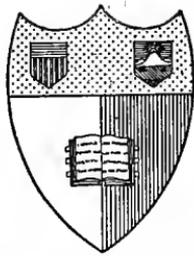




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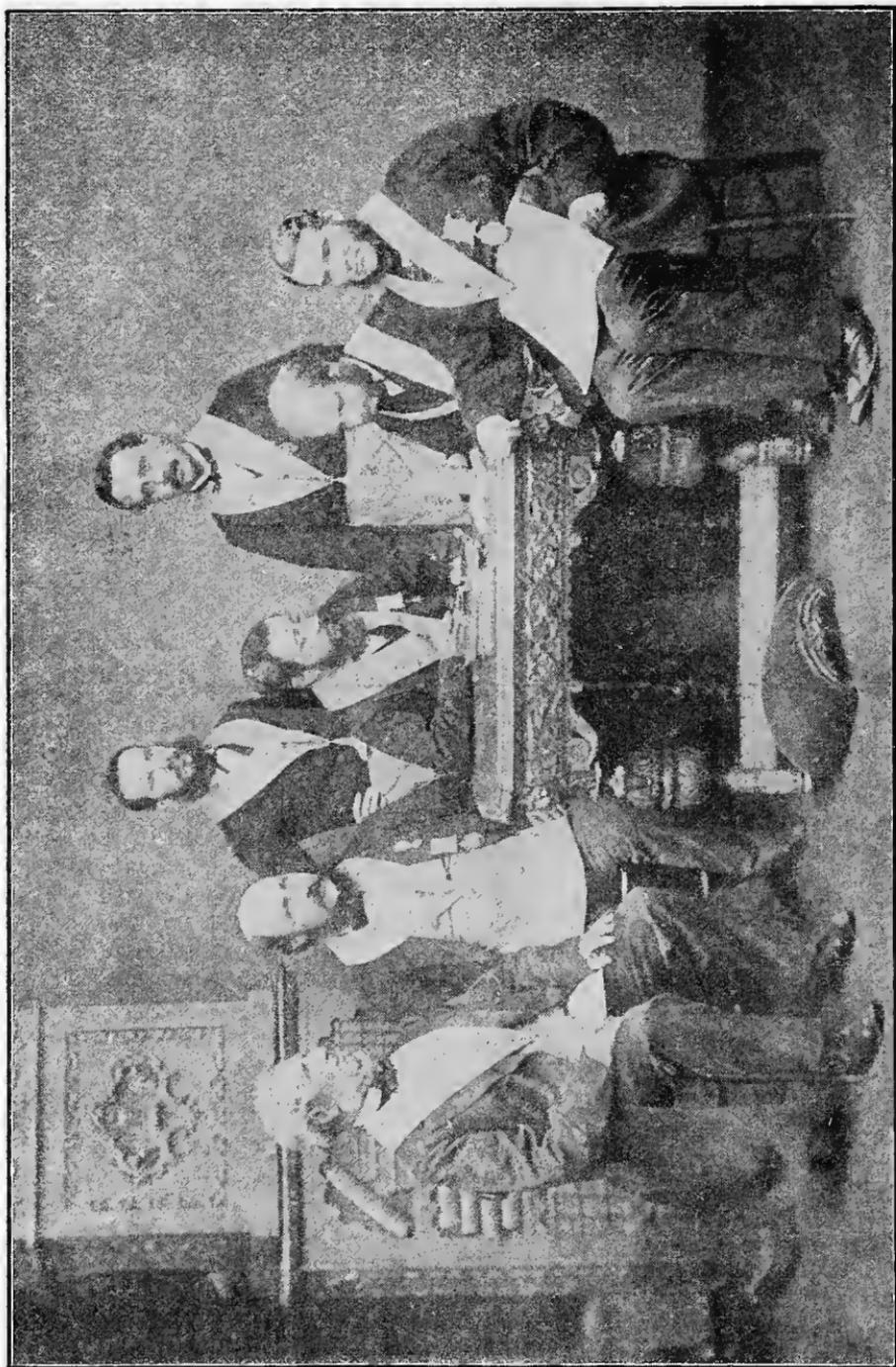
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SOME OFFICERS AND P.Ms. IN 1867.

HISTORY
OF THE
LODGE OF PROSPERITY
No. 65

Of the most Antient & Honourable
Fraternity of Free & Accepted
Masons of England

By BRO. C. E. FERRY, P.M. & P.Z.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
BRO. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN

P. S. G. D. ENGLAND P. S. G. W. IOWA
P. PROV. S. G. W. CORNWALL, &c. &c. &c.

SECOND EDITION



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TO THE
PAST MASTERS
OF THE
LODGE OF PROSPERITY

No. 65

THIS VOLUME
IS DEDICATED
WITH
THE MOST FRATERNAL REGARDS

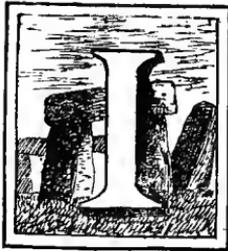
BY THEIR
OBLIGED AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

THE AUTHOR

“ The marble may crumble,
The pillar may fall,
But Masonry, Old Masonry
Shall stand after all.”



INTRODUCTION.



I AM always very pleased to co-operate with brethren who desire to write Histories of their own Lodges, especially with any such as Bro. Ferry, who has contrived to weave such an interesting account of his Masonic *Alma Mater*, out of sparse materials and mostly ordinary narratives.

The Historian of the "Lodge of Prosperity" has resolutely confined himself to the actual Records of No. 65, and though doubtless, often tempted to wander into by-paths, has thus kept

the volume within what he may deem reasonable limits. On the other hand, unless all the members are acquainted with a few particulars, at least, of English Masonic History, they cannot understand or appreciate the surroundings of the Lodge on its advent, as also during its existence to and including the year 1813. One most important object for which such an attractive work may be used, is to place copies in the hands of newly initiated brethren, so that they may be able to read for themselves, the more or less eventful past of the Lodge they have joined. Hence, unless a few words are devoted to the general subject, as indicated, they can but have an incomplete view of the matter, and be but slightly, or not at all, informed as to the great rivalry which divided the English craft into two opposing camps for over half a century.

Grand Lodges are modern Institutions; but there were governing Bodies for Masonic purposes, necessarily, centuries before the year 1717, when the premier Grand Lodge of the World was inaugurated at London, and the first Grand Master elected and installed. New Lodges, from that period, were rapidly constituted, old Lodges joined and took part in the fresh foundation, and by 1751 some 175 subordinates were on the Register, mostly working in this Country. On

17th July of that year, another governing organization was started in the Metropolis, known by the title of the "Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Old Institutions." Without enquiring into the reasons or motives of the founders of this opposition body, it will be sufficient for our present purpose to note, that this affectation of antiquity, and their being termed "*Ancient* Masons" assuredly contributed much to their phenomenal success, and when, later on, the supporters of this rival Society, obtained the countenance and patronage of many of the great and noble of the land, their Warrants were soon in request, especially from abroad and by Military Brethren.

In 1810, when the No. 68 was *re-warranted*, Brother John Lane computes that 299 Lodges were on the Roll of the "Ancients," of which 109 were either Foreign or Military Charters, 57 were domiciled in London, and 133 in the Country. In the same year, this excellent authority, in his "Handy Book to the Lists of Lodges" (1717—1888) gives for the regular or original Grand Lodge, a total of 561, distributed as follows :—London 82, Country 274 and Foreign 205.

The latter organization became known as the "*Moderns*" (though really the senior by many

years) and the former, the "*Ancients*" but when the 3rd Duke of Atholl became Grand Master, the "Ancient" designation was frequently changed for "Atholl Masons." The 4th Duke of Atholl occupied the chair, when No. 68 (now 65), was granted for London. His Grace, on the decease of his father, was admitted into the three degrees, installed as Master of the "Grand Master's Lodge," and elected as Grand Master, all in *one day*, viz: March 1st 1775; being some nine months before attaining his majority! He retired in December 1781, but succeeded the Most Noble the Marquess of Antrim, (who died in 1791), and was again installed as Grand Master on Jan. 20th, 1792; occupying that distinguished position until November 1813, when his Grace resigned, and H.R.H. the Duke of Kent became the M.W.G.M.

On Dec. 27th, 1813, the two sections of the Fraternity "joined hands," as well as hearts, and formed the "United Grand Lodge of England;" the so called "Moderns" contributing 388, and the "Ancients" 260, to the total of 648 Lodges.

The numbers on the United Roll were allotted alternately to the two quondam rivals, so that all the "Ancient" Lodges obtained positions on the Register in advance of their antiquity; thus

explaining the favourable status of the "Lodge of Prosperity," and others similarly circumstanced.

In evidence of the extraordinary growth of the Grand Lodge of England, particularly from the Grand Mastership of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales—whose interest in the Brotherhood never wanes—it may be pointed out, that though the Lodges were reduced in number to 591 in 1832, they gradually but surely increased, until the four figures were reached in 1861, and some 1,500 acknowledged the genial rule of the Heir to the Throne in 1875; the number now being augmented to over 2,000, notwithstanding the many Grand Lodges that have been formed of late years, as offshoots from the parent body.

The curious label "Lodge 91, AM. 5 P 23" has been aptly and correctly explained by Bro. W. H. Rylands, F.S.A., the apparently easy solution never having occurred to any of us consulted by Bro. Ferry, but my learned and courteous friend. Another peculiarity noted in the History remains to be elucidated, and that is the reference to the supposed Centenary of the "Kent" Lodge having been completed in 1821. Bro. Ferry considers that the present No. 15, "*previous* to 1752, no doubt met and worked according to immemorial custom, without an actual warrant," and

thus its origin in 1721 is accounted for. That, however, is not so happy a solution as the former one, and has no evidence whatever to confirm it. A much more likely explanation is, that in the early Calendars of the "United Grand Lodge of England" the years of the Charters issued to the "Ancient" Lodges were not inserted, but the spaces were left blank. Those of the "Moderns" were duly printed, the earliest noted being 1721, excepting the two of "Time Immemorial" origin. The members of No. 15, in 1821 doubtless assumed that the blanks meant *ditto*, (just as did the brethren of the then No. 17. "Ancient,") and arranged or wished to celebrate their Centenary accordingly, though fully thirty years in advance of the period. Possibly they were rightly informed in time, as the celebration actually took place in 1858, and a report thereof appears in the Freemasons' Magazine for May of that year. As to this point, and numerous others, concerning "Centenary Warrants and Jewels," Bro. Lane's work on that interesting subject may be consulted.

Brethren desirous of becoming more acquainted with the History of Freemasonry in England, 1717-1813, should study the magnificent treatise by Bro. R. F. Gould, and in relation, especially to the two Grand Lodges previously referred to, Bro. H. Sadler's able volume entitled "Masonic

Facts and Fictions," will be found to contain quite a storehouse of particulars on that subject.

There were in fact *four* Grand Lodges at one time in England; but that was but for a short period. Three, however, were in active operation for some years. 1. "Grand Lodge of England," 1717 (*London*). 2. "Grand Lodge of *all* England," 1725 (*York*). 3. "Grand Lodge of England, according to the Old Institutions," 1751 (*London*). 4. "Grand Lodge of England, South of the River Trent," 1779 (*London*). The second was started by the old York Lodge, which was at work in the Northern Metropolis from "time immemorial;" and the fourth was warranted by it, in consequence of an unfortunate split in the famous "Lodge of Antiquity," which, however, was soon healed and the new creation collapsed. The *York* Grand Lodge died out about 1792, and so did all of its subordinates, then or before, leaving no representatives whatever anywhere in the world. The real "York Masons" never had any connection with the "Ancients," though many have thought so (because of the claims made by some of the adherents of the latter body) and never granted any Charters out of England.

W. J. HUGHAN.

"DUNSCORE," TORQUAY,
13th February, 1893.

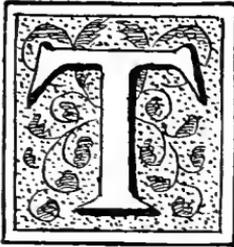


History

OF THE

Lodge of Prosperity

No. 65.



THE above Title is surely permissible even for so small a Volume as the present one, although a very important era, the first few years, is a blank to us; for it would only increase any possible regret to see the word "Partial" inserted in that title. But previous to 1823 we have no minutes or details of the ordinary proceedings of this Lodge, as unfortunately, those early minutes are not to be found; it is, however, a matter for congratulation that they exist from the year 1823, for it is only within

the experience of the present generation that a profound regard for the preservation of such matters has been fostered.

Some sixty years ago much carelessness prevailed, and old minute books were treated as lumber and often thrust away or destroyed; but it will be a great boon to coming generations to find that an improvement in the care of apparently unimportant documents has happily set in.

“Those things which now seem frivolous and slight
Will be of a most serious consequence.”

Earl of Roscommon.

There was a tradition existing amongst the elder Past Masters and Members of our Lodge, that it was established as an offshoot of the Kent Lodge, No. 15, formerly No. 8, but this tradition soon resolved itself into a reality after a little perseverance and research, for I then ascertained that all the founders were prominent brethren of the Kent Lodge, and that subsequently, members were constantly present at each other's meetings as visitors.

Bro. Andrew Brown, our first W.M. was initiated and “crafted” on the same evening in the Kent Lodge, No. 8, on 13th March, 1808; Bro. Bossy,

the first S.W. came from an Irish Lodge, No. 348, and joined the Kent Lodge in 1805; and Bro. Haynes the first J.W. was also an old member of No. 8. Bro. Geo. Collcott the first Secretary was initiated in the Kent Lodge, 27th January, 1794, and installed as W.M. on 27th July, 1795; rapid promotion apparently, but it must be remembered that it was then usual to elect the W.M. and appoint all Officers every six months. He continued Secretary of our Lodge from its commencement in 1810 until 1843.

This Kent Lodge is of respectable antiquity, and it is interesting to note that "Lane's Records" say that although their official warrant was granted to them in 1752, yet in their own minutes dated 10th April, 1821, they made arrangements to celebrate their hundredth year, making their origin extend as far back as 1721; therefore previous to 1752 no doubt they met and worked according to immemorial custom, without an actual warrant.

Our History commences with the fact that the Warrant numbered 68, issued from the Atholl Grand Lodge of "Ancient" Freemasons was originally granted on the 15th February, 1758 to a Lodge of Freemasons held at Portsmouth, of which Bro. Francis Mulhall appears to have been

the Worshipful Master. This Lodge at Portsmouth having ceased to exist about the year 1762, as I am informed that their last entry is dated 3rd. Dec. 1761, a new Warrant having the old number (68) and precedence, was issued to the founders of our Lodge, afterwards called the Lodge of Prosperity, on the 6th June, 1810, apparently upon the payment of Two Guineas. Bro. John Lane the authority upon "MASONIC RECORDS" and "LIST OF LODGES" says that the usual fee was five guineas, "their practice having been to re-issue the number of the warrant of an old Lodge that had become extinct, either to an existing or to an entirely new Lodge, on payment of a sum of money to the charity"— "in order to obviate the difficulty created by the Act of Parliament (39 Geo. III, cap. 79), and to keep within the letter of the law. The 'Numbers' and in many cases the actual 'Warrants' of dormant or extinct Lodges were assigned or delivered over to members of new Lodges in other localities, sometimes near, but in many instances very remote, and in neither case does it appear that there was any connection whatever with the former lodge, except in thus receiving its number." "Such a method of giving new Lodges a precedence over others of much greater age, was, of course, manifestly unfair." However, the Grand Lodge, of which His Grace the Duke of Atholl was M.W. Grand Master, by what has been called a "clumsy

arrangement" granted this new Warrant to Bro. Andrew Brown, and his two Wardens, to enable them to constitute a new Lodge, to be held at the White Horse, in Hare Street, Bethnal Green, a copy of which is here appended :—

Atholl, Grand Master.

Thomas Harper, D.G.M. M. Gillies, S.G.W. Thos. Mahon, J.G.W.

