour (and that of love) and very much refreshment.—Bro. Gorrie, P.M., proposed "The Ladies," and Bro. Nixon, P.M., Sec., humorously responded.—The afternoon was spent in boating and other excursions, and at 6 p.m. the party sat down to an excellent tea, after which the W.M. congratulated those present on the pleasant day they had had, and regretted the absence of Bro. Taylor, P.M., who was prevented by illness from attending. The evening having been spent near the river, the party returned to Waterloo, after spending a most enjoyable day, to which the host, Bro. Freeman, had added his share by his able catering. Among those present were Bro. W. Eckersall, W.M., and Mrs. Eckersall; Bro. Woolmer, J.W., and Mr. Woolmer, jun.; Bro. Hinks, Treas., and Mrs. Hinks; Bro. Nixon, P.M., Sec., and Mrs. Nixon; Bro. Marfleet, P.M., Mr. Marfleet, jun., and Miss Marfleet; Bro. Addington, P.M., M.E.Z. 1275, and Mrs. Addington; Bro. Gorrie, P.M., and Miss Gorrie; Bro. Finch and Mrs. Finch; Bro. Garner, Bro. and Miss Itter, the Misses Taylor, Bro. Hancock, Bro. Cowley, P.M. 1622, P.Z. 1275, and Mrs. Cowley; Bro. Elgar, Sec. 1329, and Mrs. Elgar; Mrs. C. H. Stone, Mr. Stone, jun., and others.



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

In this number of the MASONIC STAR will be found the Prospectus of the Company which has been formed for the purpose of continuing its publication, and increasing its usefulness amongst the members of the Craft, who have now an opportunity of securing for themselves some interest in the undertaking. It is not for us, in our editorial capacity, to enlarge upon the qualities of our journal—"on their own merits modest men are dumb"—but we may be permitted, without a suggestion of egotism or presumption, to record as facts the high appreciation of our endeavours to establish a popular weekly Masonic organ at a low price, and the unsolicited expressions of satisfaction with which our venture has been received, not only at home but in far distant colonies. These important factors in a successful career will now more than ever stimulate us personally to attain perfection, and to make the new Company's paper still more deserving of support. It only remains that such effort should be fairly seconded, and we have every confidence not only that it will be, but also that the opportunity for sharing in our labours and profits will be gladly welcomed.

We called attention in our last number to the proposed establishment of another Class Lodge, all the more objectionable to the Craft as connected with a political club. It is satisfactory to note that our London contemporaries are presumably of the same way of thinking as ourselves. At least, they give publicity to a letter on the subject from a Past Grand Officer of England, who considers that it "invites the serious consideration of every Craftsman who treasures the traditions of the Order as hitherto regarded in our country," and speaks of it as "a dangerous innovation, and not in keeping with the spirit of British Freemasonry."

It is to be hoped that "those members of the National Liberal Club who are Freemasons" will see the error of their ways before they attempt to raise up that strife which would surely follow the grant of any "charter or warrant" in respect of which there might be even a presumed connection of politics with Freemasonry. But, why doubt? Whatever the result of last Tuesday evening's meeting, when "a member of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, was to have made a statement to the brethren," we have our M.W.G.M. and his advisers between the petition and the grant, and can hardly conceive that past "traditions of the Order" will be held of no account by them.

Since the foregoing paragraphs were written, we are pleased to read in the *Birmingham Post* of the 1st inst., the following:—"Regarding the movement to establish a Masonic Lodge in connection with the National Liberal Club, I am told that some time since the Primrose Club—which, as its name implies, represents a very different partisan 'stripe'—thought of doing the same thing, but found the Prince of Wales inexorably opposed to the idea, as the Grand Master is afraid of Masonry becoming in any way involved in politics." We cannot doubt that our M.W. Grand Master entertains the objection herein stated, and that he will strictly uphold the traditions of the Craft by refusing to entertain any like proposal from "the members of the National Liberal Club who are Freemasons." Moreover, we hope that all future petitions from clubs, cliques, or classes may meet with rejection, in order that the equality of Freemasons *qua* Freemasons meeting as "brethren on the same level" may be maintained without disturbance.

We had an opportunity during the past week to spend an hour or two with *Sweet Lavender* at Terry's Theatre, and it was most satisfactory to notice the continued favour with which the play is still received by full houses, and the appreciation of the audience which the talent of the performers commands. Our provincial brethren visiting London could not do better than make the acquaintance of our Grand Treasurer, in his character of Dick Phenyl, in this charming and interesting original drama.

We have received, but too late for publication in this issue, some interesting information in connection with colonial matters, and more especially with the proposal to form a new Grand Lodge in New Zealand. We shall hope to publish the same in our next week's number.

We Notify that:—

—The King Solomon Lodge of Instruction, No. 2029, Bro. Richardson, P.M. of the Mother Lodge, Preceptor, will meet on Monday, the 8th inst., at 8a, Red Lion Square, London, at 7.30 p.m.

