

assured the visitor will not readily forget his courtesy and fraternal kindness. He may rely upon it that by pursuing such a course, the lodge over which he has the honor to preside, would be mentioned far and near as a bright example to the Fraternity.

The old adage that "Straws tell which way the wind blows" is a very appropriate one in this instance. A little gentlemanly courtesy, a genial smile, a warm welcome, are easily bestowed, yet they sink deep and often make lasting impressions upon the mind of the visiting brother. Our Worshipful Masters then we think are generally to blame where any lack of Masonic Courtesy exists. They should set a bright example to their fellows of those noble tenets, which, month after month, they so glibly repeat; if they did this, the visitor would never turn from the masonic door. The matter, therefore, is worthy of more than a moment's consideration and thought. We have to apologise for twice writing upon the same subject; but we cannot help expressing our belief that it is a matter of vital importance for the best interests of our fraternity, and that it is the duty of every member of the Order, and particularly of those in authority, to exemplify in all cases their belief in our tenets by ever acting towards a brother mason in the fraternal spirit of masonic courtesy.

FREEMASONRY IN ENGLAND.

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BY THE EDITOR.
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In the July number of *THE CRAFTSMAN* was published a letter from England, in which some account was given of the Masonic Girls' School, at St. John's Hill, Battersea Rise, S. W. We are sure our readers will be glad to learn something more of the Institutions which the benevolent spirit of Freemasonry has caused to be erected, and which are a standing monument of the true principles of the Order. We purpose, therefore, in a series of papers, to lay before our readers the history of these Institutions, and the work which they are performing, in the hope that the example thus set us may stir us up to a better appreciation, and a more general practice, of the benign principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

The Girls' School, or, as it is called, "The Royal Freemasons' School, for maintaining, clothing, and educating female children, daughters of decayed Freemasons," is one of the most ancient of the Masonic establishments of England. Its origin dates back to the year 1788, over eighty years ago, when, on the 25th March, it was instituted at the suggestion of Chevalier Bartholomew Ruspini, surgeon-dentist to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, "for the purpose of clothing, educating, and maintaining a limited number of female children, orphans or otherwise, of brethren belonging to the ancient and honourable society