To all whom it may concern

We, the Grand Lodge of the most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the Old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness PRINCE EDWIN, at York, Anno Domini Nine hundred twenty and six, and in the Year of Masonry Four thousand Nine hundred twenty and six), in ample form assembled, viz., the Right Worshipful the Most Noble Prince John, Duke, Marquis and Earl of Atholl, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Strathray and Strathardle, Viscount of Ballquider, Glenalmond and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belveny and Gask, Constable of the Castle of Kincleaven, Lord of Man and the Isles, and Earl Strange and Baron Murray of Stanley, in the County of Gloucester, &c., &c., &c., GRAND MASTER OF MASONS, The Right Worshipful Thomas Harper, Esquire, Deputy Grand Master. The Right Worshipful Malcolm Gillies, Esquire, Senior Grand Warden, and the Right Worshipful Thomas Mahon, Esquire, Junior Grand Warden, (with the approbation and consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster), do hereby authorise and empower our Trusty and Well-beloved Brethren, viz., The Worshipful Andrew Brown, one of our Master Masons, The Worshipful Joseph Bossy, his Senior Warden, and the Worshipful Edward Haynes, his Junior Warden, to form and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons aforesaid, at the house known by the sign of the White Horse, Hare Street, Bethnal Green (or elsewhere)

No. 68.

in London, upon the first and third Monday in every month, and on all seasonable times and lawful occasions, and in the said Lodge (when duly congregated) to admit and make Free Masons according to the Most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Royal Craft, in all Ages and Nations throughout the known World. And we do hereby farther authorise and impower our said Trusty and Well-beloved Brethren, Andrew Brown, Joseph Bossy, and Edward Haynes (with the consent of the members of their Lodge) to nominate, chuse, and install their Successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant, and invest them with their powers and dignities, as Free Masons, &c. And such Successors shall in like manner nominate, chuse, and install their Successors, &c., &c., &c. Such Installations to be upon (or near) every ST. JOHN'S DAY, during the continuance of this Lodge, for ever. Providing the above-named Brethren, and all their Successors, always pay due respect to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise this Warrant to be of no Force nor Virtue.

Given under our hands and the Seal of our Grand Lodge in London, this sixth day of June, in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and ten, and in the Year of Masonry Five thousand Eight hundred and ten.

Robt. Leslie,

Grand Secretary.

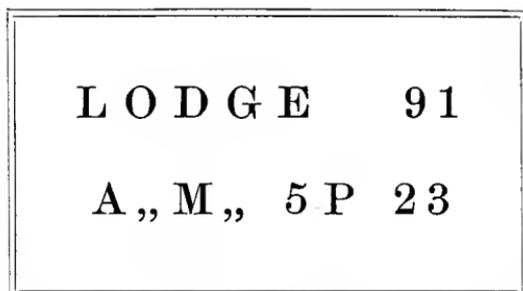
NOTE.—This warrant is }
Registered in the Grand }
Lodge, Vol. 3, Letter C. }
& E. 15th Feby. 1758. }



At the Union of the two Grand Lodges in December 1813, this "Atholl" Lodge was allotted the number 91, which it continued to hold until the year 1832, when owing to the lapse of certain Lodges, the Grand Lodge "closed up" the vacancies, and No. 91, which had quite recently adopted the distinguishing name of "The Lodge of Prosperity" received the number, 78.

For thirty years it continued to hold this number, but in 1863, many Lodges having ceased to exist, the vacancies were again closed up by order of the Grand Lodge, and the Lodge of Prosperity then became, and still remains 65, on the Register of the Grand Lodge of England.

Much as it is to be regretted we must now be content to make a stride over the missing details of thirteen years, and console ourselves with the fact that afterwards the Minutes are most exemplary. But before carefully noting the details contained in the first of our existing Minute Books, it will be interesting to take into consideration a peculiar item upon the outside. There we find a well and neatly executed red leather label, lettered in gilt, as follows :—



This label at first puzzled some of the most learned and eminent brethren in the craft, one suggesting that the P was a blunder for 8, meaning Anno Mundi, 5823 ; another that the

A M meant Ancient Masons or Atholl Masons, although this distinction was abolished at the Union in 1813. But instead of treating it as a “blunder” the distinguished brother, W. H. Rylands, F.S.A. gives the following as his opinion, especially as there were some Jewish members in the Lodge at this time.—“You are perhaps aware the Hebrew letters are used as numerals, and some Jews use the finial forms; taking these the P would stand for 800, therefore the 5 P 23 would represent the year A.L. 5823, or A.D. 1823.”





1823.

Bro. Gleed, W.M.

Bro. Hawkins, S.W. Bro. Attfield, J.W.

Bro. G. Colcott, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Dibbin

Horne

Workman

Smith

Evans

Hill

Taylor

T. Griffiths

Willson

Parsons

G. Griffiths

Medcalf



At this date the Lodge, consisting of nineteen members only, and known only by the Number 91, was held at the house of Bro. Burrup, a member of this Lodge, the "Angel and Crown," Spitalfields. As all business in London was then continued to a much later hour than at the present time, we are not surprised to find that this Lodge did

not commence until half-past eight or nine p.m., and the Masonic "Business" seems to have closed "in harmony" about half-past ten or eleven o'clock, when the adjournment from labour to refreshment generally took place.

That the latter, in Lodge No. 91, was far less luxurious than in our own day, there is no doubt whatever; for frequently about this date we find the Tavern Bill for the evening amounting to such sums as twenty-four shillings and ninepence; to forty-two shillings; and even to the modest amount of seventeen shillings. On the other hand any larger expenditure, so far as this Lodge was concerned, would certainly not have been judicious, for the balance in the Treasurer's hands, stated nightly at the end of each meeting, was generally very small; at the commencement of these minutes, say, seventeen shillings and fivepence only, and further on we shall find, often in debt to the Treasurer. Even in this early stage of the Lodge, however, our "distinguishing characteristic" begins to assert itself, for we find mention of Two Guineas being voted to be given annually to the Boys' School. The number of the members soon increased, and the notices for, and the minutes of Initiation follow in rapid succession, after which appears the intimation that Bro. So-and-so was "duly crafted," a term seldom used upon the

minutes now, and the "raisings" were generally chronicled as being very impressively done. On the 28th May, 1823, a "formal visit" was paid by the W. M. and fifteen brethren of the Kent Lodge ; a practice much more common then, than at present, and partaking of the character of "*visitations*" still customary in Scotland. Such is the general outline of the affairs of the Lodge at this date, and from such we gain a general idea of its time, its business, and its funds.



1824.

Bro. Brown, W.M.

Bro. Armstrong, S.W. Bro. Medcalf, J.W.

Bro. Glead, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Rippon

White

Grafham

Wayland

The Annual Installation nights at this period always fell during the month of January, and although the honour of occupying the Chair was always highly esteemed, it is more than probable that owing to the amount of the funds being so

modest, and the subscriptions so small (at this time about Eleven Shillings for the half year only), that the dignity of Worshipful Master carried with it a certain monetary obligation, as after the business of this Installation the Secretary gives the Master due credit by making the entry in his minutes that the Brethren "sat down to a good supper provided by the Worshipful Master."

The Lodge now being desirous of possessing a distinguishing title as well as a number, carried, in the March of this year, a resolution to the effect that it be called "The Royal Clarence Lodge," but at the next meeting, for some reason not mentioned, this portion of the minutes was unconfirmed, and the matter dropped for about two years. In May a vote was unanimously carried that Bro. Past Master Thomson be presented with a piece of Plate of the value of Five Pounds for his constant and unwearied work. In those days it was not always a point of honour for each Brother who filled the chair to master all the details of our ritual; in fact I have during the examination of old minute books come across an entry that "Bro. P. M.——be offered the sum of 10/6 per quarter to attend each lodge night and do the working in the three degrees, but that he generously offered to do it without payment, when he was at once made an honorary member

of the lodge ;” therefore such a working Past Master as Bro. Thomson appears to have well deserved some tangible recognition from the members, as the greater part, if not the whole, of the work in the three degrees, then, and for some years afterwards is recorded to have been performed by him, besides occasionally “lecturing” the Lodge in the three degrees. At Bro. Thomson’s request this testimonial took the form of a Past Master’s Jewel, which was duly presented and the Lodge shortly afterwards voted him a collar “to suspend the same.”

In the month of June all does not seem to be running smoothly, for a Lodge of Emergency was called to consider the advisability of removing the Lodge from Bro. Burrup’s house. After mature deliberation in the Lodge Room, the Worshipful Master selected a certain Bro. Crawley to go down stairs to the Landlord, Bro. Burrup, and desire him “to come up.” Possibly such a summons to appear before the tribunal of the three chairs was more than he could stand with firmness, and the delegate upon his return reported “his answer where he should not come up that night, and we where at our own obtiun to remove the lodge as soon as we thought proper,” and the painstaking Secretary thus chronicles the same. Therefore a ballot was taken with the result that the Lodge should be removed

as soon as convenient. After this another member, Bro. Taylor (probably of a more imposing external appearance than the first one) was deputed to again wait upon the Landlord to know if it would be convenient for the Lodge to meet at his house on the next Lodge night, but the answer from Bro. Burrup recorded duly and curtly was "by no means." The Lodge consequently decided, and, as will be seen, apparently in haste, that in future they should hold their meetings, at Bro. White's at the "Spotted Horse," in Shoreditch. These new quarters did not suit the Lodge for long, for at their next meeting night, which, by the way did not take place until nine o'clock, the members found the room so inconvenient for them that they formed a committee to see if any alterations were practicable in time for their next assembly.

Appeals for assistance from distressed brethren occasionally occur, and as a memento of the troubles of a past generation, it may here be mentioned that a brother Meredith implores the help of the Lodge, and of the Board of Benevolence, as he is confined as a debtor "in White Cross Prison"; but whatever assistance individual members might have been able to have afforded him, it is evident that the Lodge itself could do but little, as at this time the balance in the Treasurer's hands amounted only to £2 7s. 7½d. (on the next meeting

night, reduced to 12s. 9½d.) so that poor Bro. Meredith's release from "White Cross" Street could not be accelerated by Lodge No. 91.

A peculiar proceeding is noted this year, viz., that a Mr. Wayland was proposed as an Initiate by a visiting brother from Lodge 332, instead of by a member of the Lodge.



1825.

Bro. Armstrong, W.M.

Bro. Medcalf, S.W. Bro. G. Griffith, J. W.

Bro. Gleed, Treas.

Initiated :—

	Bros.	
Bowen	Hude	Swan
Beeton	Adams	Fry
Whittle	Whiffin	Leigh
Cash	Bush	Eagles
H. R. Whittle	Coppendale	

In February of this year the Lodge Funds were in a very precarious state, for the W.M. had summoned a meeting to audit the accounts, when it was certified that there was a balance with the Treasurer of £1 11s. 2½d., but the House bill for the same

evening amounted to £1 11s. 2d. ! However, rather than record the absurd surplus in the minute book (as was the usual practice at the close of each meeting), it was decided not to pay the bill.

In July the first notice occurs of what has now developed into one of the most pleasant meetings of our year, for the Worshipful Master then instituted the Summer Banquet by proposing that the Lodge "do have a Dinner some little distance from town." No reference is made to the wives, daughters, and friends we are so pleased to welcome at such festivals now, but the choice of the brethren is recorded as having fallen upon the "Roe Buck at Woodford." The date was fixed for Thursday, 28th July, the tickets for visitors being seven shillings and sixpence each; and as the funds of the Lodge had now increased to the enormous amount of over £12, Ten pounds were voted from "the Stock in aid of the funds for the same," also that three musicians be provided and one pound allowed for their fees, and another pound for the expenses of three stewards.

At this time the Lodge seems to have numbered thirty-six members, and still continued to work very late, for the Secretary states that "the buisness being finashed, closed at ten o'clock in HARMONY."

1826.

Bro. Armstrong, W.M.

Bro. J. Whittle, S.W. Bro. H. Whittle, J.W.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

Hitchcock

Gardner

Johnson

Pringle

Wagstaff

Crofts

Begent.

In June, it is recorded that Bro Whittle, the Junior Warden, being anxious to show how much he appreciated his appointment, offered a "very valuable instrument used in Architect for the use of the Lodge, namely a Scerret, when spoke to by the Wor. Master respecting cost, he Bro. W. reply was, I present it gratuously" no doubt he was duly thanked for the same, but the minutes are silent thereon.

At this meeting a brother proposed that in consequence of there not being "soficient room" at the "Spotted Horse" they do remove to Bro. Smith's, at the "Angel and Crown," Crispin Street, Spitalfields, but other members being in favour of its being held at Bro. Brown's, the "Turkish Slave," in Brick Lane ; upon a ballot being demanded, Bro. Smith was the favoured host, and for some time the Lodge No. 91, again

took to its old quarters in Crispin Street, Bro. Smith the landlord joining the Lodge the same evening.

It is now evident that this Lodge meant to be distinguished by a special name, as, in November, it was unanimously decided that for the future, in addition to the number by which it was known under the Constitutions, "that it be titell'd the Good Intent Promotion," but during the ensuing month it was ascertained that there was already a London Lodge registered with that or a similar name, and it became necessary to again non-confirm that portion of the minutes.

The "work" being so constantly done by certain two of the Past Masters, some of the younger members now realised the fact that some attempt should be made to secure a general improvement of the working of the Lodge. The means adopted for that end were, according to our present practice, open to criticism, as it was proposed and carried unanimously that a Lodge of Instruction should be held in that Lodge room every Sunday Evening at Seven o'clock, but this was not at all an unusual occurrence at this date, as many others were so held, and in some instances regular Lodge meetings also were held on the "day of rest."

1827.

Bro. J. Whittle, W.M.

Bro. Adams, S.W. Bro. Eagles, J.W.

Bro. Hitchcock, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Racine

Palmer

Yallop

Seeling

Brown

There are no items of special interest to record under this year. Bro. Whittle, the W.M., who was a very zealous officer in the various positions held by him, at the conclusion of his year of office, presented the Lodge with three handsome Officer's Chairs, and the thanks of the members to him were duly voted accordingly.



1828.

Bro. Joseph Adams, W.M.

Bro. Hitchcock, S.W. Bro. Clark, J.W.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Hickman

White

D. White

Long

West

Dawson

Joined :—

Bro. Grindon.

An Emergency Meeting was called in the March of this year, as the Lodge had drifted seriously into debt, and after long discussion as to ways and means, it was finally arranged to accept a loan offered by Bro. Brown, of Twenty pounds, to bear interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, and the thanks of the Lodge were duly accorded to him.

Between this and the next Lodge night, the Treasurer had a regular clearance of outstanding Bills, and Grand Lodge dues, so that when the members met again in ancient form,—we must believe they met in good heart as to the future, for throughout all the proceedings there is never any doubt amongst them as to the Lodge's continued existence ; all seems bright with hope, but still the fact remains, that they began their hopeful masonic career again with a balance due to the Treasurer of 2½d.! Very few new Initiates were being received, but the expenses were very modest, and thus closed a year made up of financial troubles.



1829.

Bro. Hitchcock, W.M.

Bro. Clark, S.W. Bro. Fry, J.W.

Bro. Whittle, Treas.

 Bros.

Initiated :—

Ward

Jones

The Worshipful Master in these days certainly deserved the thanks of the members, for the records state that at this time the Installation Dinner was excellent, and that it was “provided by the W.M. of the Lodge.” Unfortunately for brethren seeking relief, the funds had not improved, and one brother, who some years ago, had been the Treasurer, applied, with three other brethren, to know what could be done for their assistance, when it appears that the Lodge granted them one shilling each, but invited them to partake of the dinner which was then ready, showing that if funds were wanting, hospitality was still left.

Up to this date the Lodge had no printed Bye-Laws, therefore after some discussion it was decided that such would be desirable, and a Bro. White drew up a set, twenty-eight in number, which were finally adopted, and the thanks of the Lodge voted to him for his trouble in preparing

the same. They are not entered in the Minute Book, neither is a copy to be found amongst the Lodge papers, else it certainly would have been very interesting to have had a copy of this first edition of our Bye-Laws for present members to have referred to.



1830.

Bro. Eagles, W.M.

Bro. White, S.W. Bro. Long, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Cook

Adams

Robins

The Initiation Fee now stood at Four Guineas only, but as the welfare of the Lodge funds needed serious attention the subscriptions were increased.

One of our present esteemed Past Masters, once alluding to the late hour at which the Lodge was opened and closed, said in a confidential whisper, but unfortunately type will not whisper accordingly, "that we used to get home about Two ;" also that in his early days they were generally content to

enjoy bread and cheese, with ale and "Churchwarden" pipes. During this year, 1830, the Banqueting Table could not have been very sumptuously laden, for it was determined that visiting brethren be, in future, charged two shillings and sixpence each night, instead of eighteenpence ; and that the members subscriptions be advanced from eighteenpence to two shillings per month.

In March the minutes record that the Lodge determined to give one guinea annually to the Boys' School—somehow—The produce of the Charity box to find it if possible but "if not sufficient to be made up from the funds."