—The Knights Companions of the Provincial Grand Lodge of London and the Metropolitan Counties, of the Royal Order of Scotland, will meet in Council at 33, Golden Square, London, on the 13th inst., and subsequently banquet at the Zoological Gardens at 6.30, as advertised at page 261.

—The Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Middlesex will hold its Annual Convocation at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday next (6th inst.), at 3 p.m. Particulars are advertised at page 261.

—The West Smithfield Lodge, No. 1623, Bro. J. Brashier, W.M., will take its summer outing to Virginia Water, on Wednesday next, the 10th inst.

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE W. MASTER.

[COMMUNICATED.]

IT was said of the French army that "every private soldier carried a Field Marshal's baton in his knapsack," and it may with equal truth be said that "every Mason who has attained the third degree holds in prospective the Master's gavel," for it depends as entirely on himself in the latter case as in the former whether or not he attains the coveted position. But the object of this short essay is to try and ascertain who *should*, and who *should not* be elected to this high and responsible office, on which the future of each individual lodge, and, collectively of the whole Craft, hangs.

The Book of Constitutions only stipulates that the Master elect shall have served for one year the office of Warden (Senior or Junior being immaterial) in some regular lodge under the English Constitution, and that he shall have been elected by the votes of the brethren at a regular meeting of the lodge prior to the installation meeting, and presented to a Board of Installed Masters to receive the secrets of the Chair.

Let us, however, see if these qualifications are such as should suffice to maintain the dignity and ensure the future of that Grand Lodge of England which we so proudly claim as the premier Grand Lodge of the world, or whether the time has not arrived when our rulers in the Craft should require something more than the very limited directions of the Constitutions now demand.

A brother may be a most estimable man, upright, honourable, devoted to the Art, and even "word perfect in the Ritual, and yet be utterly unfit to be Master of his lodge, and yet he will claim by virtue of the *lex nonscripta* of custom to pass to "the chair." In the above description I have a special case in my mind. A short time ago I was present at a ceremony where the Master was all I have said, *but*, he was, from lack of education, utterly incapable of speaking the English language correctly. He was an enthusiastic Mason of many years standing, and a successful business man, but he had never repaired the deficiencies of his youthful training. Now on this particular occasion the candidate for initiation was a man of culture and a university graduate, and in spite of his endeavours to be serious the impression produced on him by the whole ceremony was simply grotesque. The grand ritual was rattled off at railroad speed (not a word being omitted, certainly, as the W. Bro. prided himself on being "word perfect"), aspirates were shaken freely into the compound, with the result that they usually fell in the wrong place, and the pronunciation of some of the longer words had the effect of a new and unknown language. Now, I would ask, was this brother fit to be the occupant of the Master's chair, and to maintain the honour of the Craft? The whole Masonic career of that candidate was spoilt by his first impressions. What solemnity could there be to him when the ceremony was performed by an utterly illiterate man, the division of whose sentences depended on the store of breath he could command! So much for one side of the question. Now take the other.

In another case under my notice, the members of a lodge placed a gentleman in the chair simply because of his position, and he only accepted on the distinct understanding that he should not be called upon to *work* any degrees, that duty being undertaken by a P.M. by no means conspicuous for ability. Both these cases show a state of things utterly wrong, and I am sorry to say that I *know* they are not exceptional.

Upon the stability of the foundation depends the stability of the structure, and we have a right to demand that when the cornerstone of a new edifice is laid in the N.E. it shall be laid by a Master Architect who is competent to produce for the purpose a stone of true die or square, modelled, wrought into due form, and rendered fit for its place in the intended structure; and not a stone rough and unhewn as taken from the quarries which will be liable to give way when any strain is put upon it.

My own experience was most happy. The Master from whom I received my degrees was one who not only *felt*, but *conveyed* what he felt, and I can remember no more solemn occasion in my life than when I took the S.O. of an E.A., and so, when I have heard an unfortunate candidate stumbling and blundering after a W.M. who gave this same S.O. in a manner totally unintelligible to one unused to the wording, I have felt the deepest regret for the loss he has sustained, and which no *future* experience can entirely replace.

The constitutions of the G. L. of Ireland *recommend* that no brother shall be installed in the chair who cannot work properly all the degrees, but we of England have not even this saving clause, and from the variety of private interests which must come into play in all things human, the members of lodges will not always be sufficiently strict in their choice, and the *educational* matter is a delicate question for *local* consideration, nor can the personal good taste and feeling of a brother legally eligible, be depended on in all cases to prevent him from taking his stand on the "equality of all M.M.'s," instead of standing aside as he should. In the interests of Masonry, therefore, it is time that there should be an addition to those Constitutions referring to the Master, providing that his "Presentation to a Board of Installed Masters" should not be a mere matter of form.

At present the said "Board" consists of the Past Masters of the lodge who are present, together with any other Masters or Past Masters who may happen to attend the installation; but the Past Masters of the lodge, even if their powers were extended, would not like to be too severe, nor would the P.M.'s of neighbouring lodges like to interfere to *revo* a W.M. elect.