In May the Lodge was favoured with a doubtful compliment from a certain speculative brother named Goyler, dated from Blackburn, in Lancashire, according to which he professed, for a consideration, it is true, to supply the Lodge with a Volume of his own composition, which would "display the beauties of the craft to its members," but having omitted to prepay the postage, which in those days was something considerable, say about fourteen pence, the W.M. instructed the Secretary to return it to the writer "with a few comments thereon." Considering that the Lodge funds on this night, after paying for the above postage,

amounted to one shilling and eightpence only, it would scarcely have been advisable for him to have indulged the members in the proffered "display."

But while avoiding all possible luxuries it is certain that our predecessors were anxious to fulfil any call of duty that arose, in fulfilling the last wish of a dying brother. In December, the immediate Past Master, Bro. Hitchcock, left this sublunary world for the Grand Lodge above, and the Minutes appear to the following effect, carefully bordered with black.

The page is here reproduced in full as it is a record of the esteem in which he was held by our members, and by those of the Mother Lodge, No. 15.

“The following Brothers paid the last tribute of respect to our late much respected Bro. Hitchcock, Past Master of this Lodge, on Sunday, the 12th day of December, 1830, to Christ Church, Middlesex :—

Bro. J. Whittle, P.M.
 „ J. Adams, P.M. & Treas.
 „ Eagles, Master.
 „ Long, Jun. War.
 „ Hickman.
 „ Adams. Jno.
 „ Robins.
 „ Marshall.
 „ Dawson.
 „ Cook.
 „ Brown.
 „ Field.
 „ Croft.
 „ Pringle.

From the Kent Lodge, No. 15.

Bro. Reynolds, P.M.
 „ Smith, P.M.
 „ Lacey, P.M.
 „ Barnes, P.M. & Treas.
 „ Waters.
 „ Aldridge.
 „ Waller, *Sojourner*.

Bro. Colcott, P.M. & Sec.
 Bro. Crawley, P.M. & Tyler. ”

1831.

Bro. Long, W.M.

Bro. Marshall, S.W. Bro. John Adams, J.W.

Bro. Joseph Adams, Treas.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

Griffiths

Goodwin

Roswell

Baker

Dunn

 Joined :—

Bro. Vaughan.

There seems to be little of Masonic interest during this year, no mention being made even of the Summer Banquet, but it is tolerably certain that the precedent established in 1825, was still kept up as during this and some succeeding years, mention is made of resolutions to the effect that the Secretary, Bro. Past Master Collcott, be presented with a ticket “for the excursion,” of the value of seven shillings.



1832.

Bro. Marshall, W.M.

Bro. John Adams, S.W. Bro. Dawson, J.W.

Bro. Joseph Adams, Treas.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

Heslop

Myers

Dearing

Adams

This was a time when a direful gloom was cast over the nation, and no doubt Freemasonry suffered under its terrible shadow, for in March the regular Meeting had to be postponed owing to its being the day appointed for a General Fast on account of the cholera which was then ravaging the kingdom.

Shortly after this the Lodge appears to be gaining ground, the Treasurer's Balance in hand was growing, so much so that the important step was taken, and duly recorded upon the Minutes, no less than that of purchasing an Almanack for the use of the Lodge! We, who are now used to the luxury, nay, absolute necessity, of a cheap and untaxed Press, must not underrate this entry as an insignificant one, for the Secretary was authorized to pay five shillings for the same, moreover it must be borne in mind that the Government duty alone upon Almanacks at that time was about two

shillings and sixpence. However, the luxury was indulged in, and the only trouble must have been that the precious book would only be of use for a single year.

The funds having now accumulated in the Treasurer's hands to the grand total of £15 os. 6d. the brethren had a bright prospect before them, and having evidently for some time past being desirous of choosing a suitable name for the Lodge, Bro. Joseph Adams, the Treasurer proposed, and Bro. John Adams, the S.W., seconded, and the Brethren willingly carried, that this Lodge, hitherto known only as No. 91, "should in future be known by the name of the Lodge of Prosperity." The present brethren of No. 65, have every reason to be satisfied with this wise and final decision, which has handed down to them a name, short, euphonious, full of meaning, more welcome to us than either of the two names before proposed, and now well and truly honoured in the annals and amongst the members of the craft. The old Minute Book having hitherto been headed only as "Lodge No. 91," from this time forward is termed "The Lodge of Prosperity No. 91."

The Meetings had been since 1826, held at the Angel and Crown, in Crispin Street, but in May the Secretary suddenly records that the house is

“shut up.” The cause is not stated but the W.M., Bro. Marshall, having summoned the Brethren to assemble at the house of the Treasurer, Bro. Joseph Adams, The Grapes, Little Paternoster Row, Spitalfields, it was proposed and unanimously resolved that the meetings should be held there for the future. The Brethren seemed to have set to work with a will to carry out the resolution of the Lodge in a most practical manner, for the records state that the sum of 3s. 11½d. was paid to one brother, 18s. 1½d. “allowed” to another, which he was to deduct when he paid his next dues, and 8s. each to the Secretary and the Tyler for their services in removing the furniture. At the close of this year Grand Lodge allotted to us the number 78 instead of 91.



1833.

Bro. John Adams, W.M.

Bro. Cook, S.W. Bro. Griffiths, J.W.

Bro. West, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

John Walker

Joseph Walker

Edward Walker

Salter

After a lapse of ten years the time for calling the Lodge meetings still continued to be at the same late hour, causing a corresponding lateness for the conclusion of the business. Even when no masonic business was onward they often did not close until ten o'clock. After the Installation meeting of this year, the favourable balance had again disappeared, and the Lodge had to face the fact that it was again indebted to the Treasurer, this time for the amount of five shillings and a penny.

In the month of August an extraordinary event occurred in the annals of the Lodge which cannot fail to be of a certain amount of interest to the members of the present day ; and as more than half a century has since passed away, and it has now become merely a matter of history, so must all private interest once involved in the subject have entirely lapsed, and we can now simply read it in utter astonishment ;—it was as follows,

A charge was preferred by Bro. John Adams the Worshipful Master, against Bro. Joseph West, the Treasurer, when Bro. Adams stated that Bro. West charged him, the said Bro. John Adams, with robbing him of Ninety Sovereigns and two Five Pound Notes on the 30th July, also that on the 31st he had had him taken into custody at night and locked up in the Spitalfields' Station house, and

that on the 1st of August he was taken before Mr. Twyford at Worship Street, but there acquitted. Not satisfied with this decision, the Treasurer preferred an indictment against Bro. Adams, who surrendered himself and stood upon his trial at Hicks's Hall,* and that he was there by a Jury of his own countrymen honourably acquitted of the charge. For this cruel conduct he very properly considered himself much aggrieved.

The Worshipful Master, *pro tem.*, Bro. Joseph Whittle, then had a course open to him which no doubt was easier than the task set for the decision of Mr. Twyford at Worship Street, or the Judge at Hicks's Hall, for after summing up the whole in a very masterly manner, he left the case to the consideration of the Brethren, and finally to their opinion by ballot as to whether the said Bro. West, their Treasurer, was a fit person to continue to be a member of their Lodge. Upon taking the ballot there appeared nine votes for for his exclusion, and only one vote in his favour, therefore the Treasurer was excluded accordingly, and the Funds deposited with the Worshipful Master. This decision seems to have been followed by a more than usually sumptuous supper, which, however, left the Lodge in debt to the Worshipful

* For an interesting account of Hicks's Hall, see Cassell's Old and New London, Vol. II. ; also Chambers' Book of Days.

Master to the amount of £4 4s. 8d. But Bro. John Adams had cleared himself before the Lodge, and having already done it good service, he, for the next fifteen years, with slight interruption, had its welfare at heart as its Treasurer.



1834.

Bro. Cook, W.M.

Bro. Dawson, S.W. Bro. Dearing, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Rickards

Archbold

Tapp

Harris

Patch

Brown

Turnell

Myers

Barnet

Mathiass

Brown

Elisha

Brickell

Maling

Upon the Installation night of this year, owing probably to the fund shaving been further curtailed by the rejoicings at the close of the meeting last mentioned, the amount of the tavern bill chargeable to the Lodge was £1 16s. 5½d. only. Still no resolution of despair ever appears upon the minutes ; on the contrary, it was decided to reduce the Joining Fee from one pound to ten shillings and sixpence.

In December it came to the knowledge of the Lodge that Bro. Westerman had had several Masonic Jewels taken from him by thieves, and the sum of one pound was voted to a fund which was being raised for the purpose of replacing them. Although at the present day this amount may appear small, still it records the fact that the Lodge was never wholly unable to help a brother when necessary.



1835.

Bro. Dawson, W.M.

Bro. Dearing, S.W. Bro. Myers, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Bragger

Vanderstein

The Senior Warden was now duly promoted to the office of Worshipful Master, and it is very evident that the members were now regarding their position in the Craft in a higher light than they had hitherto done. Communication with other Lodges would lead them to adopt any change that would raise the tone and character of their meetings, for instance, it was not an unknown thing about this date for brandy and segars to be permitted

in this Lodge. Such a practice has long since died out, but before the "Union" and some time after a Lodge was frequently "called off" for refreshment and "called on" again to resume labour without leaving the Lodge room.

During this year it was arranged that the landlord of the house, Bro. Joseph Adams, should in future provide a good supper, for not less than fourteen members at one shilling and sixpence each, including vegetables, bread, cheese, and beer. The reply of the landlord, upon being informed of this resolution does not appear, but he evidently accepted the inevitable, and did the bidding of the Lodge, or the Secretary would certainly have chronicled any deviation therefrom.

Previous to this vote the usual charge was 2s., and annexed is a Bill for the evening's festivities of 15th October, 1835.

"Supper for 28 Brothers	2	16	0
Secy's Glass	0	0	6
Tyler's do.	0	1	0
Secy's Dues... ..	0	16	0
Tyler's Dues	0	4	6
Ale	0	1	7
Brandy	0	0	9
Gin	0	0	8
Wine & Water	0	1	0
Tobaco	0	2	0
Fire & Candles	0	2	0
	<hr/>		
	<u>£4 6 0"</u>		

1836.

Bro. Clarke, W.M.

Bro. Brickell, S.W. Bro. Mathias, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

Carr

Johnson

S. Valentine

 Joined :—

R. Smith

Linroth

Dean

Sahlburgh

Deveroux

Clements

Upon two occasions during the past year it had been brought to the notice of all Lodges that it was advisable to subscribe a sum towards the funds of an institution then being established, under the name of "An Asylum for the benefit of Aged and Decayed Free Masons."

That our old Lodge, under the direction of Bro. Clarke, the W.M., responded at once to the call with a hearty good will, no one can for a moment doubt as the movement was very general; the Opera House, Theatres, Bazaars, Banquets,

Concerts and Balls, were extensively used for the purpose. Not being possessed of any funds which they could vote for the purpose, the brethren "formed a committee to hire the Pavilion Theatre in the White Chapel Road," they ventured their private means in the charges for printing and advertising, worked hard to ensure the fullest possible attendance, and eventually, in May, they called a meeting to audit the receipts and expenditure, when the balance showed a surplus of forty-two pounds twelve shillings, which was handed over to the "Asylum;" from which day to the present time we trust that it will be admitted that the Lodge of Prosperity has continued to do good service to that fund which now bears the honourable title of "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, and Widows of Freemasons."

Another peculiar item at this time is that "The Members of the Jewish persuasion find there own supper and be paid out of the funds of the Lodge" and at the foot of these minutes is an entry "Paid Bro. E. M. Myers for Suppers £1 4s. 10d." Did they adjourn to a separate room?



1837.

Bro. Brickell, W.M.

Bro. Rickards, S.W. Bro. Brown, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

The only noticeable incident this year occurred in November, when the Lodge voted Bro. John Adams, P.M. and Treasurer, a testimonial in the form of a Jewel, costing £4 14s. 6d., and this in connection with there being no initiate this year, tended to again bring the Funds very low; for instead of paying the House Bill each night as usual, it was allowed to remain unpaid from April to November.



1838.

Bro. Rickards, W.M.

Bro. Brown, S.W. Bro. Turnell, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Edwards

Defries

Yates

Israel

Ibbetson

Although the Funds had once more entirely disappeared, and an adverse balance of £9 14s. 7d.

due to the Treasurer, also nearly half of the members being specially summoned to pay their dues, it was resolved that the Lodge should in future be "removed to a more central situation" the George and Vulture Tavern, Cornhill. In the first place, a resolution was passed thanking the landlord of their present house, Bro. Joseph Adams, for his care and attention during the time it had met there; but certainly a move like this would lead it into far greater expense, in fact such is immediately apparent, for after the usual tavern bills which had ranged from two to four pounds each evening, the bills now amounted to the sum of seven pounds odd, and after the resolution carried only so late as the one in 1835, when the Lodge obtained so much for apparently so small an amount, it certainly seems to lay them open to a charge of improvidence, especially as the House Bills were doubled, and an item which was then quite new to the members, is found in the form of a distinct and formidable charge for waiters.

At this distance of time there is no accounting for the reasons which influenced this improvident step. That it was such, is tolerably clear from the short time they remained in these new quarters, and the continued absence of any balance upon the favourable side of the Treasurer's book.

1839.

Bro. John Adams, W.M.

Bro. Myers, S.W. Bro. Walker, J.W.

Bro. Brickell, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Marshall

. Benjamin

Cohen

No incident of note is registered under the above year, but some Festival, or to be quite accurate, "a Grand Galá," most likely for the Boys' school, took place at the Eagle Tavern, City Road, at which the members of this Lodge assisted, and an entry is made that it was resolved to present Bro. Geo. Collcott, P.M. and Secretary, with a ticket for that event.



1840.

Bro. Turnell, W.M.

Bro. Walker, S.W. Bro. Marshall, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Marshall

Littler

Lane

Goodrich

Williams

In the March of this year the Deputy G.M., the first Earl of Zetland, K.G, died, and the brethren assembled in Masonic Mourning, the cost of which was borne by the Lodge, as twenty-two shillings were voted to be paid for the crape worn on the occasion.

In May, the funds being more than exhausted, it was decided to at once remove the Lodge from its expensive quarters in Cornhill to the "Duke of Sussex," Thrawl Street, Spitalfields.



1841-42.

Bro. Walker, W.M.

Bro. Marshall, S.W. Bro. Lane, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

The Installation nights were now altered from January to February. In March, the W.M. received a General Circular Notice, issued by command of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, the M.W.G.M., calling particular attention to the fact that of late several matters had appeared in print, exposing certain portions of the Secrets and Mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry, which absolutely threatened the existence of the Craft,

more particularly mentioning the "Freemasons' Quarterly Review," and strictly enjoining all members to refrain from such communications in future.

During June the number of members had considerably decreased, the statement upon a quarterly night showing fifteen names only, and a balance due to the Treasurer of more than eight pounds.

In July, and for some time afterwards, it seems that the usual monthly meetings of the Lodge could not take place, as the Warrant and the Minute Book were for the time being impounded by the Board of General Purposes. Upon a search amongst the Minutes printed by Grand Lodge we gather the reason; and as it may be a warning to members of the present day to avoid such a lack of attention, it is here recorded. The Master had recommended a Petition for the relief of a certain brother to the consideration of the Board of Benevolence. and at their Meeting he had omitted to attend personally, or to send one of his Past Masters or Officers:—

"The W.M. of the Lodge No. 78 not attending upon the first Summons, or assigning by a P.M. who should have appeared for him, any sufficient reason for his absence, the Board ordered the Warrant of the Lodge to be detained, and issued a Summons for his appearance at the next Meeting; when he attended and alleged that Business had caused his

absence from the Board of Benevolence, and that he had no intention wilfully to neglect his Duty. The Board informed him that it was his Duty, as Master of the Lodge, to have attended or to have procured the attendance of one of his Past Masters or Officers to speak to the Petition, which had been recommended by the Lodge. He was then admonished by the President for his neglect, and cautioned to be more attentive for the future, after which the Warrant of the Lodge was returned to him.

1st Sept., 1841."



1842-43.

Bro. Marshall, W.M.

Bro. Barnes, S.W. Bro. Littler, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Downs

Hicks

Joined :—

Bro. Dorrington

Still no improvement in the funds, and the numbers still diminishing, as only fourteen names are remaining upon the books as subscribing members, the Lodge in debt to Treasurer, and the Tavern bill amounting to 4s. 5d. only for one evening.



1843-44.

Bro. Barnes, W.M.