What I would suggest to meet the difficulty is this:—Give the "Board of Installed Masters" a definite constitution and status, and definite powers.

Let it consist of a certain number of Brethren elected in each Province. They must of course be P.M.'s, and P. Provincial Officers, and of conspicuous ability and learning in Masonic ritual and jurisprudence, and all matters connected with the art; and of strictest and most unbiassed integrity. Membership of this Board

would naturally be the "Blue Ribbon" of each Province, and the highest recognition of Masonic culture the Brethren could offer the members. Their duties should be to attend at stated times at various places, chosen to be easy of access from the majority of neighbouring lodges, and there open their "Board of Installed Masters" under the banner of a regular lodge, and examine into the proficiency of all would-be Masters. They should make every candidate work all the degrees, and *rigidly exclude* those who could not do so in a proper and effective manner, and their decision should be *indisputable*, excepting by appeal to Grand Lodge. They should also instruct the candidate how to bring out the special points in the various addresses, so that the initiate may really have *some* idea of the meaning of the ceremony he is going through. If they find a candidate competent, the Board should certify to his lodge under their hand and seal that he *is* such, and hence a fit and proper person to rule a lodge with credit to himself and those who have elected him, and when the time comes for the annual installation, the members of each lodge should select their W.M. from those so certified. Personally, I consider that it would be advantageous for the W.M. when installed to receive a certificate of competency as an "Installed Master" similar to that issued in Scotland, but that would be a matter for after consideration. Of course there would be some few who would cavil about the necessity for so-called equality, and question adverse decisions, but every right-minded Mason would support such a Board as I have indicated, and I am sure the gain to the Craft would be immense.

We should have no Masters who either did not attempt to do their work, or who stumbled through it by the aid of a concealed Ritual; neither a Master who considers *speed* a satisfactory substitute for *grammar*. Those who are educationally unfitted for the Eastern chair should be content with that in the West or South, nor is there any unfairness in this, for he who would only hold himself up to ridicule by assuming a position for which he is unfitted, would *in* himself hold up the Craft to the same fate, and if he does not see this of his own accord, others should interfere.

Provincial Grand Masters also would find their difficulties in providing "Collars" for Past Masters largely decreased, for the number of them would be greatly lessened if every future Master had to "prove his title" instead of it being merely a question of time or influence, and at the same time, the value and dignity of the office would be greatly increased. It would be far better for the welfare of the lodges that Past Masters should be re-elected, than that a false notion of Masonic equality should place a new and unfit brother in the supreme office.

Why do not some of our more thoughtful Grand Officers and other Brethren agitate for this much-needed reform, and refuse to be satisfied until every future occupant of the chair of K.S. is, by that very fact, certified to be a master architect of our great masonic art in the highest sense of the word?

The brother who brings about this reform will be one of the greatest benefactors the Craft has ever had, and his memory will be held in grateful veneration as long as Masonry exists.

Press Exchanges and Books Received.

The Sydney Freemason; *Latomia*, *Neue Zeitschrift für Freimaurerei*; *Freemason's Journal*, New York; *Society*.

Bro. C. Woods, 1869, A Soj. 1275, was, on Friday, the 28th ult., elected chairman of the Organization Committee of the Teachers' Provident Society, in which he has taken an active interest for the past eight years.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE CANON PORTAL.—An influential and representative meeting was held on Wednesday, the 19th ult., in the Schoolroom, at Burghclere, for the purpose of agreeing upon a suitable memorial of the late lamented rector, the Rev. Canon Portal. The attendance included the Earl of Carnarvon (who presided), the Countess of Carnarvon, Sir Alexr. Arbuthnot, K.C.S.I., Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Fanshaw, Mrs. Arkwright, Admiral Herbert, Mr. W. Holding, Mr. Fox, Major-Gen. Maunsell, Rev. C. A. Sladan, Mr. Arkwright, Rev. F. C. Gosling, and Messrs. Rutherford, S. Wentworth, T. Hearn, White, Plenty, Pavey, Kelleway, Brown, and others. Lord Carnarvon, in explaining the object of the meeting, spoke at some length, and with considerable emotion. The noble Earl expressed his hope that they would be able to agree, without one dissentient voice, in the course they would adopt. He was quite sure there was but one feeling in those two parishes of Burghclere and Newtown, and indeed in all the surrounding parishes, namely, a feeling of respect and affection for the memory of their late lamented rector and friend, Canon Portal. It was about 18 years since Canon Portal came into that parish. He was one of his (Lord Carnarvon's) oldest, and he might say dearest, friends. He first knew him at Oxford, and from first to last there never was the slightest break in their friendship. When it fell to his lot to present Canon Portal with the living of Burghclere, he knew him so well that he felt he could not give them a better man, and the event justified that opinion. After referring to Canon Portal's work in the parish, and to the respect and esteem in which he was held, he proposed that the memorial should take the form of a painted window in the Parish Church of Burghclere. This resolution was unanimously carried. Our readers will hardly require to be reminded that the late Canon Portal was a Past Grand Master of Mark Master Masons of England, and the Colonies and dependencies of the British Crown; or of the great services he had rendered to the Order during his many years connection with it. It is to be hoped that amongst the several tributes which will doubtless be paid to his memory, as well in private lodges as in the new home into which Mark Masonry will presently enter as a Grand Lodge, the "suitable memorial" proposed to be erected in the Parish Church with which his ministry was identified will not be lost sight of by those who are attached to the Mark Degree.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex held its annual meeting at Twickenham on Saturday last. By the kind permission of Lady Freake, whose agent, Bro. J. K. Gwyn (1426), had devoted considerable attention to preparing the building for the reception of the brethren, the Town Hall was placed at the service of the Provincial Grand Lodge for the occasion, which in every respect was of a very interesting character. The spacious assembly room was lavishly decorated with choice plants and a profusion of cut flowers, tastefully arranged in every "coign of vantage," and which had been generously supplied by Bro. W. Poupart, of the Marsh Farm, who himself had superintended the arrangement most effectively. The Grand Lodge met under the banner of the Royal Hanover Lodge, No. 1777, Twickenham, and the reception of the brethren was extremely creditable to that nearly youngest lodge in the province. The Provincial Grand Master, the R.W. Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., P.G. Warden, &c., &c., presided, and was supported by his Deputy, W. Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.G.A.D.C., and during the meeting a large number of Grand Officers, members of lodges and visitors, were present, amongst whom we observed, in addition to those named in this report, W. Bros. T. Fenn, P.G.W.; E. Letchworth, P.G.D.; Glover, P.G.D.; F. A. Philbrick, Grand Registrar; R. Bradley, P.G.S.B.; J. F. H. Woodward, P.P.G. Sec. Middx.; Greenwood, P.P.G. Sec. Surrey; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; &c., &c.

The roll of lodges in the province having been called, and in all but one instance responded to by representatives, the minutes of the previous Provincial Grand Lodge meeting were read for verification, and the reports of the Audit and Charity Committees were received. W. Bro. G. H. Carter, P.M. 1702, was elected treasurer, and the Master then appointed his Grand Officers for the Provincial Grand year, and invested the whole in the following order, viz.:—R. H. Thrupp, Deputy P.G.M.; Edmund Yates, G.S.W.; Dr. Oswald, G.J.W.; Dr. Lingard, G.S.D.; Rev. E. Jones, and Rev. J. Nugee, Chaplains; G. H. Carter, Treas.; Howard P. Room, Sec.; C. S. Buck, G.J.D.; E. Rogers, G.J.D.; E. Monson, Jun., Grand Supt. Wks.; J. Lawrence, G.D.C.; C. Parsons, A.G.D.C.; R. H. Dillon, Std. Br.; T. Inglis, Std. Br.; H. W. Schartau, P.G.O.; W. H. Lee, Asst. G. Sec.; F. Chandler, G. Purst.; J. Weston, Asst. G. Purst.; J. Gilbert, Tyler.

On the proposition of the Provincial Grand Master, a sum of £15 15s. was voted to each of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions; and a sum of £5 5s. to St. John's Hospital, Twickenham. W. Bro. W. J. Spearing, P. Prov. Grand Treasurer, proposed "that a portion of the balance at the bank be invested," and it was unanimously resolved that £350 should be so applied. It was also agreed "that for the future the Masonic Calendar for Middlesex be prepared and issued by the Provincial Grand Secretary at the primary cost of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and that all monies received from the sale of copies shall be placed to the credit of the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge." In the address of the Provincial Grand Master in support of this proposal, opportunity was taken to express the thanks of Provincial Grand Lodge to W. Bro. Henry Lovegrove, Past Prov. Grand Secretary, for his originating the publication of the Calendar, and for his past services in respect thereof; and to Bro. Howard H. Room, Prov. Grand Secretary, and W. H. Lee, Prov. Asst. G. Sec., for their present efforts in continuing its preparation and production. Thanks were voted to Lady Freake for the grant of the full use of the Town Hall; to the Royal Hanover Lodge, for the use of its furniture and the general reception of the brethren; to Bro. Porter, of the Sir C. Bright Lodge, for the use of the harmonium, and for musical assistance; to Bros. J. K. Gwyn (Lady Freake's agent), W. Poupart and R. W. Forge for their liberal services in the preparation and decoration of the hall; and, in anticipation, to the vicar, organist and choir in connection with divine service at the parish church, to which, on the Provincial Grand Lodge being closed, the brethren proceeded. The sermon was preached by the W. Bro. the Rev. Evan Jones, Prov. Grand Chaplain, the Vicar, who took his text from Romans xii. v. 1—"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." The offertory was applied in aid of the funds of the St. John's Hospital.