Bro. Hicks, S.W. Bro. Dorrington, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

Hodgson

Greer

Wickham

Reeve

Whitworth

Raffles

Score

Johnson

In May of this year the Lodge paid the sum of fourteen shillings and sixpence for crape as it met in "Masonic mourning" on account of the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, the M.W.G.M.

The hard working Secretary, Bro. Colcott, P.M., had gradually been getting more feeble in his hand-writing, and we are indebted to him for having without intermission so carefully written and preserved the Lodge Minutes for the last thirty years, but now he seems to have deputed the actual writing of them to some one else, and the beautiful and perfect specimens of caligraphy, as shown month by month, for some time forward is very remarkable, and well worthy the preservation which our present careful Secretary accords to them. A reduced fac-simile of one of the pages is given.

The By-Laws framed in 1829 seem to have quite disappeared, and to have been forgotten, therefore in October it was again resolved that it was desirable that the Lodge be provided with Rules for its internal regulation, and a Committee was formed to prepare them. A meeting took place on the 23rd at Hoxton House Academy, Hoxton Square, to confer upon the subject, and they were then drawn up, although not transcribed into the Minute Book. The only portion that is recorded is an amendment to one of the rules to the effect that the future subscription should be ten shillings per quarter.



1844-45.

Bro. Rickards, W.M.

Bro. Dorrington, S.W. Bro. Reeve, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Riley

Worssam

Blackwell

The Funds of the Lodge had now taken a more favourable turn, and it redounds much to

the credit of the members that they decided to give five guineas to the Royal Masonic Annuity Fund. Also the W.M. consented to represent the Lodge as a Steward at the Boys' School Festival.



1845-46.

Bro. Dorrington, W.M.

Bro. Reeve, S.W. Bro. Riley, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

The Last year of Bro. Geo. Collcott, as Secretary.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Tyler

Phillips

Hale

Curtis

Duncombe

Walker

Crowther

This was the last year that Bro. George Collcott held the Secretaryship of the Lodge. He had seen many Masters and many changes in his faithful career of at least thirty-five years, and now it was resolved that his portrait should be painted and paid for from the Funds. It is true the balance in the Treasurer's hands was very slight, say seven

pounds only, but the Secretary's services were so much esteemed that the members would not allow a little difficulty to be any barrier. Such a project now might involve a question as to how many hundreds of pounds should be paid for it, but in the year 1845, artists were satisfied with a very modest remuneration. The work was entrusted to Bro. F. A. Rickards, P.M., whose address, No. 6, Union Street, Somers Town, is carefully registered in connection with the matter, and after careful search as to the cost, there appear two items only, a payment in advance, and the other upon completion, making a total of £2 14s.

Our former Treasurer, Bro. P.M. Goodwin, well remembers the picture being in the Lodge Room when meeting at the White Hart Tavern in Bishopsgate Street, and it is much to be regretted that such an old landmark in our history is not with us still.

From this time Bro. Collcott seems to have discontinued his work, and his post was next taken by Bro. F. A. Rickards, P.M., and then in October, occurs the mournful entry that the funeral of Bro. George Collcott being over, and the expenses ascertained, that the Lodge decides to pay one half of the same.



1846-47.

Bro. Reeve, W.M.

Bro. Duncombe, S.W, Bro. Tyler, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas.

Bro. F. A. Rickards, Secretary.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

Rossi

Barnett

Some time between June and September, of this year, for the Minutes are not dated, therefore we must be content, a Lodge of Emergency was held at the Queen's Arms, Commercial Street, Whitechapel, to fix upon a place in which to hold the future Lodge Meetings "on account of some circumstances which rendered it improper for the Lodge to be held in the usual House." It was decided that it should meet at the above-named house, but as certain sums were demanded by the landlord of the "Duke of Sussex" before he would allow the Lodge Furniture to be removed, and there not being sufficient funds to meet the claim, a Bro. Vanderstein advanced the Treasurer the sum of ten pounds to enable him to settle the difference at issue, and release the Furniture, for which he received a cordial vote of thanks.



1847-48.

Bro. Duncombe, W.M.

Bro. Walker, S.W. Bro. Phillips, J.W.

Bro. Myers, Treas. Bro. Rickards, Sec.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

Coley

S. Chivers

 Joined :—

Bros.

Bragger

W. Hill

The year 1847 links the members of the present time with those of the past, for we now notice the first familiar name, that of Bro. P. M. Chivers, appearing amongst us. Hitherto all the names as they have occurred, must be deemed of but slight interest to our younger members, but shortly we shall find a number of familiar faces greeting us, as the Roll is enumerated.

During the month of October, the Queen's Arms not suiting the requirements of the members, it was again decided to remove the Lodge, when Bro. Hale, one of its members residing at the Square and Compasses, Norton Folgate, offered

to receive the brethren at his house. A committee was formed at once to visit the premises and "finding every thing requisite for their safe tiling and comfort" agreed to accept the proposal, and Bro. Hale then volunteered to supply the Secretary with sufficient funds to pay the immediate calls upon the Lodge, previous to the removal of the furniture to his house, and at the November meeting the members were duly installed in their new quarters at Norton Folgate.



1848-49.

Bro. Tyler, W.M.

Bro. Hale, S.W. Bro. Rossi, J.W.

Bro. John Adams, Treas. Bro. Rickards, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

W. T. Goode

R. H. Stanton

Joined :—

Bros.

J. B. Clark

W. Turnell

J. Joyce



1849-50.

Bro. Tyler, W.M.

Bro. Curtis, S.W. Bro. S. Chivers, J.W.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

W. Carter

G. Aubrey

Joined :—

Bro. G. Yarrow.

Upon the election night of this year, there being no brother desirous of the office of Worshipful Master, the Brother filling the Chair during the past twelve months was requested to continue the Mastership, and as may be seen above, even the two Wardens either desired or had to vacate their respective columns, so Bro. Tyler, the W.M., appointed two others.

In the following month sanction was given under the Warrant of the Lodge, for a Lodge of Instruction to be held at the house of Bro. Stanton; whether this was also held upon a Sunday evening, or not, the Minutes are silent.

In August, owing to a lack of the requisite security in the tiling of the Lodge, Bro. S. Chivers carried a unanimous vote that it should be removed

to the Blade Bone Tavern, Bethnal Green Road, and on the next meeting night the members were there assembled.



1850-51.

Bro. G. Curtis, W.M.

Bro. Chivers, S.W. Bro. Stanton, J.W.

Bro. W. Curtis, Treas. Bro. Rickards, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

W. Grove

M. Schwartz

W. S. Lock

F. Bishop

J. Benwell

P. C. Corri

E. Denman

G. J. Lucombe

E. Maaers.

R. Gay

C. Connaughten

W. C. Abbott

Joined :—

Bro. G. R. Alt

For a reason not entered upon the Minutes the Lodge in September of this year, at a Lodge of Emergency convened for the purpose, again deemed fit to remove its place of meeting, and the Sun Tavern, in Bishopsgate Street, was the house selected.



1851-52.

Bro. S. Chivers, W.M.

Bro. Stanton, S.W. Bro. Yarrow, J.W.

Bro. G. Curtis, Treas. Bro. Rickards, Sec.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

H. Lehmann

Fearne

R. Lewis

J. H. Goodwin

Yates

Bro. Chivers's year seems to have smoothly run its course, for nothing of any particular interest is recorded in the minutes. It will be noticed that Bro. J. H. Goodwin (our former esteemed Treasurer), was this year initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Craft, and after a Masonic career of over forty years, during which time he has devoted himself to the welfare of the Lodge, the respect in which he is held by all has been justly earned.



1852-53.

Bro. Stanton, W.M.

Bro. Aubrey, S.W. Bro. Guy, J.W.

Bro. Chivers, Treas. Bro. Rickards, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

J. Towsey

E. Mussam

J. F. Shram

W. Griffiths

P. Bianchi

The only item of interest during this year is the record of the Lodge's removal once more. This time it was to The Horns Tavern, No. 1, Hackney Road.



1853-54.

Bro. Yarrow, W.M.

Bro. Lehmann, S.W. Bro. Porter, J.W.

Bro. Stanton, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

J. Bernhard

C. J. Acut

T. Weeks

F. T. Pescott

Joined :—

Bro. Ed. Vann.



1854-55.

Bro. H. Lehmann, W.M.

Bro. J. H. Goodwin, S.W. Bro. Weeks, J.W.

Bro. Stanton, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

W. H. Palmer	D. McKay	G. Buckingham
J. H. Case	J. J. C. Corbett	R. Jewison

Joined :—

Bros.

G. Thomas	A. Day	W. Dutton
Hon. Member, Bro. Saqui, P.M. 247.		

Upon the motion of Bro. J. H. Goodwin, the Lodge this year unanimously resolved to remove to the Earl of Durham, Murray Street, Hoxton.

1855-56.

Bro. Weeks, W.M.

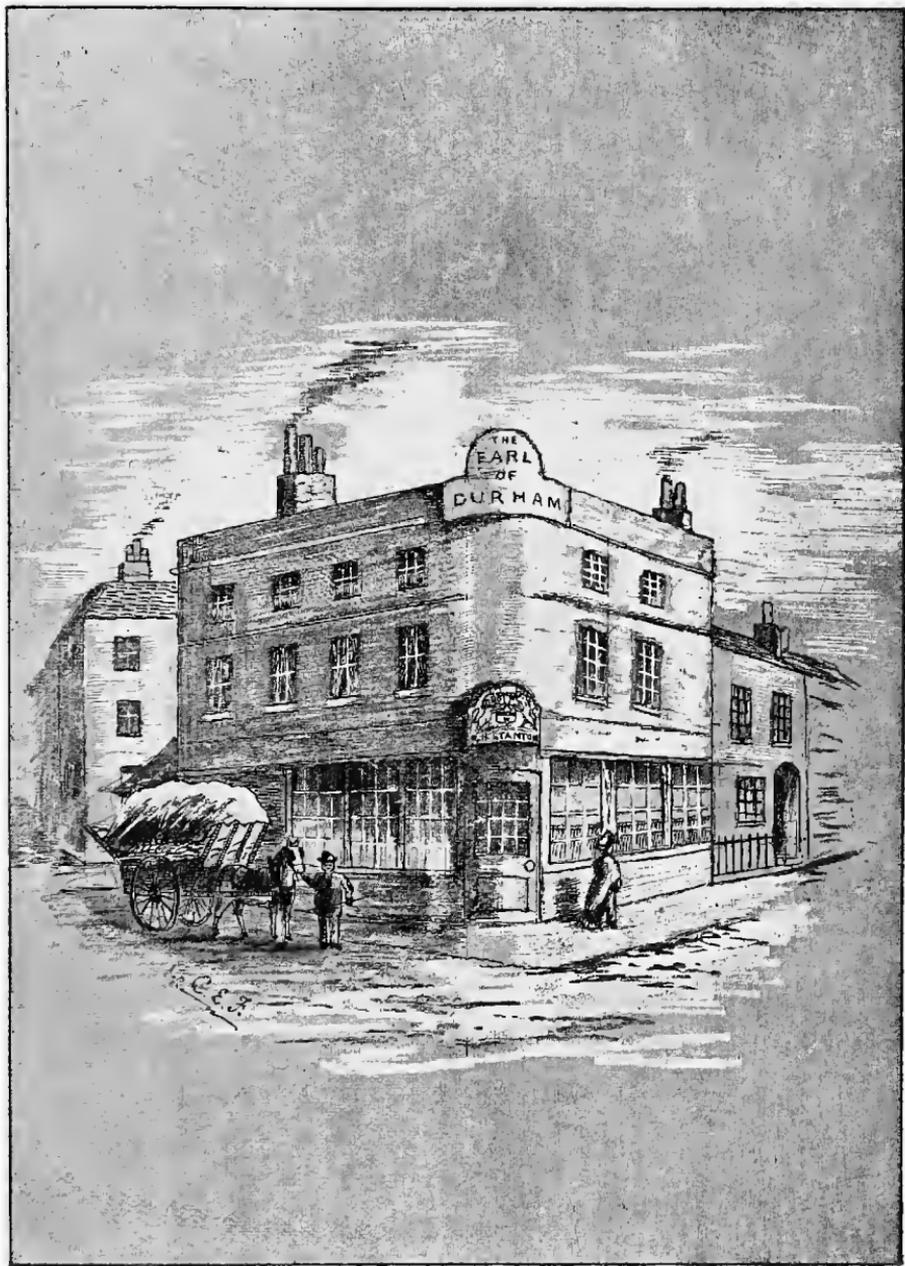
Bro. J. H. Goodwin, S.W. Bro. Thomas, J.W.

Bro. A. Day, Treas. Bro. Rickards, Sec.

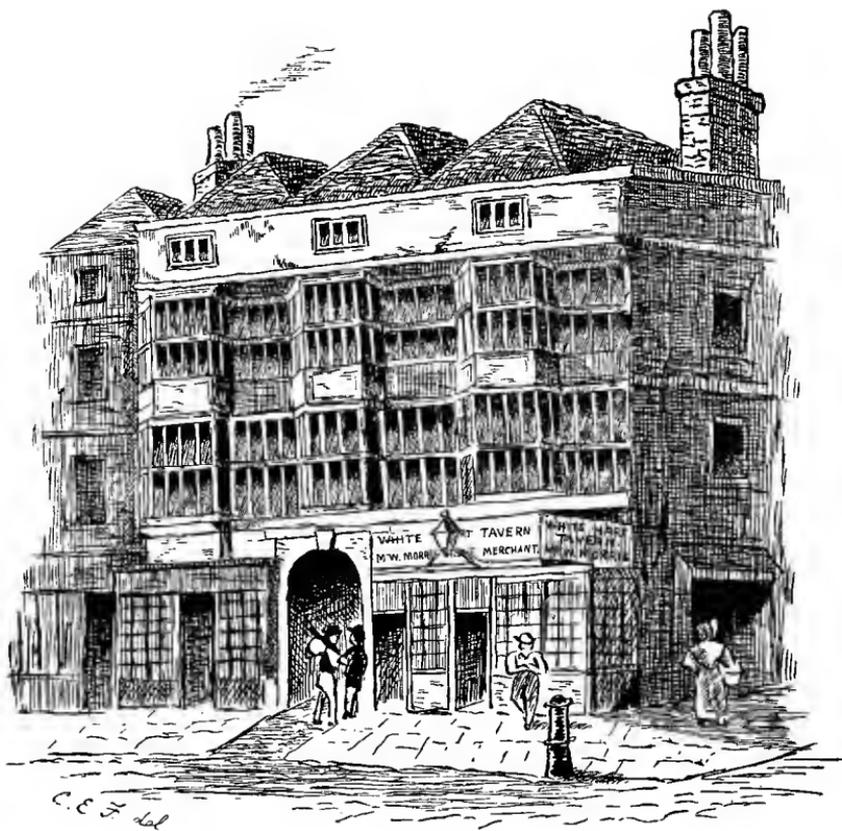
Initiated :—

Bros.

Oscar Valentine	Oliver	W. Chambers
W. Hill	E. Arnold	E. S. Cornwall



THE EARL OF DURHAM, HOXTON.



THE WHITE HART TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE.

In March the I.P.M. Bro. Lehmann was presented with "a Testimonial illuminated upon Vellum and elaborately framed," expressing the thanks of the Brethren for his discharge of the duties during the year past, also Bro. Stanton, P.M., received a Past Master's Jewel.

In June the Lodge removed to the Wenlock Arms, Wenlock Road, City Road, and in November it again removed, to the White Hart, Bishopsgate Street,* at which last-named place the members evidently found arrangements more suitable for them than they had had for some time past, as they remained here for about eight years.

During this year three pedestals, a candelabra, and other furniture were bought by the Lodge at a cost of £2 10s., and the Treasurer presented a commodious trunk in which to preserve the jewels and small furniture. Also Bro. Weeks, the W.M., presented a handsome pair of Globes and three small pedestals, and Bro. Hills a "Perfect Ashlar," the donors receiving the thanks of the Lodge.