The banquet was served at the Town Hall, by Bro. J. B. Mella, of the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, and gave general satisfaction. After the cloth had been cleared and the customary loyal toasts had been honoured, that of "the Pro. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers present and past" was suitably introduced by the Prov. Grand Master, who presided, and received a response from the R.W. Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P. Provincial Grand Master for the Eastern Division of South Wales. The health of the R.W. Bro. Col. Burdett was drank with much enthusiasm, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master (Bro. Thrupp) having spoken of the eminent services to the Province in particular, and to masonry generally, which had been rendered by the Provincial Grand Master, and notably in regard to the great increase in the number of lodges which had placed themselves under his beneficent sway. On rising to respond the Provincial Grand Master was enthusiastically received, and it was some time before he could offer his acknowledgments. These were earnestly and sincerely expressed to the brethren, whom he thanked for their good opinion, which he trusted he might at all times retain. He had proved the pleasure which attended the loving goodness of the members of the lodges in his Province, and the lesson taught in Freemasonry that "to reign sovereign in the hearts and affection of men must be far more grateful to a generous and benevolent mind than to rule over their lives and fortunes." Twenty years ago he had been installed as their Provincial Grand Master, and whilst he had strength and energy to continue the efficient discharge of the duties of the appointment, he hoped to do so. "The Provincial Grand Officers" was the next toast proposed, the Prov. Grand Master stating that their elevation to Grand rank was in each case well merited by the

performance of good masonic work, and coupled the toast with W. Bro. Edmund Yates, Prov. G.S. Warden, whose efforts in the cause of literature had conduced to popularity in masonic and other circles. In brief but effective terms Bro. Yates responded on behalf of all his colleagues, and as to himself, remarked that whatever talent he possessed conducive as it had been to his own interests in the past, should be at the service of his brethren in his future connection with Freemasonry. To "The Visitors," with which toast W. Bros. Sir John Monckton, P.P.B.G.P., J. K. Gwyn, W. Poupart, and R. Forge were specially named, Bro. Monckton made one of his customary effective replies, and then "The Tyler's" toast brought the pleasant day's proceedings to a close.

We should not fail to mention that the musical portion of the entertainment under the direction of Bro. Edward Dalzell, P.M., 1549, P. Prov. G. Org. (who took the solo portion of the anthem at the church service) was more than usually excellent. With the assistance of Bros. James Brown, Frederick Bevan (who was in capital voice), and J. Kift, the selection of glees and songs was carried out in performance which left nothing to be desired. Nor should we neglect a short reference to the genial endeavours of the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Room, and of his assistant Bro. Lee, in personally supervising and arranging for the comfort and enjoyment of all who had the satisfaction of sharing in "refreshment after labour," and assisting in making this year's meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex the most noteworthy yet recorded.

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTIONS.

The annual distribution of prizes to the successful pupils of the Boys' School took place at the Institution, at Wood Green, on Thursday last. V.W. Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas., presided over the proceedings of the day, which under existing circumstances were not so enlivening as hitherto. It could scarcely be expected they should be, having regard to the possibilities of the future in connection with management; and a postponement—but that it is customary to have the entertainment just prior to the festival, and that the boys leave school within a few days after—might have been advisable. However, the best was done that could be to make the occasion agreeable to all interested and present. The official programme was a lengthy one, and we regret want of space for its reproduction in our pages. The presentations, with intervals for music, having terminated, the boys gave a very creditable exhibition of athletic sports before the company separated.

The General Committee of the Girls' School at its meeting on Thursday last, under the presidency of Bro. J. H. Matthews, received and adopted a report of the Joint Committee of the House, Finance and Audit Committees in the following terms:—

1. That the Audit and Finance Committee be resolved into a Finance Committee only, and meet monthly, or oftener, if necessary; and that their number be increased to twelve; three to form a quorum.

2. That in future the accounts be audited, and the annual balance-sheets prepared by a firm of chartered accountants.

3. That the cheques for all payments ordered by the General Committee be signed by two members of the House Committee and countersigned by the Secretary; that the signatures be given to the bankers, who are instructed accordingly.

The several alterations in the laws, rendered necessary by these recommendations, will be submitted to the next quarterly General Court for approval. Meanwhile, Messrs. Schröder and Chappelow, Chartered Accountants, are instructed to open a new set of books, from 1st January, 1889, and prepare the balance-sheet to the end of the past year.

Eleven petitions were approved at this meeting, making in all 50 candidates for nine vacancies in October next.

PROVINCIAL.