During the year 1855 an Inventory of the Jewels and Furniture of the Lodge was drawn up and entered in a book, and as it is the only record to be found it deserves to be noted:—

*The view of this old hostelry is taken from Cassell's Old and New London,

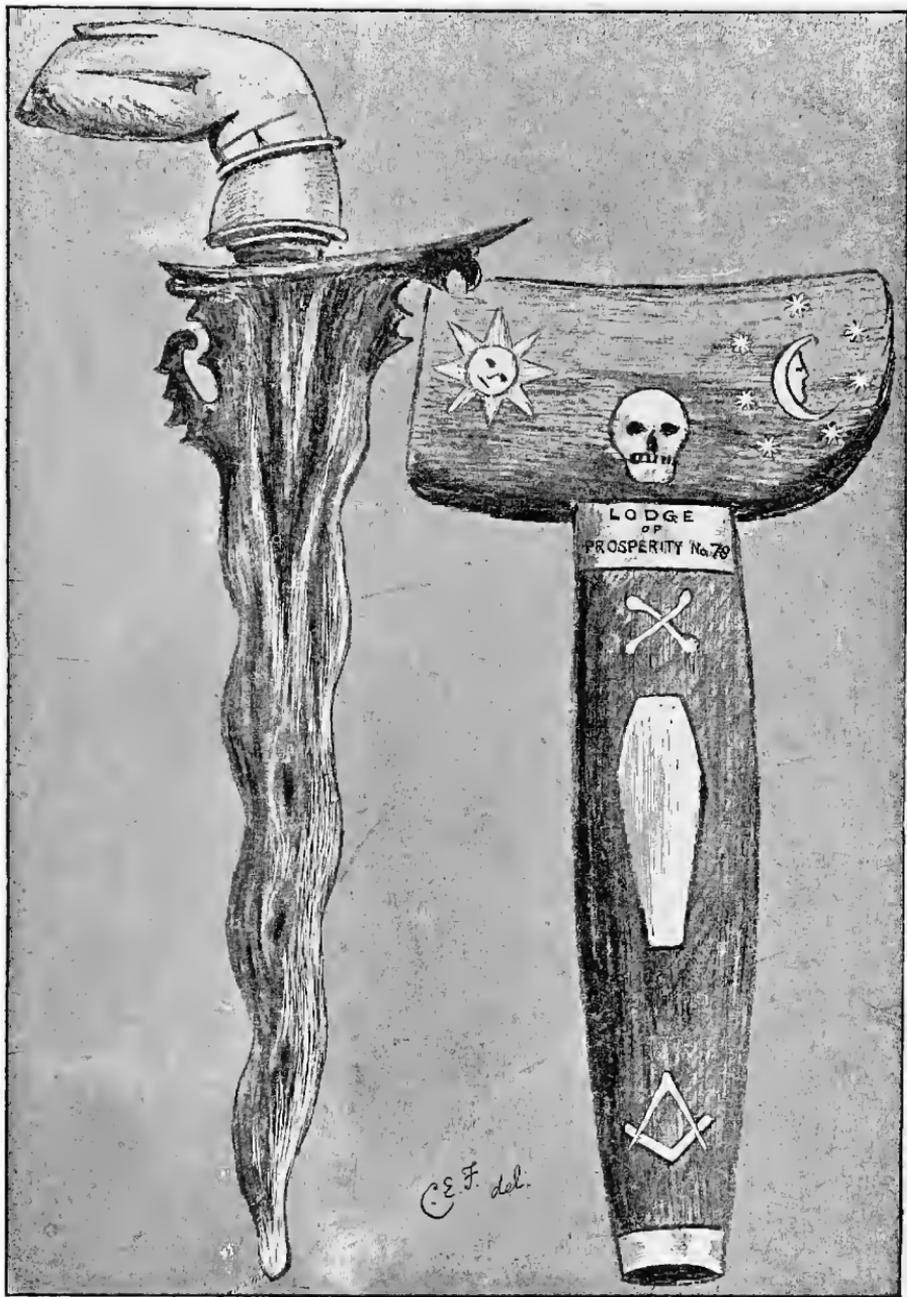
LODGE OF PROSPERITY, No. 78.

Inventory in 1855.

Tracing Boards and Case.
 Three Masonic Pedestals.
 The Master's Chair.
 Three Masonic Candelabras.
 Three Pedestals to accompany the same.
 The S.W. and J.W. Columns.
 The Working Tools complete in each degree.
 The Emblems of Mortality for third degree, in Bag.
 One Cushion for the Master's Pedestal.
 Bible, Square and Compasses.
 Terrestrial and Celestial Globes.
 Mahogany Windlass and Fittings.
 Master's, S.W. and J.W. Hiram's.
 Rough Ashlar. Polished Ashlar.
 The Tyler's Sword.
 Secretary's Desk, Lock and Key.
 Mahogany Box, Lock and Key.
 Large Deal Painted Trunk, Lock and Key.
 Four Deacon's Wands.
 A Cushion for Candidate.
 Three Coverings for Pedestals, Black Moreen.
 Raising Sheet for third degree.
 Two Plain Columns for S.W. and J.W.
 Three Round Sounding Boards for W.M., S.W. and
 J. W.
 18 Table Glasses.
 Inner Guard's Sword.
 Bag for Books, with Lock and Key.

Inventory of Jewels, all of Silver and Engraved.

Jewel of the	W.M.
"	S.W.
"	J.W.
"	Treas.
"	Sec.
"	S.D.
"	J.D.
"	I.G.
"	M.C.



OUR INNER GUARD'S POIGNARD.

Nine New Ribbon Collars, with Silver Cords and
Buttons,
Seven Old Ribbon Collars.
Remnant of Crape.

Marcus W. Morris,
White Hart Hotel, Bishopsgate Street,
in possession of the above Lodge furniture without
responsibility, 24th Nov., 1858.

Rosemary Branch Tavern,
in possession of the above Lodge furniture without
responsibility.

To this inventory should be added a Jewel for the I.P.M.

The Bible mentioned is a rare book, beautifully printed in black letter, and was issued from the Cambridge University Press in 1640. It contains the Book of Common Prayer, and some interesting genealogies.

A new set of By-Laws were drawn up this year, and are the first that have been preserved to us. The following few items of interest are selected from them :—

“A fine of 2s. 6d., payable to the Benevolent Fund, to be paid by any Officer not being in attendance at the precise time. A written apology sent to the W.M. previous to opening the Lodge to be sufficient excuse.”

“No Brother to be eligible to the Chair unless he has served the office of Warden in this Lodge.”

“The Initiation Fee to be Five guineas.”

“The Annual subscription to be £2 4s.”



1856-57.

Bro. Thomas, W.M.

Bro. Palmer, S.W. Bro. Day, J.W.

Bro. Weeks, Treas. Bro. Rickards, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

H. Mills

P. Bazin

J. C. Thompson

B. Woodward

R. A. Ree

C. Lawrence

F. H. Kreppel

A. Lentge

H. Newgass

Joined :—

Bro. Edwards, No. 118.

Hon. Member—Bro. H. A. Isaacs, W.M., Lodge of Israel, 247.

The funds at this time were far from satisfactory, yet Bro. Weeks, the I.P.M., was presented with a Jewel of the value of five guineas, and afterwards with a Testimonial inscribed on Vellum and beautifully framed.



1857-58.

Bro. Palmer, W.M.

Bro. Day, S.W. Bro. Pescott, J.W.

Bro. Weeks, Treas.

Afterwards Bro. E. S. Cornwall, Treas.

Bro. H. J. Thompson, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

R. Hone

J. Cook

J. Rushbrook

J. Temple

J. Welsford

R. Boyle

M. Lyons

Tinson

Joined :—

Bro. H. J. Thompson

At the head of this chapter will be seen the name of last year's Senior Warden, now duly occupying the Chair. Such an ordinary course of events we are always pleased to see, but in this case he did not arrive there exactly in the ordinary course. On the night of election for the W.M., the votes were found to be equal for the Senior and Junior Wardens, but although the W.M. had a casting vote, he did not wish to have the unpleasant duty of indicating his preference; so a very primitive way out of the difficulty was suggested and actually carried out. Papers con-

taining the two names were placed in a hat and drawn for, when fortune favoured Bro. Palmer, the S.W. It appears that such a proceeding when entered upon the minutes did not look in due form, therefore it was lightly erased and stated that the W.M. decided that the ballot was in favour of Bro. Palmer.

A Summer Banquet was held this year, although the place is not mentioned, but the brethren evidently enjoyed themselves, for they so far exceeded their subscriptions for the same that the W.M. had to pay the deficiency. However the brethren did not enjoy the luxury as we now do, of attending each Summer Banquet free of all expense, but each one paid his share for the day, and it was not until 1861, that the plan was introduced we now so much appreciate. Eventually it was resolved that the Lodge funds should repay the W.M. the said deficiency.



1858-59.

Bro. Day, W.M.

Bro. Pescott, S.W.

Bro. McKay, J.W., afterwards Bro. J. H. Goodwin, J.W.

Bro. E. S. Cornwall, Treas. Bro. Thompson, Sec.

Afterwards Bro. Thomas, Treas.

Initiated :—

Bros.

Lovegrove	J. McLean	J. Nutt
Hunt	G. Leach	J. Usher
H. T. W. Thompson, Jun.	J. C. Bryant	M. Danks

Joined :—

Bros.

J. J. Saltmarsh, 1025	A. Lewin, 161
S. A. Outteridge, 1025	J. M. Aldridge, 805
Towsey	

The business of this year was commenced by presenting Bro. Palmer, the I.P.M., with a Jewel of the value of three guineas.

Bro. Rickards, P.M., who had fulfilled the duties of Secretary for about twelve years, now retired from the post and was succeeded by Bro. H. J. Thompson. But the Lodge conferred the special honour upon Bro. Rickards of making him an Honorary Member.

In April, owing to the death of Bro. Donald McKay, the J.W., a Masonic Funeral Oration was delivered in open Lodge by Bro. H. A. Isaacs, Lecture Master to the Lodge, and preceptor to the Lodge of Instruction,* also a letter of sympathy was forwarded to Bro. McKay's wife and family.

The Summer Banquet was held this year in conjunction with the Brethren of the Temple Lodge, No. 101, at the Pavilion Hotel, North Woolwich.

The Lodge Funds now begin to show a decided improvement, and it is very satisfactory to again find that the first proofs of returning prosperity is shown by a vote of five guineas to the W.M. representing the Lodge at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and five guineas to the Secretary at the festival of the Boys' School.

Upon his retiring from the Chair, the W.M. was voted ten guineas for a Testimonial.



* This brother is now Sir Henry A. Isaacs, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1889.

1859-60.

Bro. J. H. Goodwin, W.M.

Bro. Pescott, S.W. Bro. Valentine, J.W,

Bro. H. Thomas, Treas. Bro. Thompson, Sec.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

G. Wing	Poupart	R. Case
J. Trevethan	G. J. Davey	L. Jones
J. H. Osland	J. Bellerby	D. Gunn
C. C. Outhwait	J. M. Cotterell	

 Joined :—

Bros.

Lawrence Lawrence, No. 36 W. Rule, 227

Bro. Goodwin's year of office commenced with the Funds in a more gratifying condition, and under his administration he established our present Benevolent Fund on a separate basis from the General Fund, and it has now grown to be an important and useful auxiliary to it.

The Summer Banquet was held at the "Bell" at Edmonton, and was very fully attended, for the number of members had considerably increased of late.

It is also in this year that for the first time was introduced a face, so well known to many of the

senior members of the Lodge, that of Bro. Speight, our late Tyler ; for twenty-five years he faithfully and cheerfully performed the duties of his office amongst us, and was deservedly a favourite with members and visitors. A further notice of him will be found under the date of 1885.

Upon the expiration of his term of office, Bro. Goodwin was presented with a past Master's Jewel, and the thanks of the Lodge were also tendered to him for his zealous services.



1860-61.

Bro. Pescott, W.M.

Bro. Valentine, S.W. Bro. E. S. Cornwall, J.W.
 Bro. A. Day, Treas. Bro. Thompson, Sec.

Initiated:—

Bros.

T. Allen	E. Bletchley	E. Belmer
R. W. Goddard	Bishop	A. McDiarmid
H. Bellerby	G. Simmons	

Joined:—

Bros.

G. Holt Mason

Trouble. Details omitted, the curtain being closely drawn.

1861-62.

Bro. Valentine, W.M.

Bro. E. S. Cornwall, S.W. Bro. E. Arnold, J.W.

Bro. J. H. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Rule, Sec.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

T. Barker

W. Tucker

T. O. Pugh

James

G. Bartlett

Stockley

E. C. Mather

J. L. Mather

 Joined :—

Bro. Jewison

The Installation was altered from the month of February to that of March, so as to bring it upon a quarterly night, when Banquets were provided instead of ordinary suppers, and to enable the new W.M. to begin with the new financial year.

In March, owing to the death of Bro. H. Thomas, P.M., the Lodge assembled in mourning, and Bro. Rickards, P.M. and Secretary, read a funeral oration which he had written for the occasion.

The Summer Banquet was held at the Crystal Palace upon the Queen's Birthday, a day upon which the then celebrated Blondin was giving his popular performances upon the high rope; the soup and the fish had just been disposed of, when there was a general rush from the "Prosperity"

Banquet into the nave to see him. It appears that when they returned to the tables there had been more clearance during their absence than was desirable. Hitherto the members had each defrayed his own expenses at these meetings, but this year the precedent was established of the Lodge Funds defraying the same.



1862-63.

Bro. E. S. Cornwall, W.M.

Bro. E. Arnold, S.W. Bro. Krepple, J.W.
 Bro. J. H. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Rule, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

J. Goward

J. Boning

G. F. Cook

In June, the Worshipful Master Bro. E. S. Cornwall, presented the Lodge with a set of Tracing Boards, painted by Bro. Rule, the Secretary, also a Mahogany Case for their safe keeping. These are the Boards that are now in use, and are beautifully painted, bearing careful inspection. The Members were very pleased at so handsome an addition to their Lodge furniture. and after cordially thanking their Master for his

It was during this year that the Grand Lodge again re-adjusted the Roll of the Lodges under its jurisdiction, and our own received the number it still bears, viz. No. 65.

In September the Lodge was summoned to meet at the Masons' Arms Tavern, Masons' Avenue, and during the evening it was unanimously resolved that it should meet there in the future. But when the Members assembled for their next regular meeting in October, to their utter astonishment they were informed by the proprietor that he had no rooms for them, as those they used last month were then occupied by a Dinner Party! In such an unexpected plight as this, with the Members waiting in the hall, the Worshipful Master and Bro. Past Master Goodwin sallied forth at once to find a place where the meeting could be held. Fortunately, with the help of the W.M., Brother Goodwin and two brethren of Lodge No. 901, they were kindly helped out of their difficulty at the Masonic Club House, in Bell Alley. Naturally the Members passed a cordial vote of thanks to the two Brethren who had so promptly entertained them during their wanderings.

It would have been more than human, to have forgiven so great a breach of faith as this, at least by the next lodge night, and although it was eventually overlooked, still for some months to

come the Lodge Meetings were held at the house of one of our members (Brother H. Mills), at the "Rosemary Branch Tavern," Hoxton.

Upon retiring from the Chair, Bro. Arnold was presented with a Past Master's Jewel.



1864-65.

Bro. Maclean, W.M.

Bro. Thompson, S.W. Bro. Leach, J.W.

Bro. J. L. Mather, Treas. Bro. John Bellerby, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

E. J. Hinrichsen	W. Diplock	C. Allwork
E. S. Simon	W. Joye	A. McDowall
H. Reiss	N. Naden	W. McDougall
M. Hill	J. Allen	Pinchbeck
H. Davis	H. Parsons	J. Moore
J. Carruthers	H. Warren	M. Morton
W. Steward	A. Reiss	W. W. Gannaway
H. Spiller	J. C. Beynon	J. Wallace
H. J. L. Sly	C. J. Le Plastrier	James Stevens
J. Miles	A. Souttar	T. Youll
	J. Pepperday	

Joined :—

Bros.

Beyfus	Locke	D. Forbes
T. Nuttman	Mace	T. Sims

The numbers now having been considerably augmented, it is evident that Hoxton must have been very inconvenient, and, therefore, in December, at a committee meeting held at the house of Bro. Simmons, Earl Street, Blackfriars, it was decided to forget the blunder that had been made in the October of last year, and in future to again meet at the Masons' Arms Tavern, all difficulties being avoided by altering the day of the week for the meetings of the Lodge.

The Summer Banquet was this year again held at the "Bell" at Edmonton, and the Secretary enters the details of the same in his Minute Book, winding up with the following flourish—"The sentiments expressed by all were of true & real satisfaction, and to quote or Improve on Immortal Goldsmith that when next we meet may we all 'be there to see' and hear." He evidently thought that Cowper had no claim to John Gilpin.

A very singular entry occurs this year, concerning a certain proposition brought forward by a brother, the import of which need not be made public, but it was "considered by the Lodge and then *rejected unanimously!*"

On retiring from the Chair, Bro. Maclean was presented with a past Master's Jewel.