LANCASHIRE.—LANCASTER.—FORTITUDE LODGE, No. 281.—This Lodge celebrated the anniversary of St. John the Baptist by dining together at Bro. Longmire's, the King's Arms Hotel, Morecambe. Advantage was also taken of the gathering to present a silver salver to Bro. James Hatch, P.M., as some recognition of his services as treasurer to the Lodge during the period of 23 years. Bro. J. B. Shaw, W.M., presided at the dinner, and after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been honoured, proceeded to make the presentation. His address to the recipient was expressive of the sentiments of brotherly regard felt for Bro. Hatch by the members of his Lodge, and in appreciation of the zealous, faithful and impartial manner in which he had performed the duties of his office for nearly a quarter-of-a-century. Bro. Hatch acknowledged the gift and the honour it conferred in most appropriate language, and after descanting on matters of private interest to the lodge and to its younger members, said that he had selected a piece of plate rather than any other form of testimonial, that it might descend to his children and his children's children as a memento and an illustration of what masonry did towards him in 1889. The salver bears a suitable inscription, and together with the oak box in which it was enclosed was supplied by Mr. Robert Atkinson, of Market Street, Lancaster.

NORTHANTS AND HUNTS.—HUNTINGDON.—On Thursday last a meeting of the lodge was held at the Town Hall, Huntingdon. The Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, D.L., R.W.P.G.M., presided, and was supported by Bro. Butler Wilkins, W.D.P.G.M., P.G.S.B. About 80 members and visitors were present, including Bros. H. S. Smith, W.M., P.G.S.W.; J. Marson, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; B. Allen, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. (hon. sec.); John Smith, P.M., P.P.G.R.; J. W. Ingram, P.M., A.G.D.C.; W. H. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.R.; G. Hawley, P.M., P.P.G.R.; J. G. Green, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; J. G. Hankin, P.M., P.G.S.W.; A. Bunting, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; C. B. Margetts, S.W.;

C. H. Hodgson, chap.; A. E. Margetts, M. G. Maule, W. Conney, T. Scare, G. W. Ingram, &c. After the lodge was closed the brethren attended divine service at All Saint's Church, where a sermon was preached by Rev. S. Wathen Wigg, P.P.G., chaplain. At 4.30 a banquet was held at the George Hotel, at which a large company were present, and a grand ball was subsequently given to a numerous company of brethren, and their wives, sweethearts, and friends.

GLEANINGS.

SOME OF HUGH MC CURDY'S GEMS.—The man who lives for his fellow man is immortal, as he cannot be said to die who lives in hearts he leaves behind. No man can write the records of another's life. Every man writes his own record in the hearts and thoughts of those who knew him best. Too often it may be said of busy men, that they are too busy to be really helpful to those who need their help; too busy in the interest of self to give time or thought to the welfare of others. The more one lives in the thoughts and hearts of his friends, the less there is to be said of him when he is gone. Every voice is hushed—his life only speaks. No one is able to voice his best thoughts, nor to express his most profound emotions. —*Voice of Masonry.*

FREEMASONRY teaches brotherly love, and its adherents should endeavour to profit by and practice its teachings. There are, however, some Freemasons—in name only—who if you do them a favour or show them a kindness, will never forgive you. A proud, arrogant, mean nature becomes irritated at a sense of obligation, and instead of displaying a little gratitude, gives all the bitterness and malice in its composition full vent. Such a person realises his own littleness, and envious of those with higher aspirations, seeks to crush them. The three envious craftsmen received their deserts at the building of Solomon's Temple. No human institution has yet attained that degree of perfection which a much less eloquent orator is not able to paint. To experience the bickering, the envy, the strife, the discord, which too often arise among Masons and in lodges, casts our ideal oftentimes 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 men in every walk of life.

SECRET SOCIETIES.—Much has been written for and against the system under which secret societies are formed, and it is probable that the question will for ever remain unsettled. That many societies of this character have existed, of a highly objectionable description, cannot be denied; but their existence on the other hand has been justified by many of the facts of history and political conditions at various periods of civilisation. Where an inefficient police and an unsettled state of society existed, it is by no means extraordinary that confederations of this description should obtain: but in modern times, and in states where security of life and property prevails, they become superfluous. We have not at the present day to dread the unauthorized intrusion of lawless classes, but we still have to encounter the subtle and sapping influences of the priesthood of Rome, with their train of crafty reasoning and soul-killing arguments. To oppose these and other evils secret societies still continue as a necessity, and while scientific and social objects can be safely pursued in the broad light of day, it is still necessary to combat the influences of darkness and night by less open means. But, in one sense, Masonry is no longer a secret society at all; any man of good character is admissible to its Lodges, and entitled to participate in its secrets, its charities, and

its mysteries, and no true Maason need be ashamed to confess that he is a brother of the mystic tie. The cultivation of the human heart and its finer sensibilities is the object of the Royal Art, and in the accomplishment of this task all may equally participate. The means of mutual recognition are inherently secret in their form, and to the outside world they signify little or nothing; not so to the Mason, who, by the possession of certain signs and tokens, proclaims himself to be a man to whom special privileges accompanied by special duties have been granted. The majority of the Masonic fraternity are high-minded and noble men. There is a minority which shamefully abuses the rights attained through initiation, but this is by no means general. Freemasonry, as Bro. Dr. Mackey observes, 'is a secret society only as respects its signs, a few of its legends and traditions, and its method of inculcating its mystical philosophy, but which, as to everything else, its design, its object, its moral and religious tenets, and the great doctrine which it teaches, is as open a society as if it met on the highways beneath the sun of day, and not within the well-guarded portals of a Lodge.'