1865-66.

Bro. Thompson, W.M.

Bro. Leach, S.W. Bro. Aldridge, J.W.

Bro. J. L. Mather, Treas. Bro. Bellerby, Sec.

Initiated:—

Bros.

W. King	S. Loebli	A. Allwork
H. J. Fisher	W. Sivewright	W. Wright
H. Cole	W. Reed	G. Walton
C. J. Hatton	F. W. Potter	R. H. Wallis
W. G. Leftly	H. Hunt	G. Hillyer
G. H. Strife	J. Barlow	W. W. Kendall
J. Hall	R. Hone	Rollinson
H. Wright	T. Chitty	S. J. Wells
Thos. Davy	West	G. Gowland

Joined:—

Bro. J. J. Maddocks

If anything could be needed to make this and the preceding, memorable years in the annals of the Lodge, surely such lists as head these chapters would be sufficient. One of the outcomes of this prosperity was the resolution that in future, when the number of Members exceeded eighty, the Initiation Fee should be ten guineas, and the Joining Fee two guineas-and-a-half. The actual Initiation Fee at that time being five guineas only.

Another effect of the increase in the Funds, was the increased liberality of the Lodge, and sums

were voted for the R.M.B. Institution, and Bro. D. Forbes consented to act as Steward at the Festival.

The Summer Banquet was held at the "Bell" at Edmonton.

In January, owing to the alterations then in progress at the Masons' Arms Tavern, the meetings of the Lodge, until the following September, had again to be removed, firstly to the "Jolly Anglers," Bath Street, St. Luke's, and, secondly, to the "George" Hotel, Aldermanbury.

Also Bro. Thompson was presented with a Testimonial on his leaving the Chair.



1866-67.

Bro. Leach, W.M.

Bro. Aldridge, S.W. Bro. John Bellerby, J.W.

Bro. J. L. Mather, Treas. Bro. Goddard, Sec.

Initiated:—

Bros.

H. Fairbank	C. G. Spencer	J. Dempsey
H. H. D. Meyer	John Gillies	G. Bratton
W. Johnson	H. Brasier	J. G. Miles
W. Kendell	R. Bolton	J. Thistleton
F. Beer	G. Hicks	

Joined:—

Bros.

H. B. Dickenson

G. Wickers

Strengthened as it was now, the Lodge decided to raise the Annual Subscription to the amount at which it remains, viz., three pounds four shillings per annum. This year, Bro. R. H. Wallis acted as Steward at the Festival of the Institution, and five pounds were placed upon his list.

Bro. Leach received a testimonial of the value of seven guineas at the termination of his year of office.



1867-68.

Bro. John Bellerby, W.M.

Bro. Goddard, S.W. Bro. J. L. Mather, J.W.

Bro. E. C. Mather, Treas. Bro. G. F. Cook, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

R. Brasier	J. C. Pickles	W. Barren
R. S. Couch	G. T. English	E. Wood
J. Chidley	W. Gillies	R. Baird
B. Perry	W. Cluer	J. Forbes
T. W. Harle	G. Croft	J. H. Neck
F. R. Cotton	H. E. Oliver	G. Watkins

Joined —

Bros.

Benyon T. Gillies C. Walker J. P. Ayers

Bro. John Bellerby was installed in the Chair in March, 1867, by Bro. James Terry, P.M. of 228, 1278 and 1366, now so well known to us—in fact, universally known—as the Secretary to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Bro. Bellerby's year of office was a prosperous one and brought an addition of twenty-three members to the Lodge; his careful working had become appreciated in the Lodge, for the thanks of the Brethren had been already tendered him for his interesting lectures upon the three tracing boards. The prosperity and liberality of the Lodge was now on a fair way towards its present eminent position, for after deciding to present Bro. P.M. Chivers with a Testimonial of the value of five guineas, for the valuable services he had rendered to the Lodge for many years, the Members voted two sums of five guineas each, to what has been called their pet Institution—The Royal Masonic Benevolent. The W.M., Bro. Bellerby, deserved the utmost praise for having inaugurated the first movement in this Lodge towards a combined effort to materially assist the funds of this Institution.

Freemasonry flourishes in proportion to its charity, and we have, in the career of our own Lodge, ample proof that when a Lodge begins to practice that virtue, it begins to prosper. For at this time Bro. Bellerby, in conjunction with Bro. John L. Mather, J.W., Bro. D. Forbes, Bro. R. Goddard, S.W., with Bro. James Terry, P.M. as the Hon. Secretary, founded the North-Eastern Masonic Charitable Association, which after working successfully for four years, was able by this means to contribute, by its subscriptions and the efforts of the thirty-four Brethren who had served Stewardships at the Festivals of the Three Charities, no less a sum than £4012 15s. At the close of the Association, the Members presented Bro. Bellerby with a Life Governorship for the successful termination to which he had conducted it. The old people's Institute received the greater portion of this large sum.

The Summer Banquet this year was held at the "Crown Hotel," Broxbourne.

On his retiring from the Chair, Bro. Bellerby was presented by the Lodge with a Testimonial of the value of ten guineas, and eventually he enjoyed the highest compliment a Lodge can offer to one of its Past Masters, that of being elected an Honorary Member,



IT is the bounden duty of a masonic writer not to overstep the privileges generally allowed to him by his superiors in the craft ; so long as he keeps to his task and presents his readers with such details as may be quaint, historical, or of general interest to masonic students the utmost indulgence is granted him.

In the following pages I deem it my duty not to needlessly expose any recent minutes of a more or less private character ; matters of historical interest being now left behind I trust my readers will admit that only those items should hereafter be recorded which may prove interesting for reference in case any of the recent minute books should be lost or destroyed.

1868-69.

Bro. Goddard, W.M.

Bro. J. L. Mather, S.W. Bro. G. F. Cook, J.W.

Bro. E. C. Mather, Treas. Bro. Cook, Sec.

 Initiated:—

Bros.

F. H. York	Edgar Bowyer	J. Edwards
Chas. Daniel	S. Squire	W. Beale
Wm. Panter	A. Goldstein	A. Little
L. A. Leins	H. Muggleton	J. Walker
J. J. Sandham	G. Huggett	H. B. Williams
Geo. Simpson	W. Potts	W. Hyslop

 Joined:—

Bro. Picking

The Lodge met for the first time in its present home, The Guildhall Tavern, in the month of September, 1868, and has so continued without interruption. In November two guineas were voted towards the Testimonial being raised to mark the services to the Craft of The Right Hon. The Second Earl of Zetland, the M.W. Grand Master during the previous twenty-five years, besides five guineas to the Benevolent Institution.

Also, upon Bro. Goddard retiring from the Chair, a Testimonial of the value of five guineas was voted.

1869-70.

Bro. J. L. Mather, W.M.

Bro. G. F. Cook, S.W. Bro. D. Forbes, J.W.

Bro. E. C. Mather, Treas. Bro. J. Bellerby, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

J. Hunter	G. F. Burge	J. E. Rich
J. R. Bowen	T. Russell	J. Gent
T. G. Daniels	H. Hayes	T. B. Laws
L. H. Hall	I. Karpf	W. Wright
	J. Oliver	

Joined :—Bro. Lee

The welfare and position of the Lodge was still further improved under the presidency of the Worshipful Master of this year, the numerical strength of the Members being augmented by fourteen new names. Previous to this time the Lodge had held meetings in the month of December, but finding that the nights of meeting encroached upon Christmas day and the usual holidays, it was decided to discontinue the future December meetings.

During his year of office Bro. John L. Mather acted as Steward at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and had five guineas placed upon his list for the same, and Bro. Bellerby, P.M., per-

ceiving that only a small sum was needed to secure the honour and privilege of this Lodge ranking as a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, they were easily enabled to carry a resolution to secure that position.

Bro. J. L. Mather's Summer Banquet was held at the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne. Upon the termination of his year of office, he was presented by the Lodge with a Gold Past Master's Jewel of the value of ten guineas, and by the Members with a silver tea service.



1870-71.

Bro. G. F. Cook, W.M.

Bro. D. Forbes, S.W. Bro. E. C. Mather, J.W.

Bro. E. C. Mather, Treas. Bro. Bellerby, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

M. J. Harris	P. McArthur	G. Kimber
W. Chicken	S. S. Rudd	F. Anderson
A. I. Myers	W. C. Chappell	S. B. Browne
E. W. Braine	E. Matthews	J. Barnes
W. Evans	F. P. Edwards	

In March another vote of five guineas was made to the Benevolent Institution, and upon attending

the Festival as Steward, the Worshipful Master had two sums of five guineas each voted to him.

Ten Guineas were also cordially voted to him for a P.M's Jewel.

A Summer Banquet was held at the Crown Hotel at Broxbourne.

In September a complimentary Testimonial was voted to Bro. John Bellerby, P.M., for his services as Secretary of this Lodge.

And a sum of ten guineas for a Testimonial was voted to the W.M. at the end of his year of office.

1871-72.

Bro. D. Forbes, W.M.

Bro. E. C. Mather, S.W. Bro. Stevens, J.W.

Bro. E. C. Mather, Treas. Bro. Bellerby, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

I. Friewald	W. T. Tyas	J. Harrison
C. W. Cole	C. Pearce	G. T. Brown
H. Panter	R. Harmer	W. B. Wheatley
G. Beatley	E. G. Sim	J. Einstadt
	G. S. Hubbard	

Joined :—

Bros.

Dee	Bratton	W. Marshall
J. Harlow	W. Uffindell	W. H. Allen

Bro. Forbes's Summer Banquet was also held at the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, and after this the only items of Masonic interest to record are, that in March ten guineas were voted for Bro. Forbes's list on his attending the Festival of the Girls' School, and two sums of five pounds each to the Institution.

Ten guineas were also voted for a Testimonial to the W.M., in consideration of his services during the past year.



1872-73.

Bro. E. C. Mather, W.M.

Bro. Stevens, S.W. Bro. Davy, J.W.

Bro. J. H. Goodwin, P.M., Treas. Bro Bellerby, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

T. G. Stevens	E. Marshall	W. Spurr
A. Bridgman	J. Roberts	S. Smith
F. Statham Hobson	G. Schadler	R. Gould
B. Stone	H. A. Robinson	

Joined :—

Bro. John Brown

Bro. E. C. Mather's year of office is prominent on account of the liberality of the Lodge in supporting the Charities, as ten guineas were voted to Bro. Edgar Bowyer to take to the Festival for the Boys' School, and subsequently a further sum of twenty guineas; ten guineas to the Girls' School Fund, and five pounds to the W.M. as Steward to the Benevolent Institution.

The Summer Banquet was held at the "Crown Hotel," Broxbourne.

A jewel of the value of ten guineas was presented to Bro. E. C. Mather on his retirement from the Chair.



1873-74.

Bro. James Stevens, W.M.

Bro. Davy, S.W. Bro. J. Carruthers, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Bellerby, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

W. Kelley	W. Henry	F. S. Holness
Fisher	W. H. Heppell	Henry Pidwell
J. Jones	F. T. Stone	F. A. Herold
W. D. McCallum	E. Miller	C. S. Pierce
C. J. Rich	H. Miller	J. B. D. Wall
J. Johnstone	E. Holness	G. J. Stanford

The Initiation Fee was this year raised to Seven guineas, irrespective of the number of Members upon the roll of the Lodge. After an unusually successful year as respects addition to the number of Members, Bro. P.M. Cook offered himself as a Steward to the Festival of the Girls' School, when the Lodge unanimously and handsomely placed over thirty pounds upon his list, thereby making a sufficient amount to qualify for a Vice-Presidency. In addition to this, two sums were voted to the Benevolent Institution, one of five, and the other of ten pounds.

Ten guineas were also voted to Bro. Stevens for a jewel.



1874-75.

Bro. T. Davy, W.M.

Bro. J. Carruthers, S.W. Bro. L. A. Leins, J.W.
 Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. J. E. Rich, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

De Kewer Williams
 E. Preston

A. Paull
 E. Jones

H. Beadell
 J. Lake

Joined :—

Bro. G. W. Miller

The Steward from this Lodge to the Benevolent Institution this year was Bro. Charles Daniel, and five pounds were voted towards his list.

The Summer Banquet was held at the Crown Hotel, at Broxbourne.

Ten guineas were voted to Bro. Davy for the purchase of a P.M's jewel upon his leaving the Chair.



1875-76.

Bro. L. A. Leins, W.M.

Bro. Edgar Bowyer, S.W. Bro. Chas. Daniel, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas.

Bro. J. E. Rich, Sec., afterwards Bro. G. T. Brown

Initiated :—

Bros.

Beamish	J. T. Akerman	W. T. Wright
J. Sheffield	E. Edgley	J. J. Green
M. J. Wesson	W. J. Meaden	G. A. Joyes
G. W. Peet	A. B. Cownie	R. Giebertmann
A. Barker	W. B. Tissington	H. J. Harriss
C. E. Ferry	J. H. Hawkins	G. Beale

Joined :—

Bros.

F. Kearney D. Feltham J. H. Boston E. Watkins

At the Annual Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Bro. Edgar Bowyer represented this Lodge, and ten guineas voted for his list.

The Summer Banquet, this year, the W.M. wisely dispensed with, on account of circumstances over which he had no control, but taking the Chair with the funds very low, he, by his discretion, left it at the end of his year with a very fair balance.

However he was somewhat compensated for the loss of the Summer Banquet, by establishing the first of a series of successful Balls that have each year been held at the Cannon Street Hotel.

At the termination of his year of office Bro. Leins received a jewel of the value of ten guineas accompanied with an illuminated address, also as a further compliment from the members, he was presented with a set of diamond studs.



1876-77.

Bro. Carruthers, W.M.

Bro. Edgar Bowyer, S.W. Bro. Chas. Daniel, J.W.
 Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

R. Fox	H. W. Gregory	R. Dyson
G. Haller	A. Muller	A. Plater
R. Frost	W. Henson	H. Sladden
	T. Sewell	

 Joined :—

Bros.

J. Saunders	G. C. Marchant	H. Boorman
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Bro. J. L. Mather being unable to continue his duties as D.C., he desired to resign that office, and the Lodge voted him a Past Master's Collar and Jewel for his services during the years he had held that office. Bro. Chas Daniel, the J.W., represented the Lodge at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and had ten pounds voted for his list.

The Summer Banquet was this year held at the Alexandra Palace.



1877-78.

Bro. Charles Daniel, W.M.

Bro. G. F. Burge, S.W. Bro. G. T. Brown, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Ferry, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

H. Lynch	G. Devenish	A. Bright
C. C. Mitchell	G. Blackmore	A. Mitchell
J. J. Harwood	J. E. Jarvis	C. T. Chivers
R. Ratcliff	R. A. James	R. Wiseman

Joined :—

Bros.

A. G. Soutter W. H. Barber

The Lodge having now arrived at a high stage of prosperity, and having of late received a considerable addition to its numbers, the Initiation Fee was raised to its present amount, ten guineas.

Also a sum of ten guineas was voted to present Bro. J. H. Goodwin, the Treasurer, with a jewel, in appreciation of his services as Treasurer for so many years, but at his request the amount was devoted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, to constitute that Officer for the time being a Life Governor.

The Summer Banquet was held at the Castle Hotel, Richmond.

In 1877 the Indian Famine Relief Fund appealed to the sympathy of all, and this Lodge promptly voted five guineas.

It is to Bro. Chas. Daniel's thoughtful care of "Our Old People," that every year some little luxury is taken by him for their Christmas treat. At every November meeting he is anxious to obtain a grant for their little festivities, and he never appeals in vain. Without this considerate forethought, further supplemented by private subscriptions, many a comfort might be omitted from the aged people at the Institution.

A Ball was held during Bro. Daniel's year at the Cannon Street Hotel, which was so well attended that the surplus funds were handed over to the Institution in the name of the Lodge.

On his retiring from the Chair, a jewel of the value of ten guineas and an address upon vellum were voted to him by the Lodge, and the members presented him with a handsome marble clock and pair of tazzas, as also a gold watch for Mrs. Daniel.



1878-79.

Bro. G. T. Brown, W.M.

Bro. G. F. Burge, S.W. Bro. E. W. Braine, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Ferry, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

W. Boorman

C. Jones

H. Caton

Joined :—

Bros.