FREEMASONRY IS RELIGIOUS. — The recorded history of Freemasonry distinctly authenticates the assertion that it is religious. The historic Ancient Charges are not only religious, but positively Christian. This is entirely consistent with the fostering care which we know the Craft received during (for example) the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, from the Roman Catholic church, in Europe. Our Masonic brethren of the middle ages were not only almost exclusively employed in the erection of abbeys and cathedrals—edifices erected for distinctively religious purposes, but the various lodges were generally under monastic discipline, and presided over or patronized by monks of the time, who were more or less skilled in architecture. This double influence gave them a positive religious character, which has been continued through and beyond the transition stages by which the Craft passed from an operative to a speculative brotherhood, down to our own day. Plainly, our Fraternity grew up under pronounced religious influences, and had for its patrons ecclesiastics of the Catholic Church. Then, what we may be pardoned for denominating the creed of Freemasonry, is absolutely religious. This creed may be briefly stated in these words: Faith in God, Hope in Immortality, and Charity or Love for all mankind, but especially for our brethren in the Craft. The ritual of Freemasonry is also religious. The lessons which it inculcates are founded upon the teachings of both the Old and the New Testaments, which, together, as contained in the Holy Bible, constitutes the First Great Light in Freemasonry. The very language of these books is quoted in the ritual, and more especially the language of the New Testament, which is, *par excellence*, the gospel of love. If other evidence of the religious character of our Fraternity were needed, we might readily find it in the twin-facts, that prayer to GOD is offered in lodge and Grand Lodge, and that in these bodies Chaplains and Grand Chaplains are stately appointed to officiate at our devotions. But while Freemasonry is thus positively a religious institution (and yet at the same time is not a religion), and in its ritual draws most largely by quotation from the New Testament, it nevertheless has claims to a cosmopolitan and universal character. It aims to unite good men and true, of all religions, who are physically, mentally and morally sound, into one band of brothers, and in this aspect it is entitled to the highest consideration, since it seeks to bind together what men have put asunder. Religious zealots, and political zealots as well, lose all of their intolerance when they enter a Masonic lodge. But this does not indicate that Freemasonry is neutral in religion, but only that its teachings are such, from whatever source drawn, that they are acceptable to honest and fair-minded men of all faiths.—*The Keystone.*

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, JULY 4th. | | |
| 10 | Westminster and Keystone ... | F. M. H. |
| 1155 | Excelsior ... | White Swan Tav., Deptford, S.E. |
| 1288 | Finsbury Park ... | Cock Tav., Highbury, N. |
| 1383 | Friends-in-Council ... | 33, Golden Square, W. |
| 1445 | Prince Leopold ... | Three Nuns Hot., Aldgate, E. |
| 1539 | Surrey Masonic Hall ... | Surrey M. H., Camberwell |
| 1724 | Kaiser-i-Hind ... | Café Royal, Regent Street, W. |
| 1790 | Old England ... | M. H., New Thornton H'ld, nr. Croydon |
| 1950 | Southgate ... | Railway Hot., New Southgate |
| (1st) FRIDAY, JULY 5th. | | |
| 2233 | Old Westminster ... | Café Royal, 63, Regent Street, W. |
| (1st) SATURDAY, JULY 6th. | | |
| GENERAL COMMITTEE, BOYS' SCHOOL, AT 4. | | |
| 2182 | Sterndale Bennett ... | Surrey M. H., Camberwell |
| 2202 | Regent's Park ... | York & Albany Hot., Gloucester Gate |
| (2nd) MONDAY, JULY 8th. | | |
| 1366 | Highgate ... | Gate House Tav., Highgate |
| 1922 | Earl of Lathom ... | Greyhound Hot., Streatham |
| R.A.C. | | |
| 59 | Royal Naval ... | F. M. H. |
| 729 | Palmire ... | Horns Tav., Kennington, S.E. |
| Mark. | | |
| 44 | Florence Nightingale ... | M.H., William Street, Woolwich |

| No. of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE AND CHAPTER. | PLACE OF MEETING. |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| (2nd) TUESDAY, JULY 9th. | | |
| 167 | St. John's ... | Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead |
| S.C. 33° | | |
| (2nd) WEDNESDAY, JULY 10th. | | |
| GENERAL COMMITTEE, BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION, AT 4. | | |
| 13 | Union Waterloo ... | M. H., William St., Woolwich |
| 87 | Vitruvian ... | Bridge House Hotel, London Bdg., S.E. |
| 820 | Lily of Richmond ... | Greyhound Hot., Richmond |
| 1228 | Beacontree ... | Pri. Ro., Red Lion, Leytonstone |
| 1629 | United ... | F. M. H. |
| 1956 | Honor Oak ... | White Swan Hot., Upper Norwood |
| Mark. | Old Kent ... | Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall St., E.C. |
| R.C. | | |
| 67 | Sundholme ... | 33, Golden Square, W. |
| S.C. 33° | | |
| (2nd) THURSDAY, JULY 11th. | | |
| 1076 | Capper ... | Guildhall Tav., Gresham Street, E.C. |
| 1612 | Earl of Carnarvon ... | Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill |
| R.A.C. | | |
| 554 | Yarborough ... | Green Dragon, Stepney |
| 619 | Beacon ... | M. H., Masons' Avenue, E.C. |
| 813 | New Concord ... | Guildhall Tavern, Gresham St., E.C. |
| 869 | Dalhousie ... | Anderton's Hot., Fleet Street, E.C. |
| 898 | Temperance-in-the-East ... | 6, Newby Place, Poplar, E. |
| 1383 | Friends-in-Council ... | 33, Golden Square, W. |
| 1472 | Henley ... | Three Crowns, North Woolwich |
| 1716 | All Saints' ... | Vestry Hall, Fairfield Road, Bow |
| Mark. | | |
| 331 | Davidson ... | 8a, Red Lion Square, W.C. |

MASONIC DUTIES.—One of the important duties—and one we fear the most neglected—of one occupying the Oriental Chair, is that of visiting the sick, the needy, and those who by advanced years are enfeebled and unable to attend the meetings of their lodge. While it is all-important that a Worshipful Master should learn something of masonic jurisprudence, that he may not only govern his lodge with justice and equity, but also in accordance with the Ancient Usages, Customs and Landmarks of the Fraternity, and should know and understand his work (and see that his officers know and understand theirs) that he and they may be able to perform the business and work of the lodge in a creditable, solemn and impressive manner, it is also his duty, and not only his, but that also of his officers and members, to see that the sick, needy and erring (if any) are looked after, cared for, and admonished. We feel assured, and we speak from personal experience, that did officers and members only realize the pleasure and comfort the performing of this duty gave to those who are unable to attend the lodge on account of old age and affliction, they would much oftener perform it, though it might be at some sacrifice of time—though not of pleasure, for pleasure will result from the knowledge that they have given comfort and consolation to those suffering from age, sickness, and sometimes from the want of even the very necessities of life.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

REQUIRED.—A Matron, to enter on her duties on 1st August, 1889. She must be a spinster or a widow without encumbrance; between thirty and forty years of age; experienced in all domestic duties and in the control of servants; able to keep accounts; and a good manager. Salary to commence at £80 per annum, with board, &c. Full particulars may be obtained from the Secretary of the Institution, as under.

Applications with testimonials to be sent in to the Secretary not later than 12 o'clock noon, on Monday, 8th July next.

FREDERICK BINCKES, Secretary.

Office—6, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street, London, W.C.
24th June, 1889.

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

Provincial Grand Lodge of London and the
Metropolitan Counties.

THE Knight Companions will meet in Council at 33, Golden Square, W., on SATURDAY, the 13th July, 1889, at 2.30 for 3 p.m. precisely, and the R.W. Prov. G.M. desires the attendance of all duly qualified Brethren.

Names and addresses of Candidates with name of Chapter, must be sent to me not later than the 3rd July next.

The ANNUAL BANQUET will be held at the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, N.W., at 6.30 precisely.

By Order,

28, Golden Square, W.

FRANK RICHARDSON, *Prov. G. Sec.*

PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX.

The M.E. Comp. Col. Sir FRANCIS BURDETT, Bart.,
PROVINCIAL GRAND SUPERINTENDENT.

THE ANNUAL CONVOCATION of the PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER will be held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday, the 6th day of July, at Three o'clock p.m. precisely.

By command of the M.E. Grand Superintendent,

WILLIAM HENRY LEE, P.Z., Prov. G. Scribe E.

32, Shakespeare Road, Herne Hill, S.E.
22nd June, 1889.

Banquet at the Greyhound Hotel, at 5 p.m. Tickets 6s. 6d. each, exclusive of wine. N.B.—Companions intending to remain for the banquet are requested to send their names to the Prov. Grand S.E., with a remittance, before Wednesday, the 3rd of July, as tickets will not be issued after that date.

Trains leave Waterloo 1.50; 2.10. Arrive at Hampton Court 2.32; 2.48.
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The French are annoyed because the English and Americans close their stands on Sundays. For further particulars see July number of "HOPE." Do you "approve" or "disapprove" of the action of the Anglo-Saxons? Write word "approve" or "disapprove" on Post Card, put your name and address, and guess the number of Post Cards you think will be sent in.

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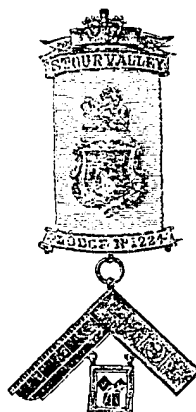
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