H. S. Goodall

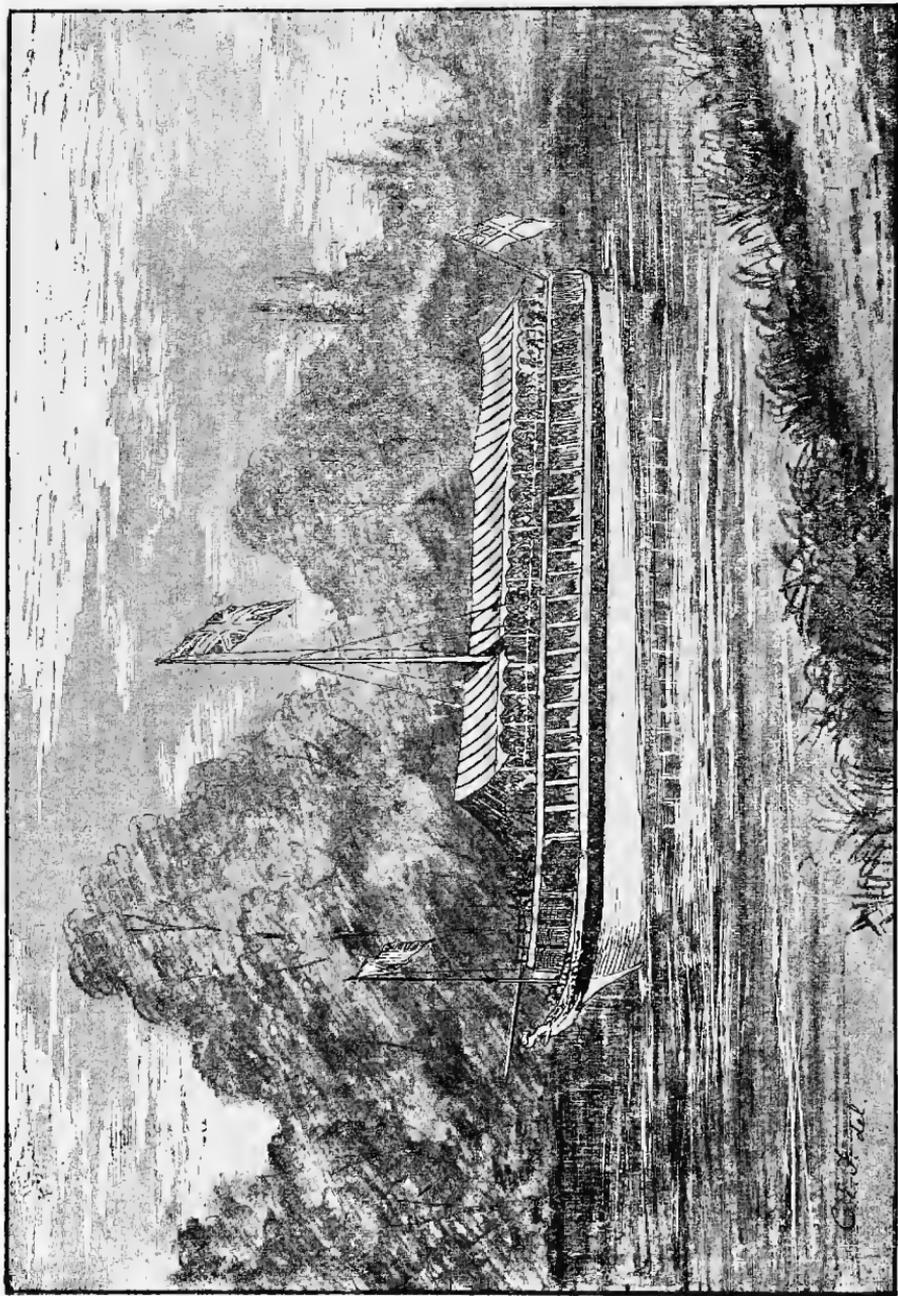
G. J. Coe

H. J. Billing

T. E. Bush

At the commencement of Bro. Brown's year of office the Lodge sanctioned the application of Bro. P.M. Leins to Grand Lodge for a Warrant for a new Lodge, to be called the Lodge of Perseverance. This Warrant was eventually granted as No. 1743, and now meeting at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, has met with all the success that could have been wished it. In fact so rapid has been the prosperity of this new Lodge that Bro. P.M. Lovell, represents it at the Girls' School Festival this present year, with a List of over £110.

Ten guineas were voted to Bro. Charles Daniel on his representing the Lodge at the Girls' School



THE SUMMER OUTING ON THE "MARIA WOOD" 1878.

Festival, and five guineas each to the funds raised for the relief of the families rendered destitute by that fearful disaster on the Thames at Woolwich, the running-down of the steamer the "Princess Alice," and to the Abercarn Colliery Explosion Fund.

After much personal exertion, Bro. G. T. Brown succeeded in establishing a plan that has considerably advanced the Lodge of Prosperity in the estimation of the Craft and the Governors of the three great Masonic Charities, namely, the "Prosperity Masonic Charities Association." By this excellent arrangement many of our members who join it are easily enabled to qualify themselves as Life Governors of one or more of the Charities. The success of Bro. P.M. Brown's exertions may be better understood by the fact, that long before the Association had concluded its first term, six Brethren, acting as Stewards at the various Festivals, were enabled to pay into the funds a total exceeding £1,009; a great credit to our Lodge and to them.

The Summer Banquet of this year was a great success, owing to Bro. Brown, the W.M., deciding to treat the Members and their lady friends to a trip up the Thames as far as Twickenham, upon the "Maria Wood," the last of the old City state barges, and as after lying idle for some years in a

backwater at Isleworth, she is now about to be broken up, the sketch given may in time be interesting.

After a very successful year Bro. G. T. Brown received a Past Master's Jewel of the value of ten guineas, and as a further compliment the members also gave him a Lady's gold watch and chain for Mrs. Brown. So popular has been this hard-working brother in the Lodge, that in 1886, during Bro. Dyson's year of office he received a special vote of thanks for his long services, emblazoned on vellum and framed, together with a handsome Drawing Room Clock and pair of Tazzas.

He was also the principal founder and the first M.E.Z. of the Prosperity Chapter, mentioned under the heading of 1881-82.



1879-80.

Bro. Charles Daniel, W.M.

Bro. C. E. Ferry, S.W. Bro. W. Chicken, J.W.

Bro. J. H. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. G. T. Brown, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

W. Walker J. Stafford W. B. Tabor F. J. Rogers

This year the Lodge again decided to have Bro. Charles Daniel for its Master, who again volunteered his services as Steward to the Benevolent Institution, and ten guineas were voted for his list, which he contrived to augment to £124.

Also during this year Bro. P.M. Brown represented the Lodge as a Steward to the Boys' School Festival, and by his private exertions raised the amount taken to £116 9s.

The Summer Banquet was held at the Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond.

Another Past Master's Jewel of the value of ten guineas, together with a gold keyless watch were presented to Bro. Daniel on completing his second term of the Master's chair.



1880-81.

Bro. C. E. Ferry, W.M.

Bro. W. Chicken, S.W. Bro. J. Roberts, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

J. Bradfield	C. J. Wilkinson*	H. A. Patience
R. F. Bourn	A. Miller	W. Mattin
E. T. Bond	Curtis Hills	R. G. Pocock
T. Mullett Ellis	W. Fencott	R. L. Clark

Joined :—

Bro. Ansell

The Lodge in 1881 gave generously from its Funds to the Three Great Charities of which all Freemasons are so justly proud. It gave ten guineas for the W.M.'s list, upon his being a Steward to the Benevolent Institution, when the total amount he handed in to that Charity was £106; ten guineas for Bro. Brown, P.M., for the Girls' School, and his total list amounted to £246 15s. od.; also ten guineas for Bro. Daniel, P.M., for the Boys' School when his total amount was £154 7s. od. Thus the three stewards in 1881 raised a total for the three Institutions of over £507. Besides the above, two guineas were handed to the National Life Boat Institution, and several other sums to brethren who had applied for relief. This is a most honourable list to chronicle, for it may be mentioned that while these details were being gathered one of our senior Past Masters remarked (which even one of the younger Brethren can readily endorse, now

*By deed poll dated 21st July, 1886, assumed the name of C. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury.

that he has this volume in his hands), that he remembered the time when a long discussion and the most careful consideration of the Lodge Funds were necessary to decide whether one guinea or two guineas should be handed over to the Charities. And, continued our esteemed Brother P.M., there were no Summons printed in blue and gold in those days, for he well remembered one of our former Secretaries asking permission to have them printed, when he was told that it was an unnecessary expense, and that he must continue to write them. This accounts for several items in the old books being found thus—

2 quires of paper, 3/-

The Summer Banquet was held at the Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond.

After his year of office, the W.M. was presented by the Lodge with a Gold Past Master's Jewel, of the value of ten guineas. And in addition, he received from the Members a Dining Room Chiming Clock, in antique oak; a good timekeeper, a cheerful companion, and a pleasant reminiscence to the writer.



1881-82.

Bro. W. Chicken, W.M.

Bro. J. Roberts, S.W. Bro. G. Schadler, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

W. Edridge G. W. Carey H. J. Harriss F. J. Ruse

Joined :—

Bros.

Wallis and Wood

=====

The principal occurrence of Masonic interest this year was that in April an application was formally made by the Lodge to the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, for permission to form a Royal Arch Chapter in connection with this Lodge, to be called "The Prosperity Chapter of H.R.A. Freemasons, No. 65." It was granted, and consecrated at the Guildhall Tavern, on 15th June, 1881 by the M.E.Comp. James Terry, P.Z. The first three Principals were our well-known and esteemed Brethren—

Comp. G. T. Brown, M.E.Z.

,, Wm. Chicken, H.

,, Chas Daniel, J.

It is gratifying to know that this Prosperity Chapter is steadily increasing, numbering amongst

its Members many of the Past Masters and well-known Brethren of the Craft Lodge. Its assemblies are held at the same house as the Lodge Meetings, on four quarterly nights of the year.

Bro. Chicken, during his year of office, attended the Festival of the Benevolent Institution as a Steward from the Lodge, and ten guineas were voted to him for his list, which by his exertions he increased to £142 10s.

The Summer Banquet was also a very successful one this year, the W.M. securing the large Banqueting Hall at the Alexandra Palace, a goodly number of lady friends attended, and the day was exceptionally fine.

A Ball was also held at the Cannon Street Hotel.

Bro. Chicken received the thanks of the Lodge at the termination of his year of office, and, in addition, a Gold Past Master's Jewel of the value of ten guineas; the Members also presented him with a Gold Watch and a Ring.

On finally retiring from the Chair, and being invested as the I.P.M., he presented a valuable chest of Working Tools to the Lodge.



1882-83.

Bro. J. Roberts, W.M.

Bro. G. Schadler, S.W. Bro. C. J. Rich, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

J. Wood

C. W. East

W. Retallack

T. Buggins

A. Cheney

Joined :—

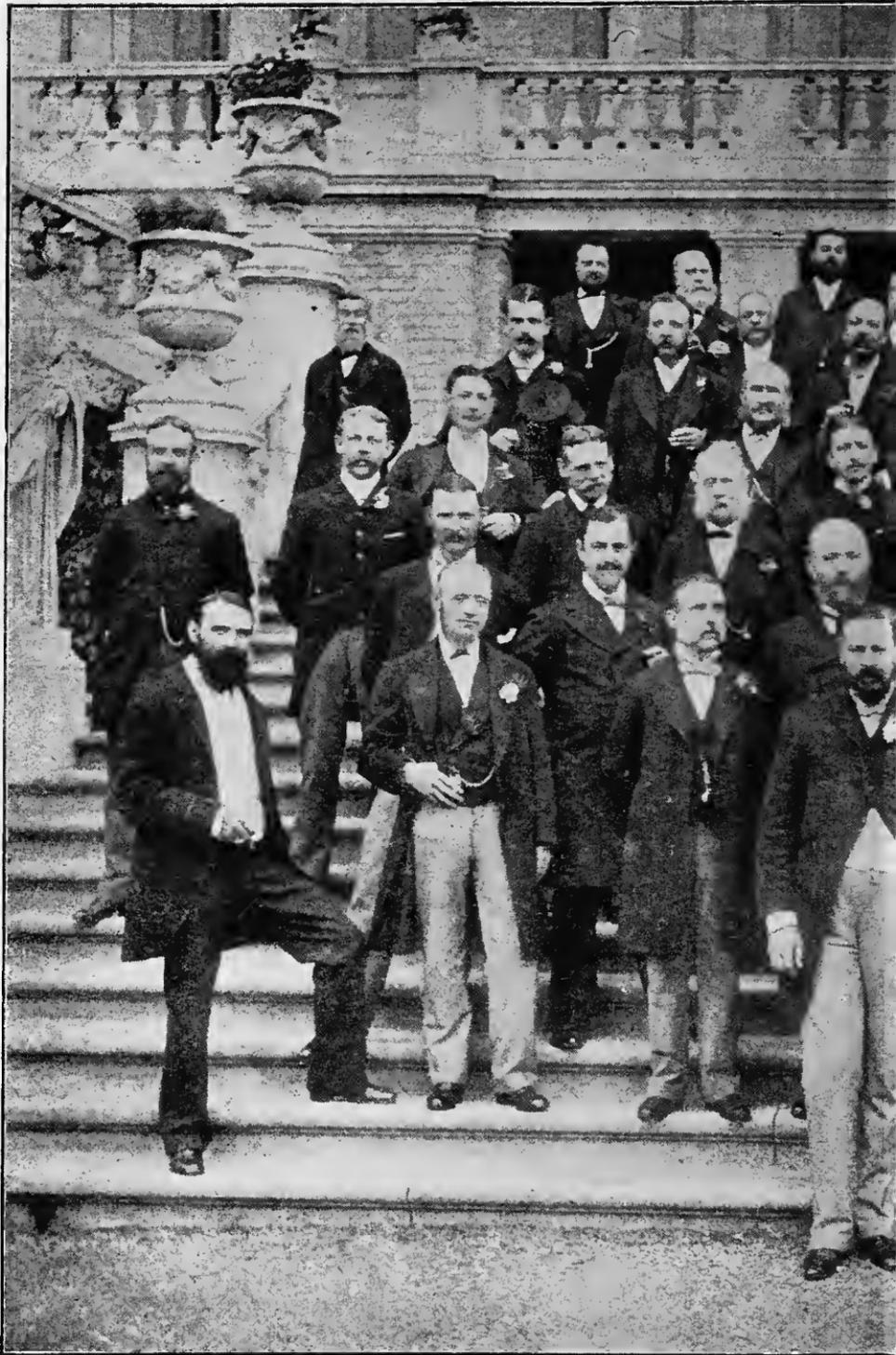
Bros.

E. Bentley Haynes

Wallis

B. T. Wood

This year Bro. Roberts, the W.M., invited the Members and their Lady friends to a Summer Banquet at the Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond, which not only proved a great treat to all, but will continue to be remembered by those who were present for many years to come, as three large series of photographs of all the Members and Visitors were taken upon the terrace; a reproduction of the most suitable of them is here given, and although so short a time ago, alas, many of those faces are now lost to us. After the Banquet and a stroll in the grounds, the W.M. arranged a pleasant dance to finish the evening, having taken care to provide Music and a Master of Ceremonies.





The Annual Ball was also held at the Cannon Street Hotel.

Bro. Roberts represented the Lodge as a Steward to the Benevolent Institution, and had voted for his list the sum of £10 10s., and by his exertions he paid into the funds of the Charity the total of £125.

Upon the completion of his year, the Lodge voted him a Gold Past Master's Jewel of the value of ten guineas, and the Brethren presented him with a Marble Timepiece.



1883-84.

Bro. G. Schadler, W.M.

Bro. C. J. Rich, S.W. Bro. J. H. Hawkins, J.W.
Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

J. C. Stone	G. F. Steed	G. Birkenfeld
G. Dintelmann	H. Herrmann	

Joined :—

Bros.

D. Feltham	John Bellingham	J. H. B. Price
L. J. B. Smith	W. F. Strong	Adam Mitchell

Bro. Schadler's Summer Banquet was welcome on account of the charming place he had selected to invite the Brethren and their friends. This was at the Oatlands Park Hotel, Walton-on-Thames, when favoured with splendid summer weather, the evening was successfully finished up with dancing.

He also represented the Lodge at the Festival of the Boys' School, when he succeeded in taking to that Charity upwards of £110, the Lodge having started his list with ten guineas.

The Annual Ball was held at the Cannon Street Hotel.

A Jewel of the value of ten guineas was presented to Bro. Schadler, and in addition he received from the Members a Pianoforte.



1884-85.

Bro. C. J. Rich, W.M.

Bro. J. H. Hawkins, S.W. Bro. W. Walker, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

W. Lawley	Jesse Sparrow	G. H. Woodridge
W. B. Glasier	W. J. Hardwick	S. J. Wormsley

Joined:—

Bros.

C. Glasier

M. Bradford

Waterer

The W.M. was a Steward to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and succeeded in raising the large sum of £232.

The Summer Banquet was held at Oatlands Park in July, 1884.

The Annual Ball at the Cannon Street Hotel, January, 1885.

The W.M. received a Past Master's Jewel, and from the members a Clock and pair of Vases.



1885-86.

Bro. J. H. Hawkins, W.M.

Bro. J. B. Wall, S.W. Bro. R. Dyson, J.W.

Bro. Goodwin, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Bro. Lane elected Tyler, February, 1886.

Initiated:—

Bros.

J. H. Starling

J. J. Wharton

D. Harlow

A. J. Cooper

E. C. Talbot

J. Cochran

J. Hart

F. T. Talbot

J. B. Ponsford

J. Anderson

S. F. Chivers

G. E. Dietz

C. J. Jones

G. D. Bailey

J. Darmstatter

Joined :—

Bros.

J. T. Akerman

C. Holland

Summer Banquet at the Oatlands Park Hotel,
July, 1885.

Ball at Cannon Street Hotel, February, 1886.

In November, 1885, we lost by death, Bro. C. T. Speight, our late respected Tyler since 1859. He was so highly esteemed by the Brethren that many would not willingly let his name be dismissed with a single line allusion. It will give some idea of the former popularity of this worthy brother to enumerate some of the duties he so cheerily performed.

Initiated in October, 1837, in Lodge No. 29 (now the Egyptian Lodge, 27)

W.M. in 1843 in Lodge 27, after having served all the Offices.

Elected Tyler of St. Michael's Lodge, No. 255, now No. 211, and occupied that post for 35 years.

Exalted in the Yarborough Chapter, No. 812, and Janitor for 25 years.

Advanced as a Mark Mason in the Old Kent Lodge, T.I. in 1862

Knight Templar in 1862.

Provincial Grand Tyler for Surrey for 20 years.

Grand Tyler to the Grand Lodge of Mark M.M.

Invested chief Tyler to the Royal Alpha Lodge, No. 16 by H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, the M.W.G.M. in person.

Tyler to Lodges		Janitor to Chapters
Nos. 2. 4. 21. 33. 65. 95.		33. 22. 65. 95. 173.
172. 256. 554. 813.		463. 554.

At the close of his year of office the W.M. was presented with a P.M's Jewel of the value of ten guineas, and by the Members with a Large Microscope.



1886-87.

Bro. R. Dyson, W.M.

Bro. W. Walker, S.W. Bro. G. Haller, J.W.

Bro. J. Roberts, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

A. T. Barnes

J. W. Dudman

T. Cole

O. T. Miller

W. H. Trask

E. Johnson

This year the W.M. was a Steward to the Benevolent Institution, and the Lodge placed twenty guineas upon his list.

The Summer Banquet was held at the Pavilion, Brighton, in July, 1886.

In November a Testimonial was presented to Bro. G. T. Brown, P.M. and Secretary, consisting of a vote of thanks, emblazoned and framed, and a valuable Drawing Room Clock with ornaments to match,

The Ball was held at Cannon Street Hotel in February, 1886.

Upon his retirement the Lodge voted him a P.M's Jewel of the value of ten guineas, the members presented him with a Spirit and Cigar Cabinet, and, as a further compliment, a Gold Bracelet for Mrs. Dyson.



1887-88.

Bro. W. Walker, W.M.

Bro. J. B. Wall, S.W. Bro. G. Haller, J.W.

Bro. J. Roberts, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated :—

Bros.

J. E. Pearce	W. Thomas	A. G. Grantham
J. Goodrich	T. W. Perryman	G. T. Kinipple
E. Grey, Jun.	J. F. Bland	J. A. Rufus
C. Martin	W. J. Greig	S. E. Spencer
	C. Smith	

Joined :—

Bros.

S. J. Field S. Stewart

The Summer Banquet was held at the Pavilion, Brighton, in July, 1887, when another photographic group of the whole of the company was taken.

The Annual Ball was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, in February, 1888.

The Lodge presented the W.M. with a Jewel of the value of ten guineas, and the members also gave him a Pianoforte on his retirement.



1888-89.

Bro. J. B. Wall, W.M.

Bro. G. Haller, S.W. Bro. F. J. Ruse, J.W.

Bro. J. Roberts, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated:—

Bros.

G. W. Bratton

W. M. Graham

A. J. Kirk

W. J. Edwards

S. Seckendorf

W. H. Sanders

J. Smart

The Summer Banquet was held at the Pavilion, Brighton, in July, 1888.

The Annual Ball was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, in February, 1889; and upon his retirement the Lodge voted the W.M. a Jewel of the value of ten guineas.



1889-90.

Bro. George Haller, W.M.

Bro. F. J. Ruse, S.W. Bro. H. J. Harriss, J.W.

Bro. J. Roberts, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Initiated:—

Bros.

J. Stubbing

J. E. Dobson C. J. Rich, Jun.

W. R. Townshend C. Hargrave R. J. Martin

J. Wylie

Joined:—

Bro. Bargaen

The W.M. was a Steward for the Boys' School, and succeeded in paying in 150 guineas.

The Summer Banquet was held at Windsor in July, 1889.

The Annual Ball at Cannon Street Hotel in February, 1890.

Upon his retirement the Lodge voted him ten guineas for a Jewel, and the Members presented him a handsome gold watch.

In addition to the above, the W.M., upon his marriage, received from some of the P.M's. and brethren, a very handsome épergne for fruit and flowers.



1890-91.

Bro. F. J. Ruse, W.M.

Bro. H. J. Harriss, S.W.

Bro. R. F. Bourn, J.W. Afterwards Bro. J. C. Stone, J.W.

Bro. John Roberts, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

 Initiated :—

Bros.

J. Huckell

T. Cryer

W. J. Downes

J. Dodds

C. C. Legg

I. S. Lidbury

The Summer Banquet was held at the Pavilion, Brighton, in July, 1890.

The Annual Ball at the Cannon Street Hotel, in February, 1891.

The W.M. was a Steward for the R.M.B. Institution and succeeded in taking the sum of 125 guineas.

The Lodge voted the W.M. a Jewel of the value of ten guineas upon his retiring from the chair, and the members also presented him with a Dining Room Clock.



The W.M. received a Jewel of the value of ten guineas, and from the Members a Dining Room Clock.



1892-93.

Bro. J. C. Stone, W.M.

* Bro. J. Hart, S.W. Bro. E. C. Talbot, J.W.

Bro. John Roberts, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

* In consequence of the death of the Senior Warden, Bro. E. C. Talbot was appointed S.W., and Bro. D. Harlow was appointed J.W.

Initiated :—

Bros.

G. Brown

B. Keane

W. E. Knight

F. Boyce

R. C. Harris

T. White

H. T. Brooks

J. Chambers

Joined :—

Bros.

J. J. Maurice

C. E. Jackson

In this year was instituted the practice of rendering the Ceremonies musically, with an organist to conduct the same.

The Summer Banquet was held at the Pavilion, Brighton, in July, 1892.

Upon his retirement the W.M. was voted a P.M.'s. Jewel of the value of ten guineas, and a Ring from the members.



23rd March 1893.

One of the most brilliant Installation meetings ever known in this Lodge was held on the above date. The W.M. Elect, Bro. E. C. Talbot, has held for many years the important office of Preceptor to the Lodge of Instruction, thereby conducing materially to the efficiency of many of the W. Masters and Officers. Upon this eventful occasion there were no less than thirty-nine Installed Masters present, and the new list of officers stood as follows :—

Bro. E. C. Talbot, W.M.

Bro. D. Harlow, S.W. Bro. J. Goodrich, J.W.

Bro. John Roberts, Treas. Bro. Brown, Sec.

Bro. W. C. Thomas	S.D.		Bro. G. Schadler, P.M., D.C.
Bro. T. W. Perryman	J.D.		Bro. Chas. Martin, A.D.C.
Bro. W. J. Greig	I.G.		Bro. G. J. Kinipple, W.S.
Bro. Jackman	Org.		Bro. S. E. Spencer, A.W.S.

Bro. W. Lane, Tyler

The Banquet following the above was a more than usually brilliant gathering, no less than 133 brethren, including 62 visitors, being present.

The blue and silver Menus were also of an elegant and technical design.

Having now brought every detail up to the time of going to press with the last sheet of this work, I humbly take my leave of the historical portion, and wish the new W. Master, Officers and Brethren every possible enjoyment of masonic happiness and prosperity.



ADDITIONAL LIST OF OFFICERS

APPOINTED UPON INSTALLATION NIGHTS
DURING THE LAST THIRTY YEARS.

	S.D.	J.D.	I.G.	D.C.	A.D.C.	W.S.	A.W.S.
1863	Thompson	Leach	Aldridge				
1864	Outhwaite	Goddard	E. C. Mather			Gibbs	
1865	Bonning	Spilling	Davy	Chivers, P.M.		Forbes	Gibbs
1866	Spilling	E. C. Mather	Cook	Chivers		Yerbury	Simon
1867	Sims	Forbes	Le Plastrier	Falck		Yerbury	Carruthers
1868	Sims	Forbes	Le Plastrier	Ayres			
1869	Stevens	Wells	Davy	Ayres [P.M.			
1870	Stevens	Davy	Carruthers	J. L. Mather,		Yerbury	Wright
1871	Davy	Carruthers	Leins	do.		Yerbury	Wright
1872	Carruthers	Leins	Bowyer	do.		Yerbury	English
1873	Leins	Bowyer	Daniel	do.		Yerbury	English
1874	Bowyer	Daniel	Burge	do.		English	
1875	Burge	Gent	Braine	do.		Braine	
1876	Burge	Gent	Braine	Forbes, P.M.		McCallum	Sim
						Matthews	

	S.D.	J.D.	I.G.	D.C.	A.D.C.	W.S.	A.W.S.
1877	Braine	Matthews	Sim	Leins, P.M.		Wright	Chicken
1878	Matthews	Sim	Wright	do.	Chicken	Roberts	
1879	Roberts	Schadler	Robinson	do.	Rich	Wall	
1880	Schadler	Rich	Wall	do.	Pierce	Akerman	
1881	Rich	Kearney	Hawkins	Daniel, P.M.	Boston	Marshall	
1882	Hawkins	Marshall	Gregory	Walker	Jones	Caton	
1883	Gregory	Walker	Dyson	Leins, P.M.	Bourn	Haller	
1884	Dyson	Bourn	Haller	Roberts, P.M.	Walker	Stafford	
1885	Haller		Ruse	Haynes	Casey	Harris	
1886	Ruse	Harris	Haynes	Rich, P.M.		East	
1887	Ruse	Harris	Haynes	Rich, P.M.	Bourn	Akerman	
1888		Haynes, P.M.	Bourn	Akerman	Stone	Cheney	
1889	Bourn	Akerman	Stone	Cheney	Hart	Talbot	Wharton
1890	Stone	Hart	Talbot	Schadler, P.M.	Harlow	Wharton	Barnes
1891	Talbot	Wharton	Harlow	do.	Barnes	Chivers	
1892	Harlow	Barnes	Goodrich	do.	Gray	Thomas	Perryman
1893	Thomas	Perryman	Greig	do.	Martin	Kinipple	Spencer

Extract from an old DICTIONARY OF THE ARTS, inserted as some slight suggestion to artistic brethren, as the design would make a noble Lodge Banner.

“PROSPERITY is represented in Painting, &c., by a woman richly clad in purple and ermine studded with gold stars; in one hand a cornucopia heaped with money, in the other an oak-branch with acorns, golden stars and purple violets entwined in her hair.

The well filled cornucopia denotes money necessary to lead a prosperous life, the oak long life absolutely necessary to it, the rich robes, stars and violets being further emblems of splendour.”

A Table of Events.

- 1810 Lodge Instituted as No. 68, at the White Horse, Hare Street, Bethnal Green.
- 1811* Held at The Cock and Magpie, Wilson Street, Finsbury
- 1813 Allotted the number 91, at the Union of the two Grand Lodges.
- 1815 Held at the Angel and Crown, Crispin Street, Spitalfields.
- 1823 Held at Bro. Burrup's, do. do.
- 1824 " The Spotted Horse, Shoreditch.
- 1826 " The Angel and Crown, Spitalfields.
- " First Lodge of Instruction sanctioned.
- 1832 Adopted the name of "PROSPERITY."
Held at The Grapes, Spitalfields.
- " The Lodge numbered 78
- 1838 Held at The George and Vulture, Cornhill.
- 1840 " The Duke of Sussex, Thrawl Street.
- 1841 The W.M's year altered, February to February.
- 1846 Held at The Queen's Arms, Commercial Street.
- 1847 " The Square and Compasses, Norton Folgate.
- 1849 " The Blade Bone Tavern, Bethnal Green.
- 1850 " The Sun Tavern, Bishopsgate.
- 1852 " The Horns Tavern, Hackney Road.
- 1854 " The Earl of Durham, Hoxton.
- 1855 " The Wenlock Arms, City Road.
- " The White Hart, Bishopsgate.
- 1861 The W.M's year altered, March to March.
- 1863 The Lodge numbered 65.
- " Held at The Masons' Arms Tavern.
- " " The Rosemary Branch Tavern.
- 1864 " The Masons' Arms Tavern.
- 1866 " The Jolly Anglers, Bath Street.
- " The George Hotel, Aldermanbury.
- 1868 " The Guildhall Tavern.
- 1878 The Lodge of Perseverance recommended.
- 1881 The "Prosperity Chapter" consecrated.



* This date is from Lane's "Masonic Records.

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-
- MISS CORNWALL, daughter of the late Bro. E. S. CORNWALL,
 P.M. 65
 MRS. DAVY, widow of the late Bro. T. DAVY, P.M. 65
-

25th March, 1893.

SIR ROBERT L'ESTRANGE says "Books and Dishes have *This Common Fate*; there was never any One of Either of them that *pleas'd* All Palates." However, before I conclude what to me has been a pleasant task I crave indulgence for but one short chapter, which I will style :—



VALEDICTORY.



WE have now been enabled to trace the history of this Lodge, with a slight break, since the year 1810, and thanks to the care of our past Secretaries the most minute details of its existence, its troubles, and its prosperity have been preserved to us. It is useless to hope that the foregoing sketch should have the interest which can be gathered from those rich mines of masonic and antiquarian wealth,—the craft minute books of the seventeenth century ;—I am afraid it is with the members of the Lodge of Prosperity only that it can hope to find any favour. Possibly some day it may be more useful than it now is, for Bro. J. RAMSDEN RILEY, the authority upon Yorkshire Lodges, says—“I advocate lodge his-

tories from minute books because past experience has shown that accidents or events may at any time deprive us of the originals, consequently it should be a duty. Further, nothing is so interesting to the members because such evidence is reliable.”

There is an old and well worn anecdote of a certain statesman (*Sir Robert Walpole*) who desired his daughter to read to him; when she asked—What should she read, should she read History? “No” replied he, “do not read History for that must be lies.” Now, fortunately, in Freemasonry we have no political differences to make us distort the truth in writing of the past, therefore although this effort of mine is dubbed a “History,” I trust I have inserted no “lies,” though doubtless there are many short-comings and blunders. Such as it is I have ventured to submit this volume, and now desire to express my sincere thanks to the much esteemed and eminent masonic historian, Bro. WM. J. HUGHAN, for so kindly consenting to write the introduction; also to Bro. Dr. DUKES for rendering me every assistance in ascertaining the origin of this Lodge from that of the Kent Lodge, and I trust the details found in those old Minute Books will be interesting to masonic readers.

It now only remains for me to give particulars of the position of the Lodge with regard to the three Masonic Institutions. Owing to its accumulative payments it ranks upon the books of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, as Vice-Patron of each Fund, with 64 Votes, and of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, as Vice-President with 17 Votes, and of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, as Vice-President with 22 Votes.

“In Faith and Hope the world will disagree
But all mankind’s concern is Charity.”—*Pope.*

I trust the Lodge may long continue in its prosperity and its useful career, and at some future time it may be that some coming brother will again take up the thread I now let fall, and continue the History of the Lodge of Prosperity.

C. E. F.

PELHAM LODGE,
ISLEWORTH,
March, 1893.



Yours fraternally C. E. Herry.
P. M. & P. L. 65. P. M. & Sec. 1743.

